



Nellie Green

Jonelle (Nellie) GREEN is a Badimaya woman (Yamatji mob) and has worked in Indigenous Higher Education for over 15 years. She is currently Manager of Indigenous Student Services at La Trobe University, Melbourne and is a graduate of Curtin University, Perth. Nellie completed her Honours year in 2010. Nellie is an artist whose work has appeared in a number of joint exhibitions and on covers of published books. Her writing has been published in Message Stick—Aboriginal Contemporary Writing and The Strength of Us as Women—Black Women Speak, both by Ginninderra Press.

poetry

A Home for the Spirits

A Bond with the land,
Water and air
That surrounds me.
My passions are
Stirred as I
Recall my origins.
Borne of the land
In a time as
Timeless as Forever.

My blood is her blood.
Watered by her waters.
I breathe her air for life.
When I die my Spirit endures.
My soul returns to its
Former 'Mother'—

Where it longs to be
With no machines in sight,
No polluted air and
No polluted rivers.
All animals
All life—existing unthreatened.

My soul roams free forever
Where it's always longed to be.