



# Short St. Gallery



## Rosie (Tarku) Tarco King

Born c1934  
Language Group Walmajarri / Juwaliny  
Region Fitzroy / West Kimberley

I was born at a jumu (soak water) called Payinjarra in the Great Sandy Desert. I walked out from the desert when I was young. I left my mother and brother, Peter Skipper behind at Japimka. I left with my husband, I was a young girl. My husband had two wives, me and my older sister. These two passed away a long time ago, here in the river country at Brooking Springs Station.

When we left the desert we walked for a long time, it was a long way. We were walking and hunting. We killed pussycat and wirka (sand goanna) but no kangaroo. We killed them to eat. I was walking, all the time worrying about my mother but I kept going. My husband and my sister were both cheeky; they hit me for no reason. I was crying for my mother. I got away from them once, they were too cheeky to me and telling me "come on you have to go". I told them "No, I want to go back to my mother", they kept telling me "No, you have to keep going". I was frightened.

I came out at Old Billuna. There were planes landing right there, I was frightened of that plane. From there all of us kids went walking and looking at the plane that had landed. We were looking at it. I didn't know any English; I just looked at the kartiya (Europeans). We kept coming and we saw kartiya getting water in a bucket from the well. This was new to me too; it was the first time I had seen this. We had no shoes; we were wearing yakapiri (bush used to make sandals to protect feet from hot ground). I talked only Juwaliny when I came; today I speak Juwaliny, Walmajarri, Kriol and English.

After that, a motor car came from Moola Boola to Old Billuna and took us to Moola Boola. We came out there, frightened in the car, we hadn't seen one before. We didn't know anyone there either. I met Daisy Andrews there, she had her first son, and I met her there with her son. I didn't know her before then. They put dresses on us, we came no clothes.



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## Painting Themes

Jila (living waterhole), jilji (sand hills) and Jumu (soak waterhole) in the Great Sandy Desert:  
Wajampajarti jumu, Kalajita jumu, Japingka jila  
Trees, grasses and flowers

## Solo Exhibitions

2008 All the Walnut Trees, Suzanne O'Connell Gallery, Brisbane, QLD

## Group Exhibitions

2017 Women's Show - Vivien Anderson Gallery, Melbourne  
2017 Mangkaja Waters - Short St Gallery, Broome  
2016 Entre deus eaux with the Mangkaja & Erub Art Centres, Aboriginal  
Signature Estrangin Gallery- Bruxelles - Belgin  
2016 Gimme Shelter - A Survey Show from the Artists of Fitzroy Valley, Short  
St Gallery, Broome, WA  
2010 Four Desert Women, Short St Gallery, Broome, WA  
2009 Mangkaja Artists 60 x 60, Randell Lane Fine Arts, Perth, WA  
2009 East Meets West, Gallery Gondwana, Alice Springs, NT  
2009 Sharing Difference on Common Ground, Holmes a Court Gallery, Perth,  
WA & Kimberley Aboriginal Artists  
2009 Eva Nargoodah with Rosie Tarco King, Tunbridge Gallery, Margaret  
River, WA  
2009 Shalom Gamarada, Caspary Conference Centre, University of NSW  
2009 Senior Artists from Fitzroy Crossing, Suzanne O'Connell Gallery,  
Brisbane, QLD  
2009 Mangkaja Survey Show, Short St Gallery, Broome, WA  
2009 Emerging and Re-emerging, Outstation, Darwin, NT  
2008 Bendi Lango, The Indigenous Scholarship Fund, Sydney and Fireworks  
Gallery, Brisbane, QLD  
2008 Wet n,Wild, Artkelch, Freiburg, Germany  
2008 The Canning Stock Route Project, Beijing International Olympic  
Committee Expo, China  
2008 Shalom Gamarada, Caspary Conference Centre, University of NSW  
2008 Palpa Art in Melbourne, The Barn, Melbourne, VIC  
2008 Women On Country, Suzanne O'Connell Gallery, Brisbane, QLD  
2008 Waterholes and Bush Tucker, Bridget McDonald Hampton Gallery,  
Sydney, NSW  
2007 Bendi Lango, Fireworks Gallery, Brisbane, QLD



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2007	Mangkaja Artists WA, Randell Lane Fine Arts, Perth, WA
2007	X Marks the Spot, Woolloongabba Art Gallery, Brisbane, QLD
2007	Jila, Jilji and Miyi, Cool-Art, Sunshine Coast, Qld
2006	Depth and Divergence, Culty Gallery, UWA, Perth, WA
2005	Women's Show, Gallery Gondwana
2005	Short on Size, Short St. Gallery, Broome, WA
2005	Mangkaja Artists, Gadfly Gallery, Perth, WA
2005	Too Much Good Work, Raft Artspace, Darwin, NT
2004	Tarku & Murungkurr, Gadfly Gallery, Perth, WA
2004	Mangkaja Group Representation, Raft Artspace at the Melbourne Fair, VIC
2004	Mangkaja Group Exhibition, Gadfly Gallery, Perth, WA
2003	Fitzroy Fusions, Raft Artspace, Darwin, NT
2002	Short on Size, Short St. Gallery, Broome, WA
2001	Short on Size, Short St. Gallery, Broome, WA

## Public Art

2016	Fitzroy Crossing Court House
2008	Fitzroy Valley Education Centre - panels project

## Collections

Art Gallery of WA  
National Museum of Australia  
Fitzroy Crossing High School  
Fitzroy Crossing Hospital

## Publications

2009	Kimberley Aboriginal Artists, Sharing Difference on Common Ground
2005	Surprise; Cory and Friends, Exhibition Catalogue, Red Dot Gallery, Singapore
2005	Mangkaja Artists, Exhibition Catalogue Boutwell Draper Gallery, Sydney
2004	Mangkaja Brochure, For Melbourne Art Fair