

# riki salam bio.

## RIKI SALAM, CREATIVE DIRECTOR & ARTIST – GILIMBAA

Riki brings his distinct and considered artwork style to his role guiding the creative direction and output of Gilimbaa's projects. Born and raised in Cairns, Riki's father is a Torres Strait man from Moa Island who was relocated to Mossman at the beginning of World War II. His mother is a Ngai Tahu (Maori) woman from Poi, near Christchurch in New Zealand. After studying Visual Art and Design in Brisbane Riki honed his craft at renowned Indigenous art studio Balarinji under the guidance of artists and owners John and Ros Moriarty. During his 8 years there he worked on many high-profile projects including QANTAS's Yananyi Dreaming, and worked with Indigenous Artists Co-operative Larrakia Nation (based in Darwin), conducting artists workshops and creative brainstorming sessions. Riki joined Gilimbaa as Creative Director at the start of 2010. He works in pen and ink, gouache on paper, and with acrylic paints, exploring concepts of traditional culture in a contemporary format.



His recent expertise includes:

- Creative Director, artist and graphic designer for Healing Foundation and Lowitja Institute animations
- Graphic designer – 'Talkin' Strong & Proud' brand identity, ACMA Indigenous Cybersafety campaign
- Uluru artist liaison and workshop facilitator for Qantas on the Yananyi Dreaming Boeing 737-800 fuselage design and implementation
- Lead designer for the identity for the Australian Pavilion at World Expo, Japan, 2005, including Creative Director of characters and landscape settings, elements usage and symbols guide
- Lead designer, Creative Director and coordinator of multiple projects with Larrakia Nation artists to implement art and design in the Darwin Railway Terminal, tanks for Vopak Australia and residential community developments
- Artist and consultant for graduation gown Indigenous artwork creation, Royal Australian College of General Practitioners
- Creative Director and artist for United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples artwork, Declaration publication and Community Guide publication