



## 2010 Indigenous Studies Research Network Annual Symposium

# The Ab/originality of Art

*Aboriginal art is made by Aborigines...Before the British arrived in Australia in 1788, Aboriginal Art was created and curated by ourselves, for ourselves. It was personal, collaborative along set protocols, and event – and site orientated. It was the coming together of a number of art practitioners curated by one or a small set of their number to reaffirm their relationship to each other, to their society, to the natural world and to history (Djon Mundine 2006:57)*



Indigenous art is located within a white Postcolonising borderland where the aesthetics of 'meaning making' and 'doing' collide and interact sometimes through exchange at others through silences, gaps and violence. It is a place where Indigenous sovereign acts of doing art put big black question marks around histories, places, encounters, meanings, forms, genres and representations. These question marks signify contested meaning which operate through, by and beyond the reading of Indigenous art in terms of its purely aesthetic and monetary value. Indigenous art is one medium by which Indigenous sovereignty is practiced.

The Indigenous Studies Research Network brings together a number of Australia's leading Indigenous artists in this year's symposium to discuss the sovereignty of their art in contemporary Australia. We are privileged to announce that our speakers include: **Vernon Ah Kee, Richard Bell, Mayrah Dreise, Jim Everett and Lafe Charlton.** The symposium will conclude with a presentation by **Professor Aileen Moreton-Robinson** featuring the work of Vernon Ah Kee.

**When: 9 AM – 5PM TUESDAY 5<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER, 2010**

**Where: N518, KELVIN GROVE CAMPUS, QUT**

Registration is free, to RSVP and to register any dietary requirements it would be appreciated if you could email: [isrn@qut.edu.au](mailto:isrn@qut.edu.au) or telephone: 07) 3138 8611 as lunch, morning and afternoon tea will be supplied.