



Short St. Gallery

David Tipuamantumirri



Born	1966
Language	Tiwi
Skin Group	Scaly Mullet
Dance	Shark/Rainbow/Osprey

Biography

David Tipuamantumirri has been producing Ironwood carvings painted with local ochres at Ngaruwanajiri for many years. He has worked on several collaborative carving commissions including the large Tutini (pole), carved and painted with Barry Kantilla, for presentation to the departing Ambassador by the Royal Dutch Embassy in Canberra in 2005.

David made one of the four Tutini produced for the Celebration of the Anniversary of 300 years of European contact with the Tiwi, commissioned by the Tiwi Land Council, 2005. He worked with Francis Kerinaia on carving a Tutini for the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Tiwi Land Council in 2008 and with Barry Kantilla for the Wurrumiyanga Cemetery.

David's beautiful carving of Purrukupali (as part of a collaborative group of carvings) with Gordon Pupangamirri, Barry Kantilla and Graham Tipungwuti was selected for the Wynne Prize in 2022. In 2025 David worked with the other Ngaruwanajiri carvers on an 18-piece Tiwi nativity scene for the local schools in Wurrumiyanga.

Group Exhibitions

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| 2026 | Ngawa Ngirramini, Our Story – Short St Gallery, Broome, WA |
| 2025 | Too Deadly: Ten Years of Tarnanthi, Art Gallery of South Australia. Works on paper by Ngaruwanajiri artists and tutini pole by Ngaruwanajiri carvers Francis John Kerinaia, Arthur Arthanasius Puruntatameri, David Tipuamantumirri., |



Short St. Gallery

- 2025 Tiwi Ningani (Tiwi Today), Outstation Gallery at Tactile Arts, an exhibition by men artists from Ngaruwanajirri - Harold Munkara, David Tipuamantumirri, Barry Kantilla, Thomas Munkanome, Gordon Pupangamirri, Graham Tipungwuti.
- 2022 Collaborative sculptures, "First death on the Tiwi Islands" by Gordon Pupangamirri, David Tipuamantumirri, Barry Kantilla, and Graham Tipungwuti, Wynne Prize finalist.
- 2011 Ngaruwanajirri: helping one another, Charles Darwin University Art Gallery, Casuarina, NT., A retrospective exhibition of works by all Ngaruwanajirri artists.
- 2009 Tokwampini 2009. Carvings by Ngaruwanajirri artists at Aboriginal and Pacific Art, Sydney.
- 2009 "Prelude" 30th anniversary celebration of Charles Darwin University Art Collection and the opening of the new Chancellery Building, Casuarina Campus., Carved ironwood figure.
- 2008 "Tokwampini Tiwi Bird Carvings "at Aboriginal and Pacific Art, Sydney., Carvings and paintings
- 2008 "Sisters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Centenary Exhibition 1908-2008" Framed Gallery, Darwin.,
- 2008 "The Other Thing- a survey show" Charles Darwin University Art Collection exhibition 2007 Palya Art @ 118 Walpole Street, Kew, Victoria., Carvings
- 2008 "Marakatari Jilimaringa" carving included in an all Tiwi exhibition at Framed Gallery, Darwin., Carvings 2006 Charles Darwin University Art Collection : A carved ironwood figure
- 2005 Tutini ,for the Celebration of the Anniversary of 300 years of European contact with the Tiwi., A major participant in the creation of this pole, commissioned by the Tiwi Land Council, for the May 2005 Karlake ceremony, Melville Island, N.T.
- 2005 Tutini /pole to accompany the exhibition : "Alfonso Puautjimi" at William Mora in Melbourne, Victoria
- 2005 Large Tutini carved and painted by David for presentation to the departing Dutch Ambassador by the Royal Dutch Embassy in Canberra.