



## **The Mullumbimby Kid**

**Edwin Wilson**

**The Macnaughton Focus Gallery**

**Friday 8 August - Sunday 12 October**

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Edwin Wilson lived in Mullumbimby from 1948 – 1958. During this time, 'Mullum's' guardian mountain Chincogan or "Chinny" was imprinted on his developing psyche. His first book of poems titled *Banyan* was dedicated "for Chinny". Living in such a rich natural environment led to Wilson's fascination with nature, a science degree in chemistry and botany, and employment in Sydney's Royal Botanic Gardens.

Wilson's forced departure from the town in 1959 was personally very painful, and left him 'Mullum dreaming' all his life. The first edition of Wilson's memoirs, *The Mullumbimby Kid: A Portrait of the Poet as a Child*, was published in 2000. In 2003 he met his long-lost brother Edwin/Jim (1939 – 2008) and some of the mysteries of their Gothic childhoods were at last explained. This momentous event necessitated the publication of a second edition of *The Mullumbimby Kid* in 2012.

In 2003 Wilson began a series of paintings of Mullumbimby landscapes, inspired by Egon Schiele's *Landscape at Krumau*. This Mullumbimby-themed exhibition is the result of Wilson's personal quest for a lost paradise, replete with snake, when distance breeds enchantment.

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### **Edwin Wilson**

*The Mullumbimby Kid* 2005 - 2013

oil on canvas

152 x 122cm