

STILL WE RISE

AN AWARD-WINNING DOCUMENTARY CELEBRATING
50 YEARS OF PROTEST





A BOLD DIVE INTO A YEAR OF INCENDIARY PROTEST AND REVOLUTIONARY CHANGE FOR FIRST NATIONS PEOPLE

In 1972, the planting of a beach umbrella by young Aboriginal activists in the lawns opposite Australia's Parliament House sparked a revelation across the country. Sitting strong and proud on Ngunnawal country, the Aboriginal Tent Embassy soon became a marker for justice, uniting people across the nation – the fight for land rights.

Revisiting hours of images and footage from the archives through a First Nations lens, and featuring spoken word, song, powerful speeches and poems, *Still We Rise* is a bold dive into a year of incendiary protest and revolutionary change for First Nations people.

Fifty years on, the Aboriginal Tent Embassy is the oldest continuing protest occupation site in the world and the fight for land justice continues. This award-winning documentary celebrates the young, articulate and feisty activists who fought so hard to inspire the generations to come.

1 x 60'

Tamarind Tree Pictures

MEDIA

'Viscerally riveting... as fierce and uncompromising as the powerful men and women who inspired it, and who have not stopped fighting to this day'

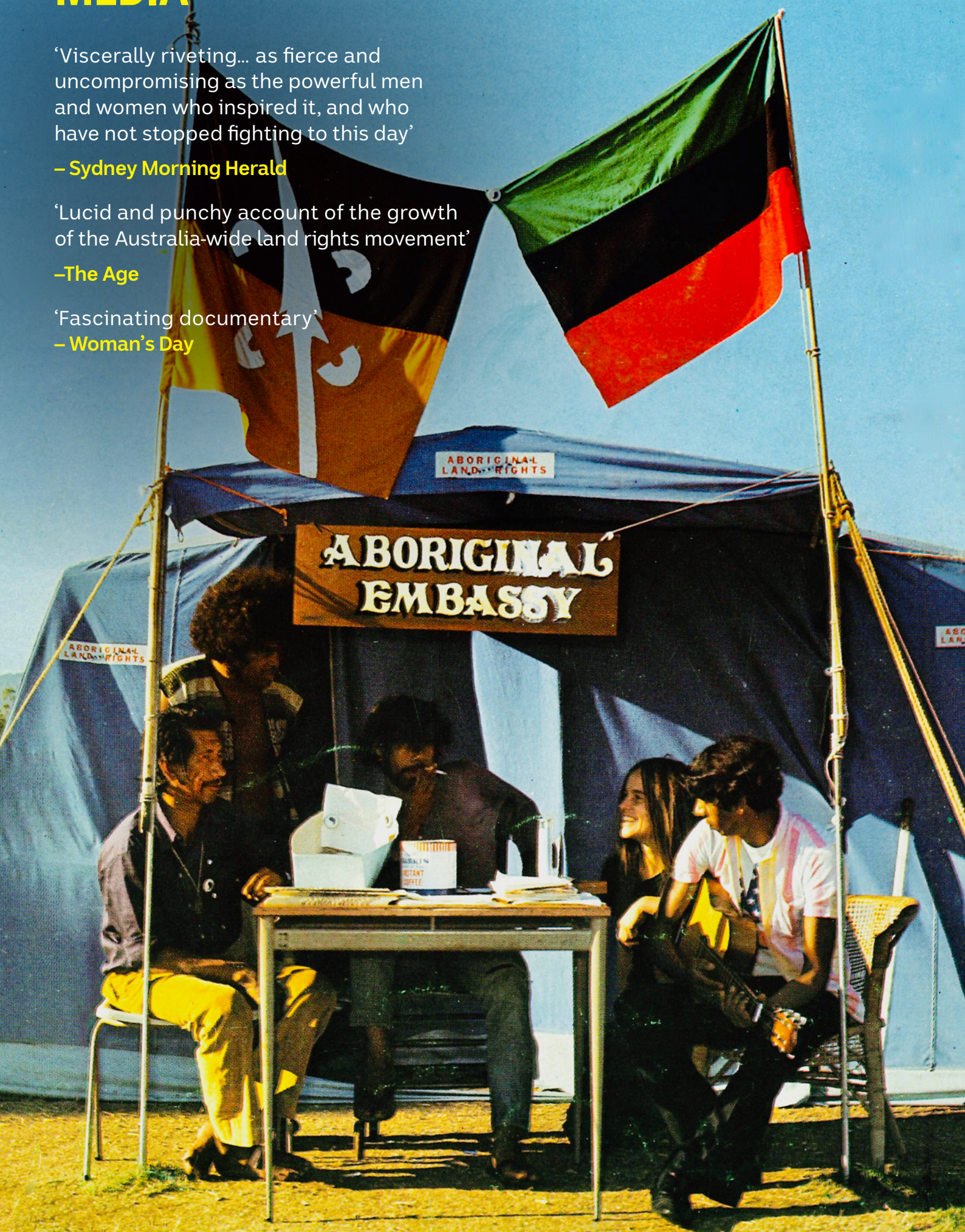
– **Sydney Morning Herald**

'Lucid and punchy account of the growth of the Australia-wide land rights movement'

– **The Age**

'Fascinating documentary'

– **Woman's Day**



AWARDS

Sharjah Biennial 15 2003

(United Arab Emirates):

Film Programme Official Selection

Australian International Documentary

Awards (AIDC) 2023:

Winner Best Documentary / Factual Single

‘We were very impressed by the combination of a retrospective story feeding into a timely present-day political conversation, creating a mosaic of archival material which brought Indigenous history through in a modern way, which would appeal to both an Australian and global audience.

We loved the way it avoided didactic narration and used sound and image to make something radical for a mainstream TV audience. Exciting, modern filmmaking’


– AIDC Jury Statement



‘Aliens in our own land,
so like other aliens,
we needed an embassy’

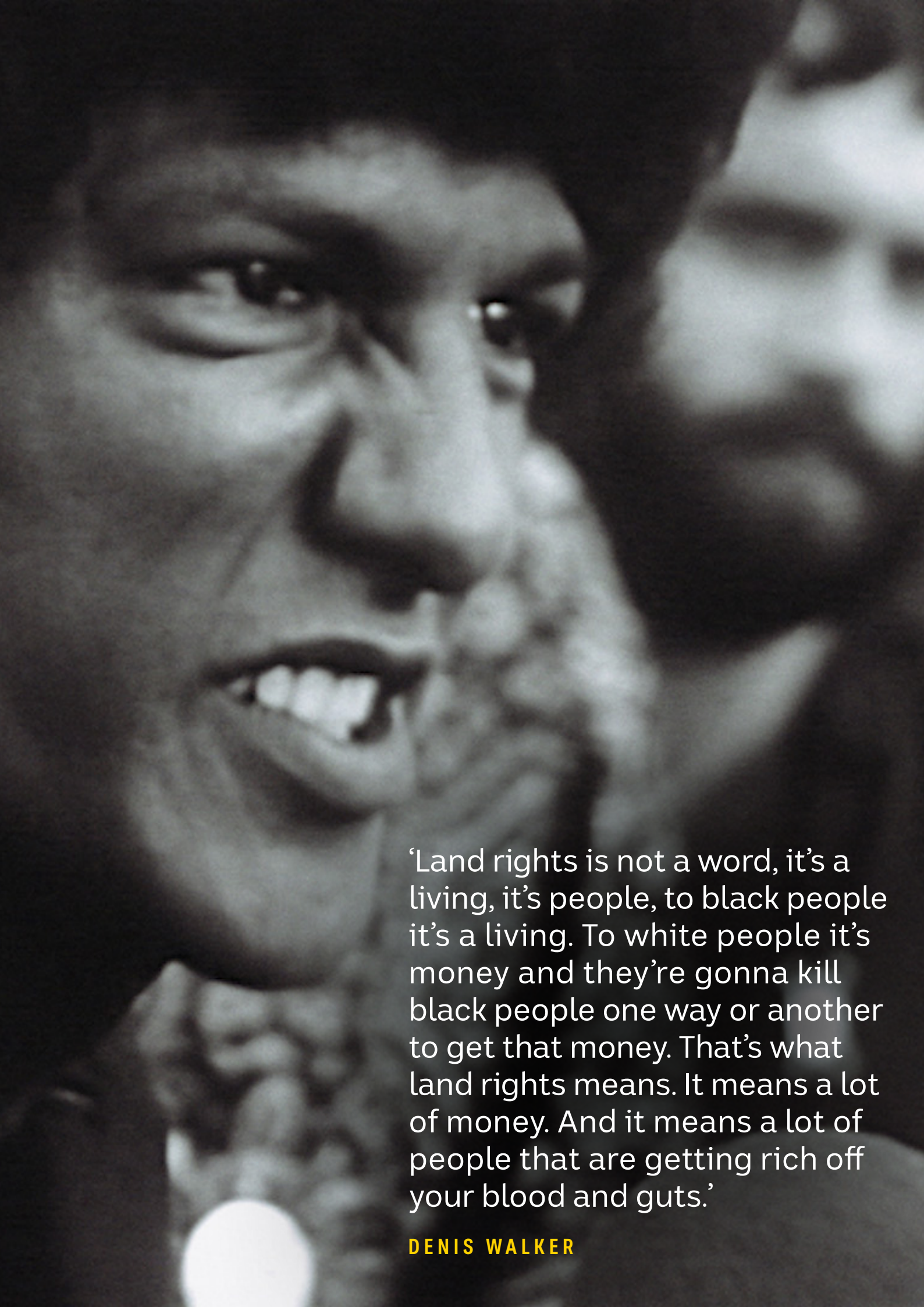
GARY FOLEY



A black and white photograph of Roberta 'Bobbi' Sykes. She is a woman with dark, curly hair, looking off to the side with a thoughtful expression. She is wearing a dark-colored top with a prominent white Peter Pan collar. A small, dark earring is visible on her left ear. Her hands are visible at the bottom of the frame, resting on a surface with some small objects. The background is softly blurred, showing vertical lines that could be curtains or a wall.

‘From the first, the
Aboriginal Embassy
represented the people.
It was an embarrassment
to the government, the
same as the people are’

ROBERTA ‘BOBBI’ SYKES



‘Land rights is not a word, it’s a living, it’s people, to black people it’s a living. To white people it’s money and they’re gonna kill black people one way or another to get that money. That’s what land rights means. It means a lot of money. And it means a lot of people that are getting rich off your blood and guts.’

DENIS WALKER

MUSIC & POETRY



The music of Worimi composer Leon Rodgers (Bangarra Dance Theatre) sits alongside celebrated First Nations artists like King Stingray, Dan Sultan, Mieesha, Electric Fields, Fred Leone and Dhapanbal Yunupingu to form the soundtrack to *Still We Rise*.

Poems by Oodgeroo Noonuccal are woven through the story, and read by Kaleenah Edwards, great granddaughter of Oodgeroo in Jandai language and Ari Maza Long, grandson of Bob Maza.

This rich soundtrack draws in the context for the incendiary year showcased in *Still We Rise*.

CREATIVE TEAM



John Harvey Writer / Director

John is a director, writer and producer across screen and stage. He co-directed the feature documentary and series *Off Country* (NITV) and directed and co-produced the songs and stories series *Kutcha's Koorioke* (NITV).

John's credits as producer include the series *Spear*, *The Warriors* series (ABC), and *Sand* for omnibus feature film *The Turning*.



Anna Grieve Producer

Anna produces documentaries with a particular focus on history. She produced Feature Documentary Film Critics Winner *The Family* and *The Cult Of The Family Series* (ABC).

As one of the partners of Tamarind Tree Pictures, Anna has co-produced *Croker Island Exodus*, *Carry The Flag*, *Looky Looky Here Comes Cooky* and *Kutcha's Koorioke*.

