



# Short St. Gallery

## Gabriel Maralngurra

Birth Year	1968
Language Group	Kunwinjku
Region	Arnhemland



## Biography

Gabriel Maralngurra was among the founding members of Injalak Arts in the late 1980's, and continues to be a driving force behind the art centre today. Painting at Injalak since 1989 Gabriel's artistic practice is reflected in the breadth and depth of the subjects he paints, his fluent linework and highly original compositions. Maralngurra's work can be seen in periods, both in terms of style and subject matter, as he explores one artistic avenue after another. However, behind this tireless experimentation his own confident and fluid style is unmistakable, always balancing studied naturalism with a strong sense of design and stylisation. He attributes much of his artistic education to senior painter Thompson Yulidjiri in the early days of Injalak.

He is continually inspired by the rock art of West Arnhem Land, always referencing and working within this artistic tradition while pursuing formal innovations and new designs. His knowledge of stories, plants and animals gives him a wide range expressive material. His work has also explored the contact period in the Gunbalanya area, culminating in a solo exhibition 'Contact' at Mossenson Galleries in Melbourne in 2006.

He is an ambassador and mediator for Kunwinjku culture, having worked many years as a tour guide, Kunwinjku-English translator, Injalak board member and president, screenprinter and travelling widely around Australia for openings and launches. He is currently Co-Manager of Injalak. In September 1995 he travelled to Shanghai to represent the art centre at an Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Exhibition of paintings from Injalak.

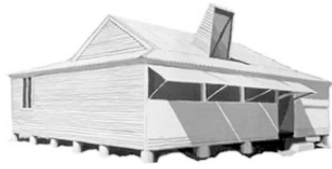
As a founder, it is in large part Maralngurra's vision and belief in the mission of the art centre that has allowed it to carry on and thrive. He has helped create a place where the Art History of West Arnhem Land can be continued, developed, experienced by others and apprenticed to younger generations. In January 2020, Gabriel undertook a residency at the Kluge Ruhe Collection in Virginia while he opened two exhibitions of work.



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## Group Exhibitions

- 2021 Northern Waters Exhibition, Short St Gallery Broome, WA
- 2020 MunguyhMunguyh (Forever): Celebrating the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of The John W Kluge Injalak Commission, The Rotunda, University of Virginia, USA
- 2020 The Inside World: Contemporary Aboriginal Australian Memorial Poles, Fralin Museum, University of Virginia, USA
- 2018 Manme Manmk, Good Food!, Araluen Cultural Precinct, Alice Springs, NT
- 2017 'Salon Des Refuses', Charles Darwin University, Darwin
- 2017 'Get it On 2017', Aboriginal Bush Traders, Darwin, NT
- 2017 'Mayhmayh -Different Birds', Works on paper, bark and hollow logs, Nomad Art Gallery, Darwin
- 2016 'Interiors-Fabric panels', Framed the Darwin Gallery
- 2016 'Salon Des Refuses', Charles Darwin University, Darwin
- 2016 'Kunwinkju Counting Book Exhibition and Launch', Nomad Art Galley, Darwin
- 2016 '12th Festival of Pacific Art - Group Exhibition', Guam Museum, Guam
- 2015 'Wearables', Tactile Arts Gallery, Darwin
- 2015 'Salon Des Refuses', Darwin Waterfront, Darwin
- 2015 Dolobbo: Contemporary Bark Paintings from Injalak Arts', Aboriginal & Pacific Art, Sydney
- 2013 'Wurrkabal', Netanya Resort, Noosa QLD
- 2013 'Injalak Arts Exhibition', Better World Arts, Port Adelaide
- 2009 'Ochre and Rust', Indigenart Gallery, Perth
- 2008 'Sex, Spirits & Sorcery', Mossenson Galleries, Melbourne
- 2007 'Continuity, Country and Culture: Three Generations',
- 2007 'The Injalak Hill Suite', Abioriginal & Pacific Art Gallery, Danks St Sydney
- 2006 'Paper, Bark, Canvas & Twine', Dickerson Gallery, Melbourne
- 2006 'Contact', Solo Exhibition, Mossenson Galleries, Melbourne
- 2006 'Wet and Dry', Indigenart Gallery, Perth WA
- 2006 '24th National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award ', MAGNT, Darwin NT
- 2006 'The Second Peter Baillie Acquisitive Award', Flinders University, Adelaide SA
- 2005 'Concord', Framed Gallery, Darwin
- 2004 '21st Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award',
- 2003 'Art Mob Exhibition Tasmania',
- 2003 '20th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award',
- 2001 Telstra National Aboriginal & Tirres Strait Islander Art Award, Darwin, NT
- 1998 Desert Designs Japingka Gallery, Perth, WA
- 1996 Framed Gallery, Darwin, NT
- 1995 12<sup>st</sup> NATSIAA's, Darwin, NT
- 1995 Aboriginal & Tribal Art Gallery, The Rocks, Sydney, NSW
- 1994 Editions, Southbank, Melbourne, VIC
- 1993 Hogarth Aboriginal & Tribal Gallery, Sydney, NSW



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1993 Stories, Contemporary Australian Aboriginal Art Kerava Art  
1993 Helsinki and Rovaniemi Art Museum Lapland, Finland  
1993 Burukmarri Gallery, Fremantle, WA

## **Bibliography**

2005 Louise Hamby, Twined Together: Kunmadj njalehnjaleken, Injalak Arts & Crafts Association  
2010 Carrol, Peter, Bark Art from Western Arnhem Land Northern Territory Anglican Foundation  
1993 Kunwinjku Seasonal Calendar, Injalak Arts & Crafts  
2000 Wright, Felicity, The Art & Craft Centre Story: Volume Three – Good stories from out bush, ATSIC

## **Collections**

National Museum of Australia  
Dept. of Foreign Affairs, Canberra  
Museum & Art Gallery of the Northern Territory  
Museum of Victoria  
Batchelor Institute, NT, AUS  
Berndt Museum of Anthropology, University of Western Australia  
Dennis School, USA  
Kluge Collection, Charlottesville, USA

## **Awards**

2010 NATSIAA Highly Commended Award  
2006 Wilin Centre Award for Outstanding Indigenous Artist for his exhibition Making Contact

## **Commissions**

2007 Selected to develop the indigenous design for promotion of the world heritage listed Kakadu National Park