Finch & Co



A COLLECTION OF SEVEN AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL BARK PAINTINGS

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STRINGY EUCALYPTUS BARK AND NATURAL PIGMENTS
1925 – 35
SIZES: 26 CM HIGH, 74 CM WIDE – 10¼ INS HIGH, 29 INS WIDE (MIN.)
37 CM HIGH, 107 CM WIDE – 14¾ INS HIGH, 42 INS WIDE (MAX.)

LITERATURE

THE ART OF BARK PAINTING APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN PRACTISED WHEREVER THE ABORIGINALS USED BARK TO CONSTRUCT WET WEATHER SHELTERS. THE COLOURS ARE TAKEN FROM NATURAL PIGMENTS OBTAINED LOCALLY OR BY TRADE WHICH ARE GROUND WITH A STONE AND THEN FIXED WITH SAP OF A TREE ORCHID BULB. A STRIP OF BARK, A THIN STICK, AND A SINGLE FEATHER ARE USED FOR BRUSHES. WITH THESE SIMPLE MATERIALS AND TECHNIQUES, AND LIMITED TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT, PAINTINGS ARE PRODUCED THAT RIVAL THE BEST EXAMPLES OF MODERN EUROPEAN ART.