

Alex Byrne, *Barka 31 - Barwon Junction*, 2020

Aquatint; Barka/Darling series on Hahnemuhle 300 gsm 1 AP + 5;
365 x260

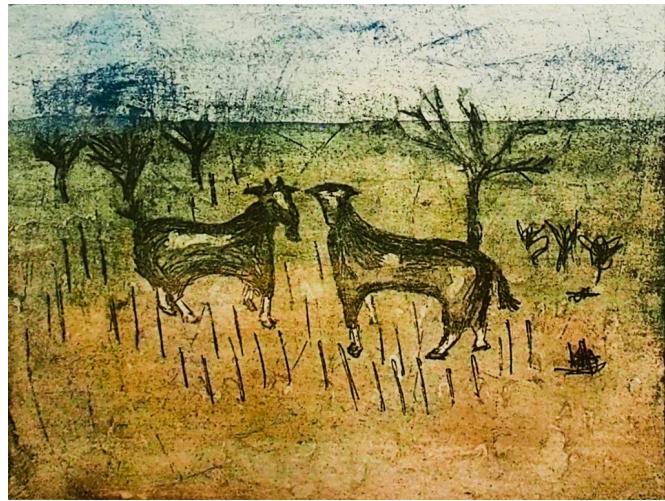
The confluence of the Barwon and Culgoa rivers, between Brewarrina and Bourke, marks the start of the Barka/Darling. Both rivers originate in southern Queensland with the Barwon fed by many north flowing NSW rivers including the Macquarie, Namoi, Gwydir and Bogan. Upstream at Brewarrina are the extensive ancient stone fish traps of the Ngemba Wayilwan, a site of great sacred and cultural significance.



Alex Byrne, *Barka 32a - Toorale Spoonbill*, 2020

Aquatint & Etching; Barka/Darling series on Hahnemuhle 300 gsm 1 AP + 5; 200 x 200

Located where the Warrego River joins the Barka/Darling, Toorale Station was a large pastoral lease before being declared a national park in 2010. In 1894, 265,000 sheep were shorn on the property with the number declining through the twentieth century.



Alex Byrne, *Barka 32b - Toorale Goats*, 2020

Aquatint & Etching; Barka/Darling series on Hahnemuhle 300 gsm 1 AP + 5; 255 x 210

Feral goats, *Capra hircus*, are a major pest in arid and semi-arid regions. Introduced during colonisation as domestic livestock, they occur across 28% of Australia, competing with native fauna, causing land degradation, and threatening plant and animal species and ecological communities. They can often be seen on the Barka/Darling banks and surrounding country.



Alex Byrne, *Barka 33 - Cotton Irrigation*, 2020

Aquatint & Etching; Barka/Darling series on Hahnemuhle 300 gsm 1 AP + 5; 355 x 260

Following earlier unsuccessful ventures, cotton has been grown commercially in Australia since the 1970s. Much research and effort has gone into reducing the use of fertilisers and water and the Australian industry now claims to be one of the most water efficient cotton industries in the world. However, reduced stream flows in the Murray Darling basin and their consequences for communities, fish and wildlife and incidences of water misuse have led to questions about the suitability of the industry, especially in the face of climate change.

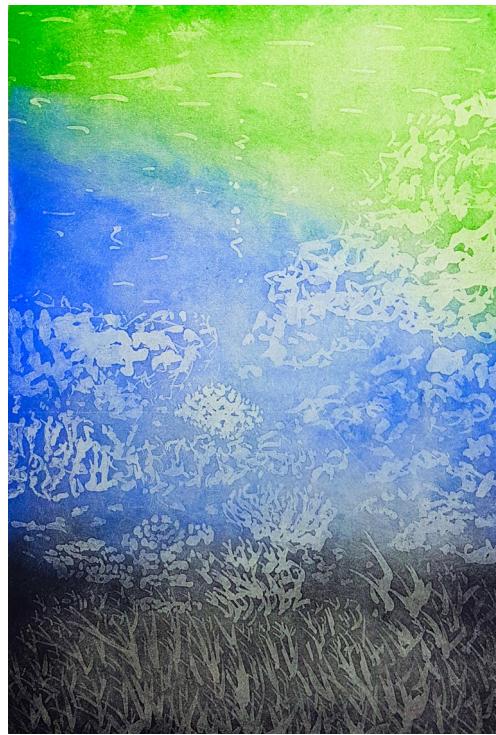


Alex Byrne, *Barka 34 - Freedom Ride*, 2020

Aquatint; Barka/Darling series on Hahnemuhle 300 gsm 1 AP + 5;
260 x 365

The taking of the land through brutality, massacres and driving the traditional owners off Country was followed by a century of forced concentration into missions and reserves. Children were removed from their families. Ceremony and use of language were forbidden. Signalling the need for change, Arrente student Charles Perkins led the 1965 Freedom Ride that visited Walgett and other towns with oppressed Aboriginal populations and famously liberated the Moree Baths from which Aboriginal people were banned.

Apocalypse



Alex Byrne, *Apocalypse 1 - Every living soul died in the sea*, 2020

Aquatint; Apocalypse series on BFK Rives Grey 280gsm 1 AP + 5;
380 x 565

*And the second angel poured out his vial upon the sea;
and it became as the blood of a dead man: and every
living soul died in the sea. - Revelation 16(3)*

