



# Short St. Gallery



## Sebastian Arrow

Born            1994  
Language      Yawuru  
Region        Broome

Sebastian is from the Yawuru language group near Broome, Western Australia. He has lived in this area for most of his life. The well-known senior law man and artist Aubrey Tigan was his mentor and taught him the traditional designs and craft of this area. In 2011 they returned to the traditional island sea country of the Mayala people, Buccaneer Archipelago. The voyage focused on the little understood tradition of the Ochre incised Pear shell carving tradition, ubiquitous amongst saltwater tribes along the Kimberley and Pilbara coastal frontier, remote Northwestern edge of Western Australia. Here Sebastian received traditional training in preparation, procedure, and specific designs of Rijji. He is now a trained advocate with responsibilities to cannon Mayala existence. Sebastian is able to produce some of the old local law designs and trading designs that Aubrey passed on to continue this extraordinary artwork on pearlshell. Rijji are carved pearlshell, rubbed with ochre. They were traditionally used as a trading device within land tribes and during men's initiation ceremonies. Sebastian has strong personal interest in most saltwater activities including free diving, apnea diving, fitness and nutrition and traditional and contemporary saltwater hunting. He also has a strong interest in Aboriginal Archaeology and Anthropology Pharmacopeia.

## Exhibitions

2022    Ever Present: First Peoples Art of Australia, Art Gallery of Western Australia and National Gallery Touring Exhibition AND National Gallery of Singapore  
2018    Defying Empire, UQ Art Museum, Brisbane QLD



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- 2018 35th National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin, NT
- 2018 Defying Empire, Museum and Art Gallery of Northern Territory, Darwin, NT
- 2018 Lustre, National Museum of Australia, Canberra
- 2017 Lustre, Australian National Maritime Museum, NSW
- 2017 Lustre, Museum Tropical Queensland, QLD
- 2017 Hedland Art Award, Courthouse Gallery, Port Hedland, WA
- 2017 Defying Empire, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, ACT
- 2016 Lustre, Museum of Victoria (Immigration Museum), VIC
- 2015 Lustre, Museum of Western Australia, WA
- 2015 Shimmer, Taranathi Festival, Art Gallery of South Australia
- 2015 Shimmer, Taranathi Festival, Jam Factory South Australia
- 2014 Arrinji Jewelry Range release, Nomad 2 Worlds Indigenous Atlas Pacific showroom, Claremont

## Collections

Art Gallery of South Australia  
Museum of Western Australia  
Art Gallery of Western Australia  
Kerry Stokes Collection

## Awards

- 2017 Winner (Best Sculptural Work), Hedland Art Award, Port Hedland, WA



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