



ABORIGINAL ART GALLERIES

WALALA TJAPALTJARRI



Walala was born in the early 1960's in the Gibson Desert in Western Australia. Walala lived a traditional nomadic life, moving around his country, hunting and gathering in order to survive off the land.

In 1984 Walala was one of a group of nine that made headlines when they walked out of the desert and made contact with the 'modern' world for the first time. He was quick to adopt many new practices, and this included creating art with 'modern' materials such as acrylic paint and canvas.

In his works, Walala depicts the traditional Dreaming stories from his country. These mostly depict the Tingari Cycle. This story concerns the paths the Tingari ancestors took as they moved through country in the Western Desert area, shaping and creating sacred sites.

Walala's works are generally composed of free flowing geometric shapes in a restricted palette of traditional tones such as white, browns, oranges and reds. These works show Walala's high level of skill with modern materials and also reflect his traditional early life.

Walala's works have been widely exhibited and feature in a number of private and public collections in both Australia and overseas.