



*Medicine Clay*  
Simone Arnol &  
Bernard Singleton

9 February - 6 March, 2022



Artwork detail: *Ritual, Ngama (mum)*  
#5, 2021, Photograph on cotton rag.

For their first exhibition at Jan Manton Gallery, Simone Arnot (Gunggandji) and Bernard Singleton Jnr (Umpila/Djabugay/Yirrgay) present *Medicine Clay* (2019-20). This collaborative photographic series presents intimate portraits of three generations of Bernard Singleton Jnr's family—his father, his niece and himself—each coated in a layer of coarse white clay. Known as medicine clay, this revered material is often used by members of Bernard's family for the treatment of sore bellies, women's business, and general wellbeing.

Over this medicine clay, a rich, red ochre has been painted onto each figure in heavy, oily streaks. This ochre is used by Simone and Bernard to represent ancestral connections to Country, and the transfer of knowledge between generations. Its placement is significant to each bearer. Bernard's father wears a thick layer of ochre over his left hand in reference to matrilineal lines of knowledge, passed onto family members through his wife and their marriage. Stripes of ochre stretch across Bernard's and his niece's foreheads, signifying their own responsibilities to learn and pass on this knowledge.

In these photographs, Simone and Bernard seek to create a record of knowledge, rituals and customs to be passed on to coming generations. Quiet and meditative, they convey a sense of intense presence and magnanimity.



*Ritual, Bawi (nan) #3, 2021*  
Photograph on cotton rag

48 x 35.5cm —\$ 1,800

84 x 59cm— \$ 3,200

Edition of 6 both sizes



*Ritual, Wagal (Vernamay) #3, 2021*  
Photograph on cotton rag

35.5 x 48 cm — \$ 1,800

59 x 84 cm — \$ 3,200

Edition of 6 both sizes



*Ritual, Ngama (mum) #5, 2021*  
Photograph on cotton rag

48 x 35.5cm — \$ 1,800

84 x 59cm — \$ 3,200

Edition of 6 both sizes



*Ritual, Bawi (nan) #1, 2021*  
Photograph on cotton rag

48 x 35.5cm — \$ 1,800

84 x 59cm — \$ 3,200

Edition of 6 both sizes



*Ritual, Ngama (mum) #4*, 2021  
Photograph on cotton rag

48 x 35.5cm — \$ 1,800

84 x 59cm — \$ 3,200

Edition of 6 both sizes





Artwork detail: *Ritual, Wagai (Vernamay)*  
#3, 2021, Photograph on cotton rag.



*Ritual, Bawi (nan) #5, 2021*  
Photograph on cotton rag

48 x 35.5cm —\$ 1,800

84 x 59cm— \$ 3,200

Edition of 6 both sizes



*Ritual, Wagal (Vernamay) #4, 2021*  
Photograph on cotton rag

48 x 35.5cm — \$ 1,800

84 x 59cm — \$ 3,200

Edition of 6 both sizes



*Ritual, Bawi (nan) #4, 2021*  
Photograph on cotton rag

48 x 35.5cm —\$ 1,800

84 x 59cm— \$ 3,200

Edition of 6 both sizes



*Ritual, Wagal (Vernamay) #1, 2021*  
Photograph on cotton rag

35.5 x 48 cm — \$ 1,800

59 x 84 cm — \$ 3,200

Edition of 6 both sizes



Artwork detail: *Ritual, Bawi (nan) #3*, 2021, Photograph on cotton rag.



*Ritual, Ngama (mum) #1, 2021*  
Photograph on cotton rag

48 x 35.5cm — \$ 1,800

84 x 59cm — \$ 3,200

Edition of 6 both sizes



*Ritual, Wagal (Vernamay) #5, 2021*  
Photograph on cotton rag

35.5 x 48 cm — \$ 1,800

59 x 84 cm — \$ 3,200

Edition of 6 both sizes





*Ritual, Ngama (mum) #2, 2021*  
Photograph on cotton rag

48 x 35.5cm —\$ 1,800

84 x 59cm— \$ 3,200

Edition of 6 both sizes



*Ritual, Bawi (nan) #2, 2021*  
Photograph on cotton rag

48 x 35.5cm —\$ 1,800

84 x 59cm— \$ 3,200

Edition of 6 both sizes

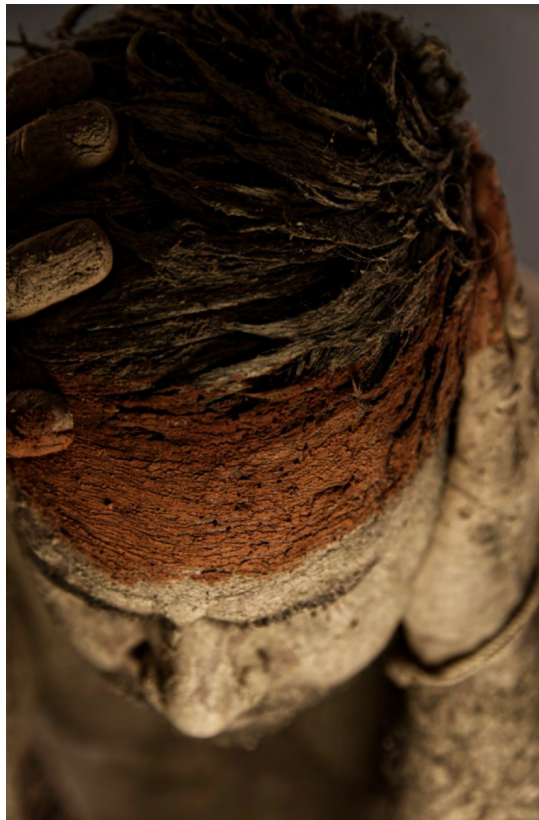


*Ritual, Ngama (mum) #6, 2021*  
Photograph on cotton rag

48 x 35.5cm — \$ 1,800

84 x 59cm — \$ 3,200

Edition of 6 both sizes



*Ritual, Ngama (mum) #3, 2021*  
Photograph on cotton rag

48 x 35.5cm — \$ 1,800

84 x 59cm — \$ 3,200

Edition of 6 both sizes



*Ritual, Wagal (Vernamay) #2*, 2021  
Photograph on cotton rag

35.5 x 48 cm — \$ 1,800

59 x 84 cm — \$ 3,200

Edition of 6 both sizes



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Front Cover Image: *Ritual, Bawi (nan) #5*,  
2021, Photograph on cotton rag.

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