



ARCHIE MOORE

Kamilaroi/Bigambul peoples

Born 1970, Toowoomba, Queensland

Lives and works on Ngudooroo (Lamb Island), Queensland

Archie Moore is known for his research-driven practice that combines historical anomalies and hypocrisies with reflections on how they impact Indigenous peoples of Australia, including himself. His artworks utilise government records to share the human face of tragedy, and have an ability to draw raw emotive responses from viewers.

Inert State 2022, commissioned for 'Embodied Knowledge: Queensland Contemporary Art', presents 200 coroners' reports into Indigenous deaths in custody, floating silently in the Queensland Art Gallery's Watermill. Developed in 2021, around the 30th anniversary of the *Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody*, this deeply considered installation evokes the tension between recorded and unrecorded facts. The 200 reports from across the country date from the year 2008 onwards: the year of then-Prime Minister Kevin Rudd's Apology to Stolen Generations. At the time of development, there had been 200 Indigenous deaths in custody since this historic acknowledgment. However, the number of continued cases doesn't align with the rhetoric — 'Sorry means you don't do it again'.

Despite 339 recommendations made in the Royal Commission to prevent further deaths in custody, few have been implemented, and subsequent

