



# Short St. Gallery



## Isaac Cherel

Born	1955
Language Group	Gooniyandi
Region	Old Fossil Downs Station, Kimberley

## Biography

Isaac Cherel is a Gooniyandi Man, from the Fitzroy Valley river country. Isaac grew up on Old Station in Fossil Downs where his parents lived and worked in the Gooniyandi language group country along the Fitzroy and Margaret Rivers of the Kimberley. Isaac's mother Elsie remarried and her second husband Butcher Cherel, renowned Mangkaja painter, raised Isaac as his own son. Isaac was a station worker and a cowboy as a young man, working stock across the Kimberley. He now resides in Muludja and was inspired by his step father Butcher to take up painting. He lives near the river and paints at home, visiting Mangkaja to collect his materials each week. Isaac paints his country, particularly the flora and fauna from the river and flood areas. His focus remains on traditional practices and belief systems, painting symbols that relate to men's law practices and to the spirits of his country, particularly the mamu or joowarri, which are little people with big ears that live in the hills.

## Group Exhibitions

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|------|--|
| 2019 | Meeting Place – Mangkaja and Creative growth, Creative Growth, Oakland, CA                                       |
| 2018 | Mangkaja Men- Outstation Gallery, NT   |
| 2016 | Gimme Shelter - A Survey Show from the Artists of Fitzroy Valley, Short St Gallery, Broome, WA                   |
| 2016 | Entre deux eaux with the Mangkaja & Erub Art Centers Aboriginal Signature Estrangii Gallery –Bruxelles - Belgium |
| 2016 | Revealed Exhibition, Fremantle Art Centre, Fremantle, WA   |



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## Solo Exhibitions

2018      Spirits of the Billabong-Salon Arts  
Project Space, Parap, NT

## Art Prizes

2016      NATSIAA General Painting Finalist.