

LIONEL FOGARTY

Born 1957 - Died 2026

Lionel Fogarty, was a Yugambah man, poet, artist and activist, who was born at Barambah, the Cherbourg Aboriginal Reserve, near Murgon, Queensland. In the early 1970s he became involved in Indigenous rights, working with the Aboriginal Legal Service, Aboriginal Housing Service, Black Resource Centre, Black Community School and Murrie Coo-ee. He campaigned for land rights and protested against Aboriginal deaths in custody. He was the 2025 recipient of the Red Ochre Award for Lifetime Achievement in Artistic Excellence by Creative Australia.

Fogarty's first collection of poetry, *Kargun*, was published in 1980. He published a further thirteen volumes including the Scanlon Prize-winning *Connection Requitat* (2010), *Mogwie-Idan: Stories of the Land* (2012), which won the Kate Challis RAKA Award, *Eelahroo (Long Ago) Nyah (Looking) Mobo-Mobo (Future)* (2014) and *Harvest Lingo* (2022), winner of Queensland Literary Awards – Judith Wright Calanthe Award for a Poetry Collection 2023.

More recently Fogarty's paintings had given visual presence to his experimental and politically charged poems. Interwoven with Indigenous languages which reflected his love for his people and Country, they tell of encounters between people and between cultures, address historical and cultural issues and political events, and pay tribute to important Indigenous figures. Fogarty's painted poems are intensely felt, bold and fierce and at times challenging and confronting.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2025

Burraloupoo, Darren Knight Gallery, Sydney

2024-2025

moiyum wungumbil mugerra bullonga, The Condensary, Toogoolawah, Qld

2023

WUNGUMBIL MIBANY JALGANY, Milani Gallery, Brisbane

2022

A Thousand Rivers Collided And Changed Direction Within My Chest, facilitated by Mia Tinkler, Alex Vella-Horne, Charlie Freedman
Watch This Space, Alice Springs,

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2025

Darren Knight Gallery at Sydney Contemporary, Carriageworks, Sydney
Darren Knight Gallery at *SPRING 1883*, Room 224, Hotel Windsor, Melbourne

2023

ARTIST POET POIESIS, Milani Gallery, Brisbane

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

2022

Harvest Lingo, Giramondo, Sydney

2017

Lionel Fogarty Selected Poems: 1980 – 2017, re.press and Aboriginal Humanities Project, Melbourne

2014

Eelahroo (Long Ago) Nyah (Looking) Möbö-Möbö (Future), Vagabond Press, Sydney

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS continued

2012

Mogwie Idan: Stories of the Land, Vagabond Press, Sydney

2010

Connection Requital, Sydney, Vagabond Press, Sydney

2008

YERRABILELA JIMBELUNG Poems About Friends and Family, with Yvette Walker and Kargun Fogarty, Keeaira Press, Southport, Queensland

2004

Minyung Woolah Binnung: What Saying Says, Keeaira Press, Southport, Queensland

1995

New and Selected Poems, Munaldjali, Mutuerjaraera. Hyland House, Melbourne

1990

Jagera, Murri Coo-ee, Spring Hill, Queensland

1984

Ngutji, (with illustrations by Lyn Briggs) Murri Coo-ee, Spring Hill, Queensland

1982

Yoogum Yoogum, Penguin, Melbourne

1980

Kargun, Murri Coo-ee, Spring Hill, Queensland

GRANTS & AWARDS

2025

Red Ochre Award for Lifetime Achievement in Artistic Excellence recipient, Creative Australia

2023

Winner, Queensland Literary Awards – Judith Wright Calanthe Award for a Poetry Collection for *Harvest Lingo (2022)*

Shortlisted, Prime Minister's Literary Awards – Poetry for *Harvest Lingo (2022)*

Shortlisted, Victorian Premier's Literary Awards – Indigenous Writing for *Harvest Lingo (2022)*

Shortlisted, NSW Premier's Literary Awards – Indigenous Writer's Prize for *Harvest Lingo (2022)*

Longlisted, ALS Gold Medal for *Harvest Lingo (2022)*

2016

Shortlisted, New South Wales Premier's Literary Awards, Kenneth Slessor Prize for Poetry

2015

Winner, Kate Challis RAKA Award for *Mogwie-Idan: Stories of the Land (2012)*

2014

Shortlisted, Victorian Premier's Literary Awards, Prize for Indigenous writing

2012

Winner, Scanlon Prize for Indigenous Poetry, for *Connection Requital*

GRANTS & AWARDS continued

2006

Australian Council for the Arts – Promotional and Presentation Grant Award Literature Board
Nominated, NBC Banjo Awards, Poetry Prize, for *New and Selected poems: Munaldjali, Mutuerjararera*

1995

Australian Council for the Arts – Travel Grant Award, toward promotional activities in UK, Italy and Spain

1994

Queensland OPAL Award – Murri Achievement (Writers) Award

1988

FAW Patricia Weickhardt Award to an Aboriginal Writer