

Vincent Serico

Name of artist: Vincent Serico
Born: 1946, Cherbourg, Queensland
Died: 2008
Group: Yiman and Kabi Kabi
Selected achievements: artworks displayed in various state and national exhibitions.



Vincent Serico grew up on Cherbourg Reserve in Queensland. At four years old he was separated from his family. Serico was sent to live in the boys' dormitory on Cherbourg Reserve with several other children of the stolen generation.

Later in life, Serico began painting his family stories from the Carnarvon Ranges and Taroom in southern Queensland. He also loved to paint stories he was told by old men on missions and other places in Queensland. Through his paintings, Serico told of his people's **dispossession** from their lands and their sense of despair. His artworks also celebrate the strength and survival of his people.

Serico said:

'Painting gives me confidence in myself and I can relate to people with my painting; with things I've done, I've seen, how I grew up and where I'd like to go... No matter where I am I'll still keep painting, because what I do, I love to do it. I've still got to paint some more yet...'

The Killing at Culla-la-ringo

This painting tells a story of events that were common across Australia in the early days of European settlement. It shows a violent encounter at Cullen-la-ringo in Queensland between **Native Police** troopers armed with weapons and Aboriginal people with their boomerangs and shields. The clashes between Aboriginal people and Native Police troopers or settlers are examples of what is known today as frontier conflict. These events are a sad part of Australia's recent history.



↗ *The Killing at Culla-la-ringo*, Vincent Serico, 2002.