



Tommy Pau

Kol Sadh Sol (Blooming Flowers)

N.D.

vinyl-cut on paper

Courtesy of the artist

The Torres Strait island dress is called Kol Sadh Sol in the Western Torres Strait language and Au Gem Wali (Big Body Clothes) in the Eastern Torres Strait language.

The Island Dress was remodelled on Darnley Island by Mrs Murray, who cut the missionary dress to just below the knee and started to use colourful floral prints and laces. Since then, ladies have modified the dress into their own patterns and designs.

The artwork consists of an island lady with an island comb with the symbol of the womb and birthing canal design.

The patterns in the work showcase show of the functions of the island dress, including cooking, gardening, fishing, dancing and for formal wear.

Tommy Pau, 2022