



# Short St. Gallery



## Noli Rictor

Born	1969
Language Group	Pitjantjatjara
Region	Tjuntjuntjara, Western Desert

Noli Rictor may well be the youngest 'first contact' Aboriginal person in Australia. The year was 1986 and Noli was the youngest of three boys in the Rictor family when relatives, having previously seen signs that a group were in the remote area, made contact with them, in the Great Victoria Desert of Western Australia. They were persuaded to come into the small settlement of Yakaduna to the south, where most of the Spinifex people now resided. This would be a monumental for Noli who was just twenty-one years old at the time and had survived as a traditional hunter - gatherer, in the desert with only his immediate family, as all other people had left 30 years prior with the British atomic testing taking place at Maralinga. Noli found immediate respect with the older men of the settlement for his vast knowledge of country and Law and this has not changed as time has moved, with Noli still consulted on all things Spinifex.

His young life spent roaming the plains and sandhills is now seen as an invaluable education for the young generations of Spinifex children who have adjusted to sedentary community life.

Noli began his painting career with a couple of works in 2004 at Kalka where he was residing. After his first few works he didn't pick up a brush again until 2016 in Tjuntjuntjara. He now lives and works at juntjuntjara.

## Group Exhibitions

- 2024 Spinifex 2024 - Short Street Gallery, Broome, WA
- 2024 Uwankara Utulu - All Together, D'LAN Contemporary New York, USA
- 2023 Sun and Shadow Art of the Spinifex People, Japingka Gallery, Fremantle. WA



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- 2023 The Rictor Family - Last nomads of Australia, Aboriginal Signature • Estrangin Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
- 2023 Sun and Shadow - Art of the Spinifex People, Raft Artspace, Alice Springs, NT
- 2023 Voir l'Invisible, Museum d'Angoulême, in conjunction with Aboriginal Signature • Estrangin Gallery and supported by Australian Embassy in France, the French Embassy in Australia, Angoulême, France Living Water, Raft Artspace, Alice Springs, N. T.
- 2022 Spinifex Arts Project 25 year anniversary show, Vivien Anderson Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria.
- 2021 Spinifex Wati Tjuta, Aboriginal and Pacific Arts, Sydney
- 2020 Spinifex Artists - On Our Country, Japingka Gallery Fremantle. W.A.
- 2019 "Wati: Men from Spinifex" Aboriginal and pacific Arts, Sydney, NSW.
- 2019 Explosion, Aboriginal Signature - Estrangin Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
- 2019 Revealed - New and Emerging WA Artists, Fremantle Art Centre, Fremantle, Western Australia

## Collections

Bob Kaplan and Margaret Levi Collection. USA  
Kluge-Ruhe Aboriginal Art Collection of The University of Virginia, USA