Floor talk by Dr Denise Salvestro

The Print workshop at Yirrkala was established in 1995, providing the local artists - both young and old, emerging and established - with an alternative to their traditional art practice for telling of their stories.

In one of the remotest Aboriginal communities in Australia, the Yirrkala Print Space has established a unique reputation for successfully taking on an introduced art form and for over 20 years, having locally trained artists and printmakers produce critically acclaimed, limited edition prints.

Dr Denise Salvestro worked as a dentist in Northeast Arnhem providing services to the surrounding remote communities, completed a Masters in Art Administration at COFA and PhD at ANU on the history of print making by Yolngu artists and the development of the Print Space at Yirrkala. As part of her PhD research, Denise studied Yolngu Matha Language & Cultural Studies at Charles Darwin University in Darwin. Denise also has a Diploma in History of Art from University of London, has her own arts consultancy business, works as a Professional Officer for the Dental Council of NSW and is currently working for the Economics Department of Macquarie University on a national survey assessing the value of artistic and cultural practice to Indigenous artists in remote communities.