

CAIRNS ART GALLERY

24 JUN –
3 SEP 2023

SIMONE ARNOL

seeRED

ARTWORK LABELS



This exhibition has been supported
through a Cairns RSL Club Artist
Fellowship Award

Simone ARNOL

Born Cairns, Queensland
Gunggandji

Mission Worker's Rules # 1

Remember that: 'Example' is better than Precept.

Store Rules: Visitors are kindly requested not to use the terms 'GIN' 'NIGGER' 'MARY' or 'BENJAMIN' but to use the words 'WOMAN' 'BLACKS' 'WIFE' 'HUSBAND'.

2023

from the *1899 Yarrabah Rules and Regulations* booklet

digital print

Edition: 1/6

Simone ARNOL

Born Cairns, Queensland
Gunggandji

We couldn't get food... You know what we used to live on over there, sweet potatoes... sweet potato one meal... sweet potato another meal: Sweet potato for breakfast, we eat sweet potato until we look like one.

Very poor food we had there... very poor, most of the girls died because they had no blood.

2023

from a recording of Granny Tottie (1985)

digital print

Edition: 1/6

Courtesy of the artist

Model: Tahleise Willett

Simone ARNOL

Born Cairns, Queensland
Gunggandji

Girl's Home Regulations: BLANKETS to be aired daily.

Dirty blankets to be washed.

Each inmate to have her own blanket with her name in the corner.

Blankets to be pressed by 12 o'clock and the press locked by the Matron.

2023

from the 1899 Yarrabah Rules and Regulations

digital print

Edition: 1/6

Courtesy of the artist

Model: Sara Fagan

Mission Worker's Rules # 6

The rule is: Remember to adhere to the system and routines as laid down.

2023

from the 1899 Yarrabah Rules and Regulations

digital print

Edition: 1/6

Courtesy of the artist

Model: Tahleise Willett

Simone ARNOL

Born Cairns, Queensland
Gunggandji

You know, most of us went crazy, we boiled paw paw to keep ourselves alive.

The staff didn't care if we lived or died. That's how it was. We went to church every morning but had nothing much to eat.

General Rules # 15

All meals to be taken at the proper time late comers to go without, unless with a reasonable excuse for being late.

2023

from *Reflections in Yarrabah* (2008)

digital print

Edition: 1/6

Mission Worker's Rules # 10

The rule is: Pray always for zeal that your interest in this work and all appertaining there to may not lesson or grow cold.

Mission Worker's Rules # 11

The rule is: Be patient, watchful, prayerful and zealous.

2023

from the *1899 Yarrabah Rules and Regulations*

digital print

Edition: 1/6

Courtesy of the artist

Model: Tahleise Willett

Simone ARNOL

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Bleeding from welts across her body she remembered being picked up by someone on horseback, travelling to a place where ‘there were a lot of coloured people’ and onto Ingham Police Station.

I was only small and the lady of the house – I think that was his wife – put me in a big bath and washed me down. She put medicine on me and found some old dresses for me.

2023

from *Reflections in Yarrabah* (2008)

digital print

Edition: 1/6

Courtesy of the artist

Model: Zehruih Teale

Settlements Rule and Regulations # 4

The rule is: No fruit, yam, corn or produce of any kind to be given by any one without leave being given by the persons in charge.

2023

from *Reflections in Yarrabah* (2008)

digital print

Edition: 1/6

Courtesy of the artist

Model: Tahleise Willett

Simone ARNOL

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General Rules # 22. Work Abroad.

The rule is: No member of the Mission to seek work abroad without the permission of the Head of the Mission.

2023

from *1899 Yarrabah Rules and Regulations*

digital print

Edition: 1/6

Wedding Ring: It wasn't a wedding my dear girl, we just got married like that.

I had no wedding ring, you know they just put a little cotton around my finger.

2023

from a recording of Granny Tottie (1985)

digital print

Edition: 1/6

Courtesy of the artist

Models: Tahleise Willett and Matthew Skeene

Simone ARNOL

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AIMS, from the Yarrabah Rules and Regulations:

1. The evangelization and elevation of the Aboriginals by preaching of the Gospel and teaching them habits of industry.

2. It is believed that this can be done by:
a) Gathering them into communities surrounding them with Christian influence and protecting them from evils too often associated with European service.

b) By getting them to take an interest in themselves as a people and cultivating self-respect.

2023

from ***1899 Yarrabah Rules and Regulations***

digital print

Edition: 1/6

Courtesy of the artist

Model: Zehruiah Teale

Image of Granny Tottie Joinbee.

2023

digital print

Courtesy of the artist

Simone ARNOL

Born Cairns, Queensland
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14 year old Tottie was pregnant and a criminal act had been committed upon her.

The incident had apparently occurred about 4 o'clock one Thursday in November when Mrs Wilcox was absent from the property.

Tottie had been summoned to take lunch down to Mr Wilcox and his son, who were ploughing the field about half a mile from the house. As she was returning, a man wearing khaki trousers and a blue shirt 'caught hold of her, knocking her down and having connection with her'.

Sadly it was a common occurrence.

2023

from *Reflections in Yarrabah* (2008)

Mission Worker's Rules # 8

The rule is: Remember that to be teachers we must ever be learners and so endeavor by Bible reading, by study and by prayer to secure our own spiritual growth and help the spiritual growth of those over whom we have been placed.

2023

from *1899 Yarrabah Rules and Regulations*

digital print

Edition: 1/6

Courtesy of the artist

Model: Tahleise Willett

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General Rules # 12

Married Women: Must sleep and dine at the Children's Home if their husbands are away from home, and not to visit their own homes after dark if residing temporarily at the Home.

2023

from ***1899 Yarrabah Rules and Regulations***

digital print

Edition: 1/6

Courtesy of the artist

Model: Tahleise Willett

Well I seen my bloke... he seen me. I suppose they see us in church.

Then I seen him flick a glass... mirror. Everytime I go pass he flick the mirror and I flick it back when the sun hit.

Then he would write a letter and give it to some girl to go down and bring it up.

2023

from a recording of ***Granny Tottie (1985)***

digital print

Edition: 1/6

Courtesy of the artist

Models: Tahleise Willett and Matthew Skeene

Simone ARNOL

Born Cairns, Queensland
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Tottie Joinbee and her husband Jack and their children were the first family to be exempt from Yarrabah.

'We were told we had too many fair-skin children and we had to leave Yarrabah'

Their application was approved in 1944.

2023

from *Reflections in Yarrabah* (2008)

digital print

Edition: 1/6

Courtesy of the artist

Models: Tahleise Willett and Matthew Skeene

Simone ARNOL

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Bernard SINGLETON Jnr

Umpila/Djabugay/Yirrgay
Born Cairns, Queensland

Recording by Lynne Hume of Tottie Joinbee

1985

colour, sound, 6.48 minutes

Courtesy of Lynne Hume, B.A., M.A. (Calgary), Ph.D. (Queensland)

Yarrabah, Church of England Aboriginal Mission, Rules and Regulations

1899

selected pages, reproduction print

Courtesy of Simone Arnol