

## COLOURISE FESTIVAL 2006 EVENT DETAILS

### TRIBUTE

**Uncle Tollivar Fisher** is a Birri Gubba man born at Cherbourg. He is a significant contributor to Indigenous and Australian society, both as a passionate and active member of the community - a University graduate scholar, an ATSI Councillor, Youth Worker and Board Member of media and health organisations - and a family man. Respected by countless people, his humour, wisdom, humanity, sense of justice and integrity, make it an honour to acknowledge and tribute Uncle Tollivar, at the Colourise Festival 2006 - *origins* event. Uncle Tollivar was instrumental in sustaining health and youth/juvenile justice services in the Brisbane Indigenous community, and media services in Cairns where he completed his undergraduate studies in Justice Studies. Sadly, due to a terminal illness, this was to be Uncle Tollivar's last NAIDOC day. The tribute provided the opportunity for an acknowledgement of this exceptional community member and his contribution, and for him to catch up with old friends.

### 2006 EVENT INFORMATION

The Colourise 2006 screening program was devised in collaboration with the Australian Film Commission's, Black Screen. Black Screen is a program that provides Indigenous communities, and the broader Australian public, with access to Indigenous Films. Short films from the Black Screen initiative and videos produced by community film-makers made up the screening program. Colourise Festival also assists the AFC Black Screen to exhibit Indigenous films and promote film-makers in Brisbane, by engaging the Indigenous and wider communities. The latest event was the ***Message Sticks*** Indigenous Film Festival held at the Dendy, Portside Wharf Hamilton 12 - 14/10/06.

An extra feature of Colourise Festival 2006 was the screening of a documentary from the Mayan Indian people of Mexico. A Mexican Aztec woman studying in Brisbane, Guadalupe Rosales-Martinez, was available to provide interpretation and answers to questions. It is planned to have a Mayan community film-maker attend at the **2007 Colourise Festival - you are here event**, as part of a forum on community film-making, in partnership with the **Brisbane International Film Festival**.

### BENEFITS TO COMMUNITY

Film-making and screen culture is still a relatively new cultural pursuit in the Indigenous community, though in the past 10 years Indigenous film-makers have begun to make an impact in the film and television industry. Internationally, Indigenous film-makers are bringing knowledge and artistry to

the genre which audiences have to date been largely denied. The subjects covered by Colourise film, video and new media programs provide the opportunity to encourage and maintain harmony in the Brisbane social landscape, as people from vastly different cultures and societies appreciate difference and similarity through visual and oral narratives. The introduction of a new media-arts genre, with the rapid development of computer technology, is expanding the engagement of people with each other, with place and new perspectives, in a way which is unprecedented.

Colourise Festival is a celebration of Indigenous screen culture, which aims to bring people together in cinematic environments where ideas, values and perspectives are shared, beyond the limitations of the uni-directional experience, usually characteristic of film festivals. Through the utility of technology, people of all ages and from all walks of life engage to meet, talk, laugh, and cry, at a specialist screen culture event which has as its main objective, making real the value of being human. This event is the culmination of the vision and efforts of an Indigenous media-arts organisation, Uniikup Productions Ltd., over a period of 18 years, from when the first screen exhibition was held in Musgrave Park in 1988. The event and people have developed with the times, and though small and not as favourably financed as others, sets a benchmark in the Brisbane cultural landscape.

The forthcoming 2007 event - *you are here* - is focused on the talent and relevance of localised, screen culture. Community screen culture is relatively undervalued. It has been the experience of Murriimage/Uniikup that videos which portray the life of the community, especially where youth is concerned, have a special popularity, but are rarely exhibited. It is planned to create more innovative, cinematic environments, at which community produced work can be commissioned, screened, exhibited or installed, to engage audiences of all ages from all walks of life.