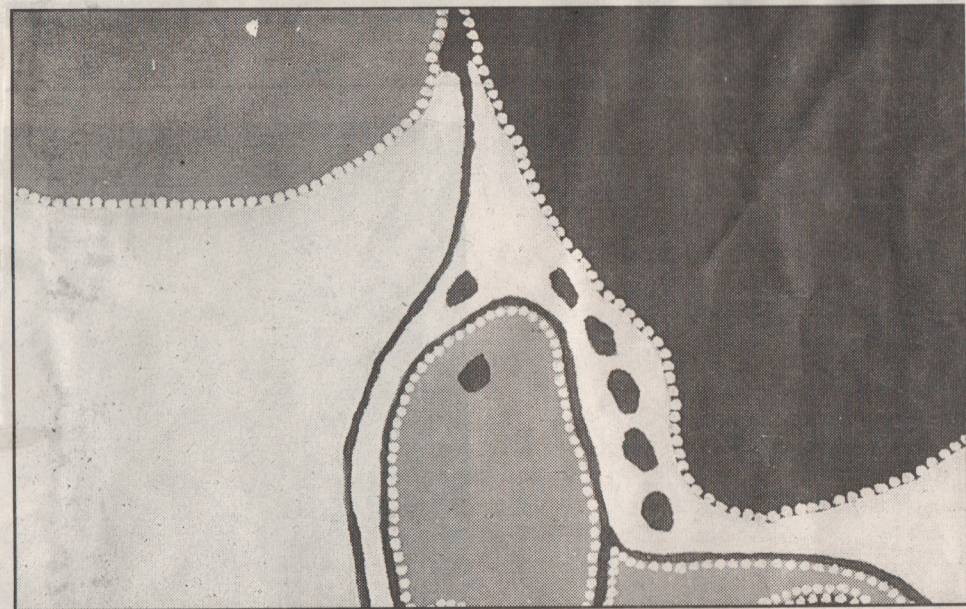


- Aboriginal originals
- Portrait prize
- The Promised Land

London lights **SX**



Southern Cross
 A NEWSPAPER FOR AUSTRALASIANS ABROAD
 WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2, 1995 ISSUE 355



● **Spiritual: Freddy Timms used ochre on canvas to create *Warmun*, part of the *Songlines XIV* exhibition.**

from the caves and pits and mixed with rain water and gum to produce a palette of blacks, russets, siennas, golden yellows, browns, creams, oranges and glorious Aboriginal pinks.

Applied in broad flat areas, the hues are tracked by a rash of white spots which look like they've probably been applied using an authentic Kimberley branch or twig.

By working with natural materials, and without abusing them, the Turkey Creek artists bring the promise of increased life for man and nature. They enforce a recycling of substance in every sense.

This is a truly magnificent show. Don't miss it. Also showing are Destiny Deacon's photographs. Collectively entitled *Smiling Dangerously*, the series identifies Deacon's Aboriginal reasoning.

Together, the shows are a double entry treat. I promise.

**BP PORTRAIT AWARD 1995
 National Portrait Gallery WC1.
 Until October 15.**

● THE thing about an exhibition of unknown portraits, is that one has no idea whether or not they

are a good likeness of the sitter.

Nor does one care.

It is the sitter's very presence which makes the painting interesting, tantalising, arresting and memorable.

Their anonymity obviously allows nothing more.

Except for the artist and sitter.

Of nearly 800 entries, the BP Portrait Awards boasts eight prize winners among 60-odd quality exhibitors.

The overall winner is Ishbel Myerscough's *Krishenda*. Her Olympia-inspired nude stares out blankly as her bulk roams over a furry chaise longue. The other winners are labelled for identification.

Interesting in terms of atmosphere and drama, all the figures seem to be tackled with an innovative and appealing sense of serious contemplation.

Expressive and varied in terms of style, this show introduces the great portraitists of tomorrow. To be taken at face value!