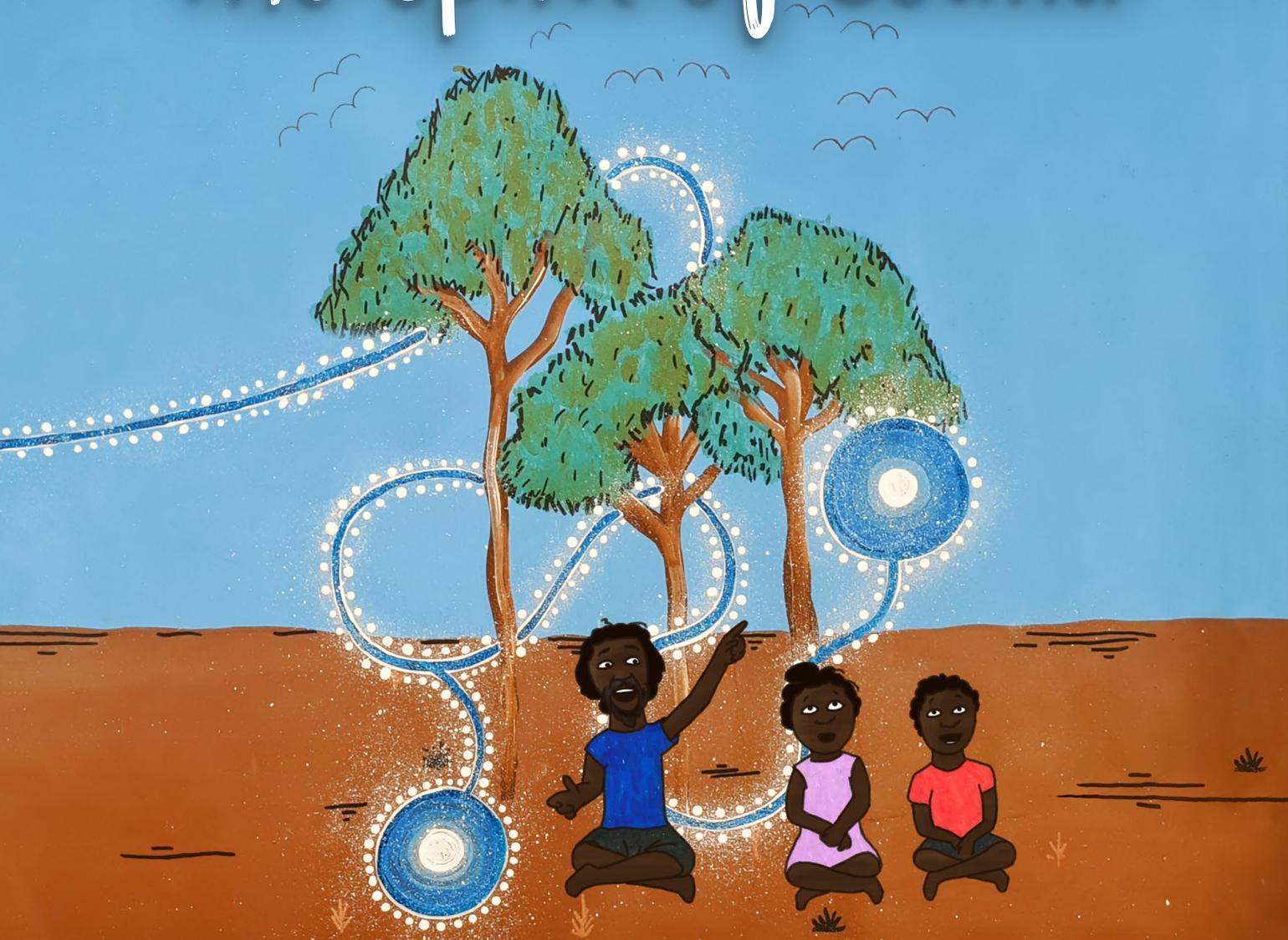


The Spirit of Sound



A Collaboration between Hearing Australia
and Aboriginal Artist Davinder Hart

The Spirit of Sound



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Written by Hearing Australia and Davinder Hart

Original artwork by Davinder Hart and
supplemented illustrations by Hearing Australia



I would like to acknowledge that this Earth is my mother. I acknowledge that Biami is my father that lives in the sky and acknowledge everything in between as my brother and sister.

I am connected to everything, and I have a responsibility and obligation to look after this place.

Davinder Hart

Can you hear
the spirit of sound?

Have you heard of the spirit of sound?

Listen closely, it's all around,

It dances to the beat of your feet on the land,

It taps with the clapstick in an uncle's hand,

It helps keep our ancestors with us, close by,

From here on the ground to high in the sky

...can you hear the spirit of sound?

Clap
Clap!



As babies are growing in their mother's round tummy,
The spirit brings love from their aunties and mummy,
With the bumps of mum's heartbeat,

And the sweet sound of songs,
The babies feel safe and they know they belong
...can you hear the spirit of sound?



The spirit of sound's in the voice of this mother,
As she names this new baby sister and brother,

'Bunda', the kangaroo, strong, fast and quick,
And 'Dinahwan' the emu, so graceful and slick
...can you hear the spirit of sound?



When the babies are born the spirit's still there,
As we fend off bad spirits and sounds fill the air,



The crackle of fire breathing smoke all around,
The singing from women, that's the spirit of sound
...can you hear the spirit of sound?



Clap
Clap!



When elders tell stories and we all sit close by,
To hear about the emu in the twinkling night sky,

The spirit's in dreamtime and brings us together,
In knowledge passed down to live on forever
...can you hear the spirit of sound?

The spirits abound in our musical sounds,
The tap of the clapsticks as we dance all around,



It brings us in close as we stomp on the land,
To hold us in tightly to Mother Earth's hand
...can you hear the spirit of sound?



When we all come together the spirit's there too,
As we join for corroboree it's with me and you,
In Mother Earth's heartbeat, in the sound as we dance,
The rhythm of voices and the hum of our chants,

And now that you've heard of the spirit of sound,
You'll know it's there always, just... all around
...that's the spirit of sound.



Davinder Hart and Spirit of Sound

Davinder Hart is an Indigenous artist who was born in Perth, Western Australia. His connections spread far and wide over to west of NSW. He pays his respects to his grandfather (Nudgee) Paul Gordon and his uncles, for with their knowledge passed down he can tell stories through his paintings.

“The three circles in the spirit of sound represent Music, Dance and Mother Earth. Three things that are incredibly important to my culture and all intrinsically connected. The lines connecting the circles represent the connection between music, dance and mother earth and passing down of knowledge between generations.”

“I’m very proud to work with Hearing Australia to highlight the importance of sound to myself and to Indigenous people. When we hear sound it travels through our ears into our bodies and wakes up our feelings. In this book you can see the spirits of sound and how it moves around like a message being sent. When we start to listen we can start to learn.”

Disclaimer: This is not an old Ngurrampaa (dreamtime) story. This is how Davinder sees the spirit of sounds through his eyes.

A message from Hearing Australia

Hearing Australia would like to acknowledge the many Traditional Owners of the lands on which we live and work, across the country.

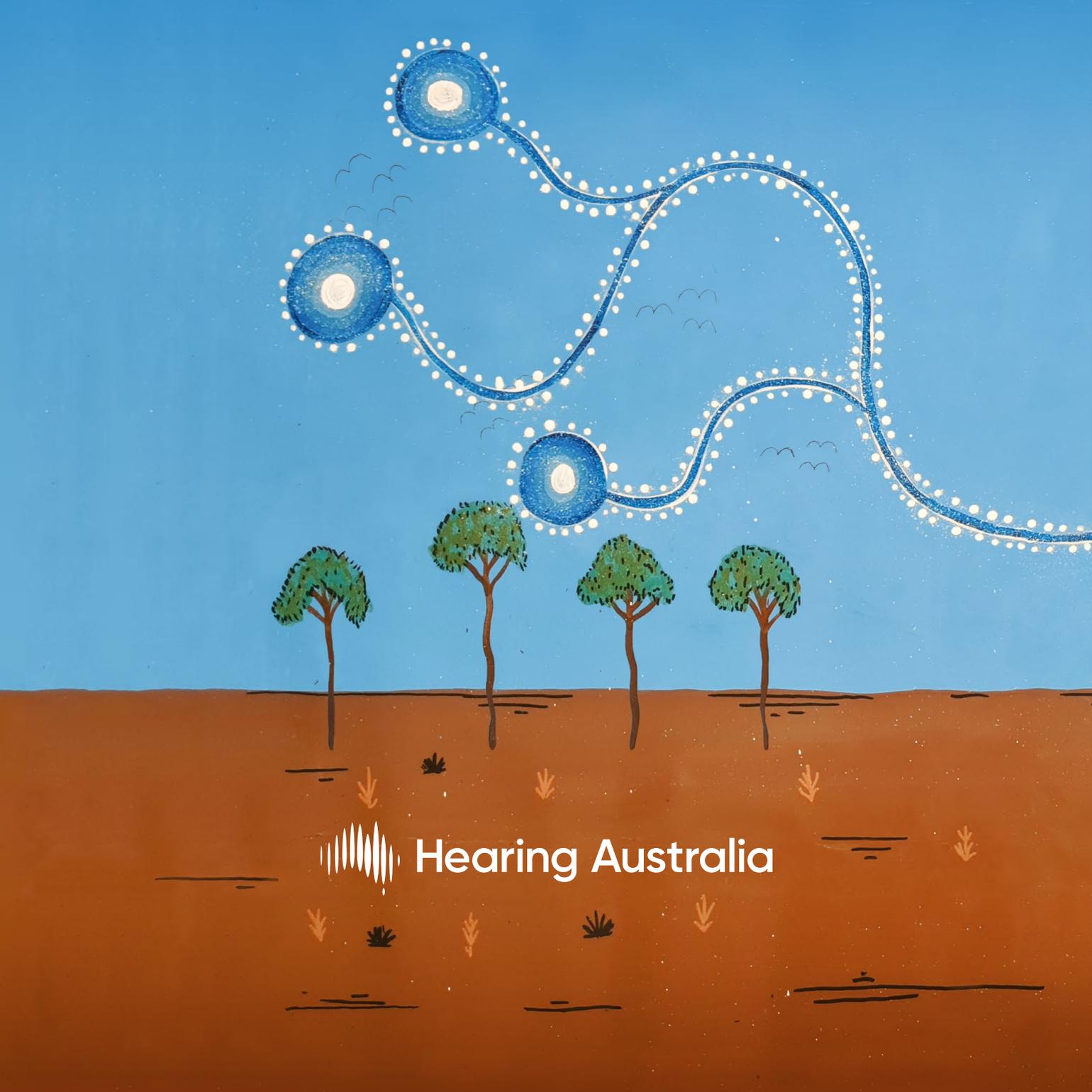
We pay our respects to Elders, past, present, and emerging and acknowledge the longest continuing culture on earth.

We are honoured to celebrate the stories, cultures, and traditions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders and peoples of all communities who work and live on this land.

Hearing Australia is committed to improving the hearing health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and helping families hear and connect to the sounds they love.

We are proud to work in partnership and collaboration with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, health and education services across Australia, and to work with Aboriginal artist Davinder Hart on this project to highlight the importance of sound to culture and community.

We will continue to support and provide the best hearing care to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community and families across Australia.



Hearing Australia