



Short St. Gallery



RAELENE KERINAUIA

Born: 1962
Skin name: Yikwani (Sun)
Birth Place: Pickataramoor
Language Group: Tiwi
Region: Tiwi Islands

Biography

Raelene was born on Bathurst Island and raised by her grandmother. Her older brother Vivian is also a painter. Raelene began designing screens for fabric printing in 1985 as a part of the adult education programme in Milikapiti and then started to paint when the new arts centre (Jilamara Arts and Crafts Centre) was established in 1989. Initially she used brushes with ochres but since 1999 has used the traditional painting techniques of using comb - kayimwagakini. Combs were used for ceremonial body painting application and are typically made from bloodwood or ironwood.

Raelene was inspired to use the traditional technique of kayimwagakini after watching young and emerging artist Pedro Wonaeamirri, and viewing older pole carvings in the National Museum (Canberra) by the late Tiwi carver Sugarbag Kapiti. The making of the comb is a skill into itself, and Raelene's late husband James Tipiloura, a carver with Jilamara Arts, carved the combs for Raelene's work.

"I paint with the kayimwagakini or comb, sometimes it is called pwoja, which also means bone. The painting comb is made from ironwood, part of the tree, and is used to paint on the body, on pukumani poles and on bark. My partner made me my comb, he was an artist, a great carver and I used to paint his carvings and tutini (pukumani poles). He passed away not long ago. I use ochres from the Tiwi Islands for my painting and I mainly just use my comb. Only sometimes do I use brush. This is how I feel like painting. I started the comb in the nineties. Well, I'd decided to paint with the comb. I use one colour at a time."

The compositions Raelene creates are personal creative expressions, without literal meanings, but they do relate to body painting and designs for pukumani poles. It is not an inherited design. It's imagination but it's not new.



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Raelene's compositions are thought out while the canvas is blank, she looks and thinks of her design and by the time she has painted the base colour she already knows where her other colours will be placed to create the final effect. "Paint the background and then think about it. Each comb is different. I paint the red comb line first, then red (angle), leave it, gap, red, red, red."

Solo Exhibitions

- 2004 Jilamara Wutiriyi Kayimwagakimi, RAFT Artspace, Darwin
- 2005 Bandigan Art Gallery, Sydney (February)
- 2005 Parlini jilamara (old design), RAFT Artspace, Darwin, NT
- 2007 Jilamara Wutiriyi Kayimwagakimi, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne VIC

Group Exhibitions

- 1991 Yinkiti Amintiya Yoi (Food and Ceremony) An Exhibition of Tiwi Dye-Printed Silks and Traditional Ochre Paintings, Crafts Council Gallery, Darwin.
- 1991 Jilamara Milikapiti - Melville Island, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne.
- 1994/5 Art of the Tiwi, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne. Touring exhibition S Shepparton Art Gallery, Tasmanian Museum & Art Gallery, Ballarat Fine Art Gallery, Tandanya Adelaide.
- 1995 Jilamara Kapi Yurruka Manimpurrua, (Designs on Long Canvas and Pukumani Poles) Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne
- 1995 NATSIAA, MAGNT Darwin
- 1996 Tiwi People from Melville Island. Anima Gallery Adelaide.
- 1998 The Old and the New Gallery Gondwana Alice Springs NT
- 1998 Group exhibition, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne Victoria
- 1999 All About Art Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne
- 1999 Tiwi on Wood Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne
- 1999 The Art of the Tiwi Framed Gallery Darwin
- 2000 From Mythology to the Present, Wuerzburg, Germany
- 2001 Jilamara, Jilamara Framed Gallery Darwin
- 2001 Island Images Australian Print Workshop Melbourne
- 2001 Ochre Short Street Gallery Broome
- 2001 New Work from Jilamara Redback Gallery Brisbane
- 2002 Pwoja Jilamara Raft Artspace Darwin
- 2002 All About Art, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne
- 2002/3 People in a Landscape, Australian Print Workshop touring exhibition
- 2003 Waterhole, RAFT Artspace at GRANTPIRRIE Gallery, Sydney
- 2003 ART MIAMI 2003, with Alcaston Gallery, Florida, USA
- 2003 ARCO 2003, with Alcaston Gallery, Madrid, Spain



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- 2003 Exhibition aboard the luxury liner The World, Melbourne to Tokyo
2003 Kuturkuni Amintiya Tapulunni, RAFT Artspace, Darwin
2003 Fireworks Gallery, Brisbane August 2003
2003 All About Art, Alcaston Gallery at The Depot Gallery, Sydney
2004 POSCO Art Centre, Seoul, Korea sponsored by the Australian Trade Commission and Australian Embassy, Seoul in association with Gallery Samtuh, Seoul
2004 Living Tiwi: Tiwi Awuta Yimpanguwi, Museum fur Volkerkunde, Hamburg, Germany in association with Jilamara Arts and Crafts
2004 Millikapiti Turtiyanginari: Millikapiti Ochre, RAFT Artspace, Darwin
2005 Living Tiwi: Tiwi Awuta Yimpanguwi, Galerie Dad, Mantes-La-Jolie, France
2005 Yirrarra Kulama amintiya Pukumani, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne
2006 Xstrata Coal Emerging Indigenous Art Award, Queensland Art Gallery
2006 Awirankini Jilamara, Suzanne O'Connell Gallery, Brisbane
2006 Nginingaji ngawula kurrupuranji Jilamara, RAFT Artspace, Darwin
2006 Yirrajirima murrakupuni ngawurraningimari, Tiwi Art Network, Darwin
2006 Jilamara: New etchings from Melville Island, Northern Editions, Darwin
2006 Jilamara: New etchings from Melville Island, Northern Editions, Alison Kelly Gallery, Melbourne
2006 All the Tiwi Mob, Short St Gallery, Broome
2006 Jilamara Tiwi, Soma Galleries, Adelaide
2006 Jilamara works on paper, Sofitel, Melbourne
2006 Ngawila jilamara: Our Design, Aboriginal and Pacific Art Gallery, Sydney
2006 Ratuwati amintiya Ratuwati: Island to Island, Art Mob, Hobart
2007 Earth on Paper 1, Seva Frangos Art, Perth
2008 Important Aboriginal Art, Michael Reid Gallery, Sydney
2008 30 x 80, Seva Frangos Art, Perth
2008 Yimwarlini, RAFT Artspace, Darwin
2009 Earth on Paper 2, Seva Frangos Gallery, Perth
2009 parruwarti Angawilla Jilamara - Earth Our Colour, Chapman Gallery, Canberra
2009 Mukumuwu, To Be Together, Tiwi Art Network, Darwin
2009 Wulikija Jilamara, Northern Editions, Charles Darwin University, Darwin
2009 Jilamara Kangi, Colour on Paper, Tunbridge Gallery, Margaret River
2010 Kumunupunari - Season of the Smoke, Tiwi Art Network, Darwin
2010 Tiwi Shima, Northern Editions, Charles Darwin University, Darwin
2010 Nginimuwila Jilamara - Our Design, Grafton Regional Gallery
2011 Yingarti Jilamara, Marianne Newman Gallery, Sydney
2011 Nginimuwila kurrujipini - Our Colour, Tiwi Art Network, Darwin
2011 Awirankini Jilamara, Short St Gallery, Broome
2012 Parlina amintiya Awirankini - Old and New, Tiwi Art Network, Darwin NT
2013 We are Tiwi, Ketchum, Idaho USA
2013 Nga-wuja arungwapi - We are going forward, Tiwi Art Network, Darwin NT



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- 2014 Jilamara kapi nginingawla ratuwati kapi nginingingila ratuwati (Jilamara from our island to your island) Art Mob, Hobart, TAS
- 2015 Being Tiwi - Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney, NSW
- 2015 Tiwi Mamimikuwi jilamara: Tiwi Women Painting - The Cross Art projects Sydney NSW
- 2015 Kuripapuranjuwi Ngini Ngawila Jilamara Kapi Ngawa Tiwi: Tiwi Show, Darwin NT
- 2015 Counting Tidelines - Nan Giese Gallery, Darwin NT
- 2015 Cultural Ground- New Prints from Jilamara Arts and Crafts, Nomad Arts, Darwin NT
- 2016 Being Tiwi - Artspace, Mackay QLD
- 2016 Being Tiwi - Tandanya National Aboriginal Cultural Institute, Adelaide SA
- 2017 Being Tiwi, Moree Plains Gallery, Moree, NSW
- 2017 Tamaranthi Art Fair, Tandanya, Adelaide, SA
- 2017 Being Tiwi, Glasshouse Port Macquarie, NSW
- 2017 Tiwi Time, Art Mob, Hobart, TAS
- 2017 Being Tiwi, Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery, WA
- 2017 Ngini Parlingari Amintiya Ningani, (past, present, future), Collins Place Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
- 2017 Mamimikiwi Jilamara, Short Street Gallery, Broome, WA
- 2017 Ngini Parlingari Amintiya Ningani, (past, present, future), Nomad Art Gallery, Darwin, NT
- 2018 Tamaranthi Art Fair, Tandanya, Adelaide, SA
- 2018 Nginingawula Awirankiniwaki, Double Tree Hilton, Darwin, NT
- 2018 Tim, Tom E., Harry, Rusty, Tiger & Pussycat Recent works on Paper with Basil Hall, Nancy Severs Gallery, Canberra, ACT
- 2018 Tanz Im Mondenschein, AboriginalArt Ausstellung, Art Karlsruhe, Freiburg and Schorndorf, Germany
- 2018 Palaneri - Aboriginal Art Der Tiwi, Art Kelch, Freiburg, Germany
- 2018 Fig Bilbao Art Fair, in conjunction with Print Council of Australia, Bilbao, Spain
- 2018 MATRIARCHS: Motherlines of the Yolnu & Tiwi Islands, The Cross Art Projects, S Sydney, NSW
- 2019 turnuwa amintiya kirijipuni, Short Street Gallery, Broome, WA

COLLECTIONS

National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne.
Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery. Launceston Tasmania.
Kerry Stokes Collection, Perth
National Museum of Australia, Canberra
National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
Sammlung Essl Collection, Austria



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Commonwealth Games Commission, Melbourne
Charles Darwin University, Darwin
Museum of Confluences, Lyon, France
Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin
Wesfarmers Collection

Awards

- 1995 Finalist, painting category, 13th NATSIAA, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin
- 2006 Xstrata Coal Emerging Indigenous Art Award, Queensland Art Gallery
- 2007 Finalist, painting category, 24th NATSIAA, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin
- 2011 Winner, Bark Painting Award, 28th NATSIAA, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin

Commissions

- 2007 Toga Group, designs for soft furnishings for hotels, Darwin City
- 2008 Toga Group, designs for soft furnishings for hotels, Berlin and Frankfurt
- 2011 Darwin Festival - design for backdrop for theatre production

Bibliography

Living Tiwi: Tiwi Awuta Yimpanguwi, Jilamara Arts and Crafts Association, 2004

Schwerin, M. Kayimwagakimi: The painting of Raelene Kerinauia and Pedro Wonaeamirri, Art Monthly Australia, March 2005 #177

Kayimwagakimi jilamara, catalogue, Bandigan Art, Sydney, 2005

Printmaking in the tropics, Cas Bennetto Origins 2006, Edition #1

Xstrata Coal Emerging Art Award 2006, catalogue. Queensland Art Gallery

Jilamara Arts and Crafts, Nginimuwila Jilamara - Our Design, catalogue, 2010

28th NATSIAA Awards catalogue, 2011