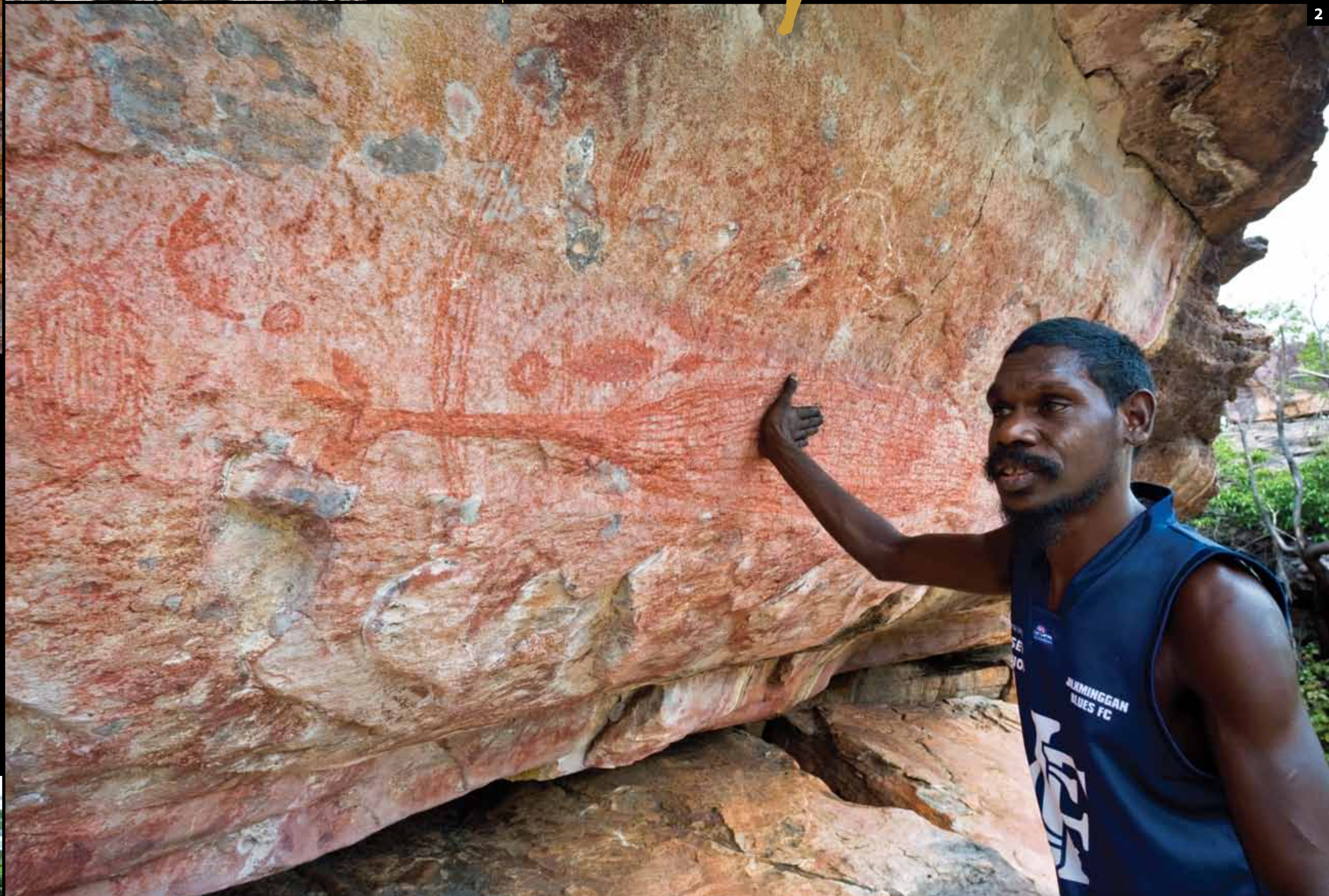




Almudj

2



- 1 Almudj albu al-bang. Al-godjguluban. Almudj the Rainbow Serpent is a dangerous being. She has a head like a flying fox.
- 2 Bu barri-germge gun-red gabarri-re arri-woknan ba ga-mak dabbarrabolk gabarri-benggan. Na-redweleng Na-wamud ga-ngenmang al-mudj ba ga-mak rouk gumekke. Gorogo dabbarrabolk adberre wanjh barri-bolkahnani Almudj.
- 3 Na-redweleng Na-gangila Na-Mirarr ga-ni gure Almudj. Traditional owner, Stewart Gangale sitting at Almudj.
- 4 Na-gangila Na-mirarr nawu bi-bornang Na-wamud gah-ni gure Almudj 1978. Mirarr clansman Frank Djandjul and father of Ambrose, at Almudj in 1978 (photo: George Chaloupka)

When a new person goes to a site for the first time we call out to the spirits of our ancestors so they will know this new person. Here, traditional owner Ambrose Djandjul puts his body scent on the paintings of Almudj. Our ancestors have always looked after the Almudj site in this way.

Bu arri-ngun gun-balem minj arri-wurlebme guwukku. Gan-bun alekke Almudj wanjh. Ngun golhbun. Gan-golhbun wanjh ariih-downen. Gun-gurik wanjh arri-gurme arri-dangbarurren wardi gan-dangnome gan-giwkme. Al-mudj bu ga-waralname minj arri-widjung, gam-darnhre wardi. When we have eaten meat with fat, we do not swim in the water. Almudj would make us sick. She would strike us there in the water and we would become ill. So we rub earth around our mouth to hide the smell of the fat so as to avoid being struck down by her power. When Almudj places herself as a rainbow in the sky, we do not point at her, otherwise she would be attracted to us.



The Rainbow Serpent

This poster describes the home of the Rainbow Serpent, an important place for the Mirarr people of Western Arnhem Land in Northern Australia. The language is Gundjeihmi. Kunwinjku and Gundjeihmi are sister dialects of the same language and are two of many languages spoken by Mirarr people. For more information visit www.kunwinjku.org and www.mirarr.net

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