

# Robert Fielding

1969, Port Augusta, South Australia

Lives and works in Mimili, Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands

## Biography

Robert Fielding is a contemporary artist of Pakistani, Afghan, Western Arrernte and Yankunytjatjara descent who lives in Mimili Community on the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands. He combines strong cultural roots with contemporary perspectives on the tensions between community life and global concerns. Moving confidently across mediums – from new media and photography to painting and traditional craftsmanship – Fielding creates dynamic intersections of story, politics, and process.

His work is deeply informed by his personal experience of reclaiming culture as a son of the Stolen Generations. While he has spent time in major cultural institutions across Australia, he remains grounded in knowledge passed down by Elders on the APY Lands. This dual learning brings a potent clarity to his practice – one that insists on truth-telling while calling for unity and cultural resurgence.

Fielding held his first international solo exhibition at Fondation Opale (Switzerland, 2018), was a featured artist in the *4th National Indigenous Art Triennial* at the National Gallery of Australia (2022), and presented a major print survey at Maitland Regional Art Gallery in 2024. He also guest lectured at the Victorian College of the Arts as part of the Stuart Black Fellowship and is the 2025 recipient of the University of South Australia's Jeffrey Smart Commission at Samstag Museum of Art.

Recent projects include residencies at Canberra Glassworks and inclusion in *On Country* at the renowned Les Rencontres d'Arles photography festival in France (2025). Robert's work continues to gain international recognition, with an upcoming residency and exhibition at Kluge-Ruhe Aboriginal Art Collection of the University of Virginia in the United States.

### **Selected Solo Exhibitions**

- 2024 *Tjukurpa Handle It*, Maitland Regional Art Gallery, Maitland
- 2024 *Kinara / Tjintungku*, Curtin University Gallery, Perth
- 2021 *Manta miil-miilpa*, Ballarat International Foto Biennale, Art Gallery of Ballarat, Ballarat
- 2020 *Routes / Roots*, Linden New Art, Melbourne
- 2018 *Robert Fielding*, Fondation Opale, Crans Montana, Switzerland

### **Selected Group Exhibitions**

- 2025 *On Country*, Les Rencontres d'Arles, Arles
- 2025 *Tjunguringanyi – Come Together*, Ames Yavuz, Sydney
- 2023 *The National 4 : Australian Art Now*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 2022 *Fugitive Present*, Fondation Opale, Crans Montana, Switzerland
- 2022 *Ceremony*, National Indigenous Art Triennial, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
- 2020 *kulata tjuta*, Musee des beaux arts de Rennes, France
- 2020 *Shadow Sites*, New City Arts, Charlottesville, US

### **Selected Awards**

- 2025 Finalist, Archibald, Wynne & Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales
- 2025 Recipient, Jeffrey Smart Commission, University of South Australia
- 2024 Winner, Bowness Photography Prize, Monash Gallery of Art
- 2024 Winner, Stuart Black Fellowship, Victorian College of the Arts
- 2024 Finalist, Wynne Prize & Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales
- 2023 Finalist, Bowness Photography Prize, Monash Gallery of Art
- 2022 Finalist, National Works on Paper Prize, Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery
- 2022 Finalist, National Photography Prize, Murray Art Museum Albury
- 2021 Winner, Fisher's Ghost Art Award, Campbelltown Art Centre
- 2019 Winner, Banyule Award for Works on Paper
- 2017 Winner, NATSIAA - Work on Paper Award, MAGNT
- 2015 Winner, NATSIAA - Telstra Work on Paper Award, MAGNT