

# Napolean Oui Rainforest ID

13 February to 8 March 2014

**Conversation on Saturday 8 March at 3pm:** the artist with Ingrid Hoffmann,  
director KickArts Contemporary in Cairns

Napolean Oui's first Sydney exhibition *Rainforest ID*, is a theatrical tableaux of vivid shield-like paintings on canvas and bark cloth inspired by the brilliant painted objects unique to the rainforest of Far North Queensland and the stories that bound the mosaic of traditional rainforest language groups.

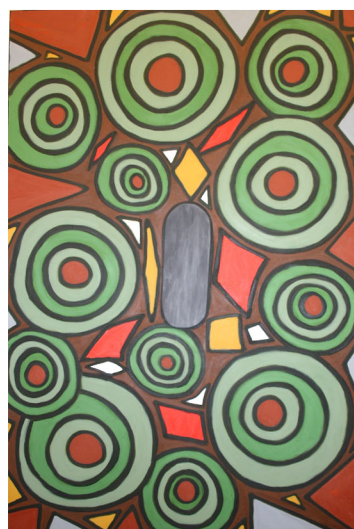
*Rainforest ID* transforms anthropology and museum display into an imaginative diorama of cultural reclamation. His synthesis is utterly contemporary: the visual ambiguity of the paintings reflects the knowledge puzzle presented by the old designs. Oui, a Djabugay artist based in Cairns, draws on his affinity with the old people's deep understanding of the rainforest environment and its world: his colours reflect traditional ochres as well as the intense saturated green of a rainforest canopy.



## Works List



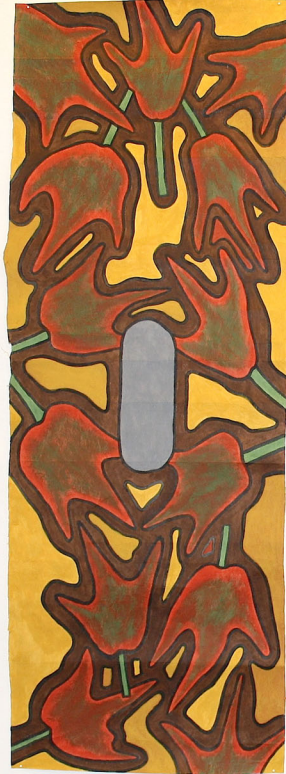
Window: Napoleon Oui,  
Gabay (termites), 2014,  
oil stick on canvas,  
150 x 100cm.



5. Ngawu Bulmba-Barra  
Ngawu Djabuggay  
(I belong to the Country  
I am Djabugay) 2014,  
rainforest shield design  
2014, oil stick on canvas,  
150 x 100cm..



## Works List



1. Yagil (pandanas), 2014, acrylic ink on tapa (bark cloth), 180 x 65cm.



3. Madjal (tree fern), 2014, acrylic ink on tapa (bark cloth), 180 x 65cm



2. Gurrngam (flame tree), 2014, acrylic ink on tapa (bark cloth), 180 x 65cm.



4. Bulyin (grass tree), 2014, acrylic ink on tapa (bark cloth), 180 x 65cm.

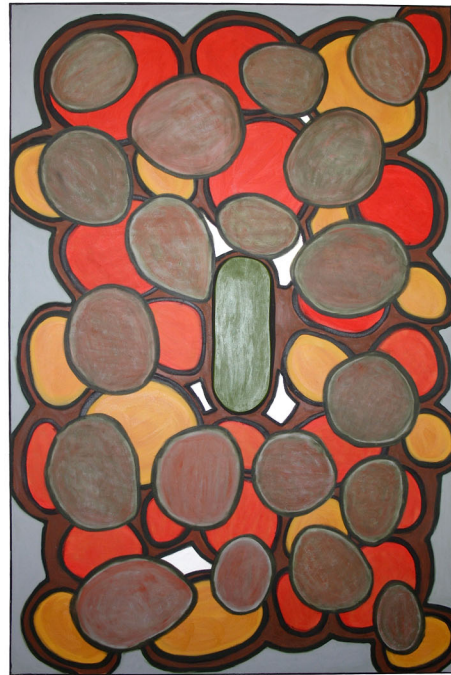




## Works List



6. Sting Ray 2014,  
rainforest shield  
design 2014,  
oil stick on canvas  
150 x 100cm.



7. Bayngga  
(underground oven)  
2014, rainforest  
shield design 2014,  
oil stick on canvas,  
150 x 100cm.



Office: Napoleon  
Oui, Dadagal  
(bones), rainforest  
shield design 2014,  
oil stick on canvas,  
150 x 100cm.



Napoleon Oui,  
Bunda:rra  
(cassowary),  
rainforest shield  
design 2014,  
oil stick on canvas  
150 x 100cm.

## Works List



8. Walbirr-walbirr (butterfly) and Mimu (water lily), 2012.  
Etching printed in one colour from one plate. Edition of 12. 151.5 x 98 cm  
Published by Studio PM, Montreal, Canada. Collaborative printer: Paul Machnik