

# EVERYWHEN ART

## ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

### Gabriel Maralngurra



Clan	Ngalangbali
Social Affiliations	Yirridjdja (moiety), Nawakadj
Language	Kunwinjku
Outstation/Country	Kudjekbinj
Region	Gunbalanya, Western Arnhem Land, NT

Gabriel Maralngurra was among the founding members of Injalak Arts in the late 1980s, 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 Yulidjirri 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.

#### Group Exhibitions

EVERYWHEN ART

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2022 Kulabbarl (Billabong), Everywhen Artspace, Mornington Peninsula, VIC  
2021 'Salon de Refuses', Charles Darwin University, Darwin  
2006 'Paper, Bark, Canvas & Twine', Dickerson Gallery, Melbourne  
2016 'Salon Des Refuses', Charles Darwin University, Darwin  
2015 'Salon Des Refuses', Darwin Waterfront, Darwin  
2017 'Salon Des Refuses', Charles Darwin University, Darwin  
2018 'Manme Manmak ', Good Food! Ngundibukkan Manme Bim, June Marriott Gallery  
2016 'Kunwinkju Counting Book Exhibition and Launch', Nomad Art Galley, Darwin  
2017 'Mayhmayh -Different Birds', Works on paper, bark and hollow logs, Nomad Art Gallery, Darwin  
2009 'Ochre and Rust', Indigenart Gallery, Perth  
2020 'MunguyhMunguyh (Forever): CELEBRATING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE JOHN W. KLUGE INJALAK COMMISSION', The Rotunda, University of Virginia  
1995 'The Twelfth National Aboriginal Art Award Exhibition, ', Museums and Art Galleries of the Northern Territory Darwin  
2006 'The Second Peter Baillie Acquisitive Award', Flinders Univesity, Adelaide SA  
2015 'Wearables', Tactile Arts Gallery, Darwin  
2013 'Wurrkabal', Netanya Resort, Noosa QLD  
2006 'Wet and Dry', Indigenart Gallery, Perth WA  
1993 'Stories', Contemporary Australian Aboriginal Art Kerava Art  
2008 'Sex, Spirits & Sorcery', Mossenson Galleries, Melbourne  
2001 'Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award',  
2020 'The Inside World: Contemporary Aboriginal Australian Memorial Poles', Fralin Museum, University of Virginia  
2007 'The Injalak Hill Suite', Abiriginal & Pacific Art Gallery, Danks St Sydney  
2020 'Kabimdi : There Are Painting There That Have Always Been There', Short St Gallery, Broome  
2003 '20th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award',  
2016 '12th Festival of Pacific Art - Group Exhibition', Guam Museum, Guam  
1995 '21st Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award',  
2006 '24th National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award ', MAGNT, Darwin NT  
2004 '21st Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award',  
1993 Burukmarri Gallery, Fremantle WA  
1994 ' ', Aboriginal & Tribal Art Gallery The Rocks Sydney NSW  
1998 Desert Designs Japingka Gallery, Perth WA  
1993 Helsinki and Rovaniemi Art Museum Lappland, Finland  
1996 Framed Gallery, Darwin NT  
2017 'Get it On 2017', Aboriginal Bush Traders, Darwin  
1993 'Editions', Southbank, Melbourne Vic  
1993 'Hogarth Aboriginal and Tribal Art Gallery',  
2016 'Interiors-Fabric panels', Framed the Darwin Gallery  
2013 'Injalak Arts Exhibition', Better World Arts, Port Adelaide  
2005 'Concord', Framed Gallery, Darwin  
2003 'Art Mob Exhibition Tasmania',  
2006 'Contact', Solo Exhibition, Mossenson Galleries, Melbourne  
2015 'Dolobbo: Contemporary Bark Paintings from Injalak Arts', Aboriginal & Pacific Art, Sydney  
2007 'Continuity, Country and Culture: Three Generations', Commissions  
2007 Selected to devolop the indigenous design for promotion of the world heritage listed Kakadu National Park

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### Awards

2010 Telstra Art Awards- Highly Commended for his art work Wurdwurd (children) Kudjekbinj Dreaming Story  
2006 Wilin Centre Award - for Outstanding Indigenous Artist for his exhibition Making Contact

### Collections

Batchelor Institute, N.T.  
Berndt Museum of Anthropology, University of Western Australia  
Dennis Scholl-USA  
Dept. of Foreign Affairs, Canberra  
Kluge Collection, Charlottesville, United States of America  
Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory  
Museum Australia  
Museum Victoria, Melbourne Australia

### Bibliography

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