Wanggajarli Burungun – We are coming home – The Gwarinman project
Roebuck Bay, Broome, Western Australia
Home of the Yawurru, Karajarri and Djugan people
Rehumanizing and Rebiographing:

- Changing ancestral remains from an Museum’s object back to a human being
- Giving back human dignity
- Treating the ancestral remains with respect
- Finding the individual history and biography
- Finding out where they were at home
- Talking to their people and finding out local histories related to the human remains
- Finding out the best and most respectful way to hand them over to their people
- Caring for ceremonies and mourning and providing appropriate places
- Repatriating the ancestors back to their country and people and if possible to the family
Situation in the depot:

- the human remains of several individuals were stored mixed in big boxes
- no information about gender and age
Anthropological survey – non invasive:
- Assigning the bones to the particular individual
- Finding out about gender, age and injuries
- Were they taken out of burials?
- Giving them their individual place
- Replacing object numbers by names

Nagula jarntu – Saltwater Woman
Nagula wamba – Saltwater Man
Nagula wuba – Saltwater Child
Community Consultations

The Law Bosses of the Nyamba Buru Yawurru, Broome
Examination by a Coroner:

- Results give evidence of a context of violence
- Only two of the 14 People have been buried
- 12 of them have been very young children, mainly girls
- All of them have typical indications of injuries that are related to deep water diving (otitis and changes of bone structures in the skulls)
Killing, Blackbirding, Slave labour and heavy violence in the Pearling Business in Broome in late 1860 - 1900
Learning about the White History of Broome
Cemeteries in Broome:
They are not an appropriate place for the ancestral remains
Wish of the Community to have a face reconstruction of two of the victims for the Memorial Resting Place in Broome
Visit to the Places where the ancestral remains have been on display till 1943 in Dresden, Germany.
Cleaning the places and the Museums staff in Dresden and Leipzig
Leipzig
April 2019
Mourning ceremony
Berlin, Australian Embassy, official Act to Hand over: The ancestors can return home
Arrival of the Ancestors in Perth, Australia
A common workshop at Nyamba Buru Yawurru and Community consultations in 2019 to work out an application for financial support and to find partners for the exhibition.

Our partners will come to Leipzig in autumn 2020 to finalize the concepts.
The Memorial resting Place and an Exhibition about the stolen ancestors and the history of racism that will go on tour through Museums in Australia and Germany - We will do it together