

Artist: Jock Mosquito
Language: Jaru
Area: Kimberly Region

Title: Keep River Country
Medium: Ochre on
Canvas
Size: 39"x 39"



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This piece depicts his desert country in the Northern Territory, just east of the Kimberley, where he now resides, and the design is Traditional desert iconography executed in the sought after ochre medium.

“All around here is just over into the Northern Territory east of the Western Australia way. Not too far away from the biggest town of Kununurra. That big Keep River runs into the sea now, and that makes it really good for Barra (barramundi) fishing. Best fishing place anywhere for all sorts of fish. I’ve painted the Sandy Creek on the plains all around the bigger Keep. These creeks and waterholes fill right up after the Wet, but no water around this place in the Dry. Still good country, lots of tucker and easy to walk or drive through. Good cattle country here, floodplains grow good grass. Legume way for the cattle. I worked this place a lot from Nicholson Station – we worked all around here.”

Jock lives in Kununurra and Warmun Community. With no formal education, Jock has avidly participated in important cultural and business matters in his country. He was Chairperson of the influential Wunun Regional Council and has been a leading figure in Aboriginal Affairs in the Kimberley.

Before he was 20, Jock was offered a lucrative contract on the Australian Rodeo Circuit, however declined and remained a stockman for many years.