

Short St. Gallery



MERVYN STREET

Born	1950
Language Group	Gooniyandi
Skin	Tjupurrula
Country	Imanara/Louisa Downs
Region	Kimberley

Mervyn Street is a Gooniyandi man. Gooniyandi is one of the two river groups from the country around Fitzroy Crossing. He was born at Louisa Downs Station. Mervyn speaks fluent Gooniyandi as well as English. Mervyn grew up on the stations, the station life is a regular subject in his artworks.

As a part of the exhibition *When The Sky Fell: Legacies of the 1967 Referendum* at the Perth Institute of Contemporary Art in 2017 Mervyn produced a mural over a 5 day period which illustrated his work as a stockman and the paradox of inequalities between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples at this time as well as the comradery between Indigenous and non-Indigenous stockmen at the stations.

Mervyn is an accomplished author, illustrator, carver and painter. He has authored a book entitled 'Know Your Granny' about his country and his language. He has also co-produced the book titled 'At The River' and illustrated 'The Girl from The Great Sandy Desert'. Mervyn has used his artwork extensively in Muludja and Yiyili School where he teaches his traditional language.

Mervyn is a father and grandfather, he is an important leader for art and culture in Muludja, Yiyili and Pull Out Springs communities and is a former Chairman of Mangkaja and Kimberley Aboriginal Law and Culture Centre (KALACC). He has taken a leadership role politically, actively promoting the importance of retaining culture and the many benefits for Indigenous communities to continue living in their remote homelands.



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PAINTING THEMES

Landscapes of Lambardi country Marrara River
Aboriginal station workers building Louisa Downs Homestead (first homestead ever built)
Cattle stock routes between Broome and Wyndam and the Canning Stock Route
Mustering and droving days in the 1940s and 1950s

The first cattle trucks moving cattle from Fitzroy Crossing to Broome in the late 1950s
Campfire stories - old people sitting around the fire telling stories about the old days
Plants and animals
Changing seasons

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2019 Mervyn Street - Stockman Days Short St. Gallery, Broome WA
2012 Mervyn Street - My First Solo Exhibition Mossenson Galleries

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2019 National Indigenous and Torres Strait Island Art Awards, MAGNT
2018 Desert River Sea AGWA, Perth, WA
2018 Port Hedland Art Prize Finalist Courthouse Gallery, Port Hedland, WA
2018 National Indigenous and Torres Strait Island Art Awards, MAGNT
2017 Tamaranthi - Abstracted Muster Adelaide Central Gallery, SA
2017 National Indigenous and Torres Strait Island Art Awards, MAGNT
2017 "When the Sky Fell" (50th Anniversary 1967 PICA, Perth
Referendum, curated by Clothilde Bullen)
2016 Gimme Shelter - A Survey Show from the Artists of Fitzroy Valley, Short St Gallery,
Broome, WA
2016 Revealed Fremantle Art Centre, WA
2015 New Frontiers Linden Art Gallery, St Kilda, VIC
2015 Tanarathi Art Fair - KAA Prints Tandanya, Adelaide, SA
2015 Mervyn Street & Mona Chunguna rebecca Hossack Gallery, UK
2015 In the Saddle On the Wall Frankstone Art Centre, VIC
2014 In the Saddle On the Wall Broome & Kununura, WA



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- 2012 Mangkaja Arts 21 Year Anniversary Tandanya, Adelaide, SA
- 2012 Prints & Papers Nomand Arts, Darwin & Canberra
- 2011 Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair Darwin, NT
- 2011 Daisy Andrews & Mervyn Street Mossenson Galleries
- 2011 Telstra Art Awards MAGNT, Darwin NT
- 2008 Waterholes and Bushtucker Bridget McDonald Hampton Gallery, VIC
- 2003 Wa'birra Gamba Warrag-goo Cullity Gallery, UWA, WA
- 2001 Group Show, Australian Print Workshop Gallery, Melbourne, VIC

- 1995 Mangkaja: Old Mangkaja, New Prints . Australian Print Workshop Gallery, VIC
- 1995 War'birra Gamba Warrag-goo Mangkaja Arts, Fitzroy Crossing, WA

RESIDENCIES/PROJECTS/PUBLIC ART:

- 2017 Fitzroy Crossing Dialysis Unit and Accommodation
- 2016 Fitzroy Crossing Mural Project
- 2012 Fitzroy Crossing Police Station
- 2010 Fitzroy Crossing Swimming Pool
- 2009 Fitzroy Crossing High School
- 2008 Fitzroy Valley Learning Centre
- 2008 Fitzroy Crossing Hospital
- 2007 Old Fitzroy Crossing High School
- 2007 Tarunda Supermarket
- 2006 Yiyil School

AWARDS:

- 2017 Finalist, NATSIAA, MAGNT, Darwin, NT
- 1997 Work on Paper Prize - National Aboriginal Art Award



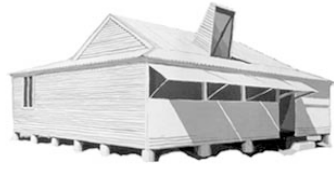
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COLLECTIONS:

British Museum, The United Kingdom
National Museum of Australia
Art Gallery of New South Wales
National Gallery of Australia
National Gallery of Victoria
Fitzroy Crossing Hospital
Canning Stock Route Collection
Curtin University Collection, Perth
Flinders University Art Museum, Adelaide
Queensland University of Technology
Museum and Art Gallery of Northern Territory
Art Gallery of Western Australia

PUBLICATIONS:

2019 Desert River Sea Portraits of the Kimberley, UWAP Publishing
2017 Tamathi
2015 The Girl From the Great Sandy Desert, Magabala Books
2009 FORM and the National Museum of Australia, Canning Stock Route Project: Ngurra
Kuju Walyja [One Country One People
2009 Yiyili Aboriginal Community Art Project
2007 FORM and the National Museum of Australia, The Canning Stock Route Project
2003 Exhibition Catalogue Cullity Gallery UWA Perth / Mangkaja Arts Resource Agency
Martuwarra and Jila [River and Desert]
2001 Yiyili Aboriginal Community, Know Your Granny
2001 Art Gallery of Western Australia, Indigenous Art
1995 Exhibition catalogue; Mangkaja Arts resource Agency: Old Prints New Prints
1995 Exhibition catalogue: Mangkaja Arts resource Agency Ward'birra Gamba Warrag-goo



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