

## ***Yarljyirra* (Clever People)**

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CURTIS TAYLOR

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Video 1: *Yarljyirra* (Clever People), 2012, produced for Same but Different 2012 © 2012 Curtis Taylor and Same but Different

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Curtis Taylor is an award-winning Martu digital media artist and young leader who began making films in 2009 through his role as community coordinator and youth development officer at Martu Media (a division of Kanyirninpa Jukurrpa) after completing high school in 2008. Growing up both in remote Martu desert communities and in the city, Curtis has been educated in Martu and non-Aboriginal knowledge and education systems.

Curtis was a filmmaker and youth ambassador for eighteen months on the major national touring exhibition *Yiwarra Kuju: The Canning Stock Route* project (see Davenport-Acker this volume), producing four short films for the interactive touch screens element of the show. In 2010 he made a short drama film, *Mamu* (<http://indigitube.com.au/video/item/1486>), a cautionary tale about the risks posed by the misuse of social media to reveal sacred and powerful traditional culture that has been shown from the western desert to Nepal to Brazil, and earlier this year at the prestigious ImagineNative Film Festival in Toronto. In 2011 he received the Western Australian Youth Art Award and Wesfarmers Youth Scholarship as part of the Western Australian Citizen of the Year Awards. Curtis is currently in the final stages of his film and media studies at Murdoch University and is working on numerous national and international collaborative film and video/art installation projects. In early 2015 he will be facilitating youth and public filmmaking workshops at the Perth Institute for Contemporary Art (PICA) as part of a Tracey Moffatt exhibition program, exploring themes and forms of her art (<http://www.pica.org.au/view/Tracey+Moffatt/1370/>). His work will also be shown as part of Spaced2 in collaboration with video artist Lily Hibberd and artists from Perth, Alice Springs, Jatoba and Recife (Penambuco, Brazil) (<http://www.spaced.org.au/projects/lily-hibberd/>).

Curtis was unable to attend Same but Different in 2012 in person and instead provided the forum with a pre-recorded video presentation. Co-convener Lisa Stefanoff offered Curtis five questions for reflection in advance. His responses are reproduced in this video in full.

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