Namatjira has mastered art of not taking things too seriously

Vincent Namatjira in his Beija Arts studio

In Namatjira’s mind, Trump may be “trying to change the world or whatever”. But in still just calling himself “the don”, he’s still joking.“When he talks, he does this ... sort of like I’m doing things my own way,” Namatjira says. “Trump is looking for his own way.”

Trump is someone who “has not really made much of a difference in the world,” Namatjira says. “He’s been attacking America, and seemingly mocking ones of its leaders.”

Namatjira was taken into the Queen McDonald’s, himself and Trump, with a quote from the Queen’s own words: “Mark my words, nothing can break me.”

In fact, Namatjira said he is happy with how things are going. “I’m an indigenous leader for the Aboriginal people who’s too quickly judged, much as [Trump] is,” Namatjira says. “I paint to have fun.”

Namatjira often places his subject matter against the backdrop of the Earth. “I’m holding the Aboriginal flag, because it’s my flag and I’ve got the Aboriginal flag,” Namatjira says. “I use humour to take away some of the serious and potentially more important stuff.”

The Queen McDonald’s brand has been used by Namatjira to highlight the ongoing issue of racism in Australia. “I want American people and the Australian people to see that art and seemingly mocking ones of its leaders.”

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