

## BUYING INDIGENOUS ART ETHICALLY

*Purchasing an artwork by a First Nations person represents more than just decor for your home. It is a time-honoured reflection of their connection to family, culture and Country. Sourcing artworks from unethical operators can be damaging to both the industry and the livelihood of Aboriginal artists.*

*As a buyer of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art and products featuring reproductions of their artwork, you can play an important role in ensuring artists get a fair go. An art dealer, gallery or retailer that is operating respectfully will be transparent about its relationship with an artist, so do your research and ask questions like, 'Who is the artist and where are they from?', 'How does the artist get paid?', 'How did the artwork or product come to be in a gallery or store available for purchase?'. And if the piece is a reproduction of an artist's work, ask 'How are royalties or licensing fees paid to the artist?'.*

*Also, find out if the art dealer or seller is a signatory of the Indigenous Art Code, which was created to ensure the ethical conduct of art dealers and fair treatment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists. Visit [indigenousartcode.org](http://indigenousartcode.org) to learn more.*



## PRESTEN WARREN

*[prestenwarren.com](http://prestenwarren.com)*

Presten is a South Australian-based Indigenous artist who creates works that foster understanding and celebrate the beauty of First Nations traditions. Having accrued awards, collaborations and commissions that span the globe, he says, "I'm excited to continue exploring ways to bring Aboriginal storytelling into new spaces and forms".