



Short St. Gallery

Djirrirra Wununmurra



Born	1968
Region	Arnhemland
Language	Yolngu

Biography

Djirrirra (also known as Yukuwa) assisted her father, Yanggarriny Wunungmurra (1932-2003), in his Telstra Award winning painting of 1997 and continually up until his death in 2003. She has also assisted her brother Nawurapu Wunungmurra, but now primarily paints her own works. Her father granted her this authority whilst he was alive. Her precise hand and geometric style has increasingly attracted enthusiastic interest from the art world. As she came to the notice of Buku-Larrnggay co-ordinators for her exquisite hand and innovative composition she was included in her first major exhibition and her first visit to the world outside of Arnhem Land, in a show at Ra Artspace in Darwin in 2006 which featured her and two other Gangan artists, Yumutjin Wunungmurra and Waturr Gumana. In 2007 she was selected for Cross Currents, a major art survey at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Sydney. Her rise to a level of notice was cemented when she was announced Winner of the TOGA Northern Territory Contemporary Art Award in 2008. From here she was invited to her first solo show at Vivien Anderson Gallery in 2009. She has lived at the remote homeland of Gangan since she was born (before Western housing was erected) and has three children. She has exhibited in the US and China and in Australia with Vivien Anderson Gallery in Melbourne and Short street in Broome. In 2012 she followed her father and brother as a Telstra winner with Best Bark at the 29th NATSIAA with a new theme- Yukuwa. In Found at Annandale in 2013 she followed Gunybi Ganambarr into extending her use of media beyond naturally occurring ochres and bark to include recycled found industrial waste materials such as MDF and perspex louvres. In this year she again visited the US as part of a print collaboration between the Yirkala Print Space and the Tamarind Institute where she worked with American Indigenous artists in Albuquerque. In 'Black and White' at Outstation Gallery in 2017 her lyrical Yukuwa (yam) inspired paintings on board featured in collaboration with an installation of her brothers Larrakitj.



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Yukuwa is one of the personal names of the artist and Yukuwa has become a distinct theme in her practice. This motif first arose when she had been challenged about her right to paint Buyku the fishtrap imagery of her own clan and homeland by a family member. Rather than argue she retorted by painting imagery which in one sense is her own personal identity.

Solo Exhibitions

2018 Yukuwa - Renewal - Provenance Arts, Darwin NT

2013 Djirirra Wunungmurra Yukuwa - Vivien Anderson Gallery, VIC

2012 Djirirra Wunungmurra: I am Yukuwa - Vivien Anderson Gallery, VIC

2011 Rite of Spring / Rrarrandharr Malaluba solo show - Cross Art Projects Sydney

Group Exhibitions

2019 Balnhdhurr - A Lasting Impression - Touring Exhibition - Whitlam Institute Gallery UWS NSW

2019 Balnhdhurr - A Lasting Impression - Touring Exhibition - Cowra Regional Art Gallery, Cowra NSW

2019 Balnhdhurr - A Lasting Impression - Touring Exhibition - Wollongong Art Gallery, Wollongong NSW

2019 Unison- Gängän paintings from Djirirra Wunungmurra and Naypirri Gumana - Suzanne OConnell Gallery, QLD

2019 First Ladies - Vivien Anderson Gallery, VIC

2018 Balnhdhurr - A Lasting Impression - Touring Exhibition - Warwick Art Gallery, Warwick QLD

2018 Fecund: Fertile Worlds - Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs NT

2018 Balnhdhurr - A Lasting Impression - Touring Exhibition - Caboolture Regional Art Gallery, Caboolture, QLD

2018 Fecund: Fertile Worlds - Nyinkka Nyunyu Cultural Centre, Tennant Creek NT

2018 Fecund: Fertile Worlds - Godinyamayin Yjard Rivers Arts and Culture Centre, Katherine, NT

2018 Balnhdhurr - A Lasting Impression - Touring Exhibition - Griffith Regional Art Gallery, Griffith NSW

2018 Fecund: Fertile Worlds - Northern Centre for Contemporary Arts, Darwin NT

2018 Womens Show - Vivien Anderson Gallery, Melbourne VIC

2017 Balnhdhurr - A Lasting Impression - Touring Exhibition - Tasmanian Museum And Art Gallery, Hobart TAS

2017 Earth Matters: Aboriginal artwork from the Kimberley and Arnhem Land - FORM - The Goods Shed, Perth WA

2017 Balnhdhurr - A Lasting Impression - Touring Exhibition - Bayside Arts and Cultural Centre Gallery, Brighton Victoria

2017 Saltwater: A Collection of Bark Paintings & Carved Objects - Yaama Ganu Gallery, Moree NSW



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2017 Balnhdhurr - A Lasting Impression - Touring Exhibition - Castlemaine State Festival, Castlemaine Market Building VIC
2017 Balnhdhurr - A Lasting Impression - Touring Exhibition - University of Newcastle Gallery, Newcastle NSW
2017 Legends and Lore - Artitja Fine Art, Perth WA
2017 34th NATIAA Finalist, MAGNT, Darwin, NT
2016 Scratching the Surface - Alliance Francaise of Sydney, Sydney NSW
2016 Tradition & Innovation - Paris Parcours des Mondes
2016-Aboriginal Signature • Estrangin Gallery
2016 The Salon des Refusés 2016 - Charles Darwin University Art Gallery, Darwin NT
2016 Gilatj – new work on glass from Buku Larrnggay Mulka - Outstation - Art from Art Centres, Darwin NT
2016 Balnhdhurr - A Lasting Impression - Charles Darwin University Gallery, Darwin NT
2016 Mala - Together as a Group - Raft Artspace - Core Collective Studio Space, Hobart TAS
2015 Patternation - Hazelhurst Regional Gallery, Gymea NSW
2015 Lundumirringu - Annandale Galleries, Sydney NSW
2015 Balnhdhurr: A Lasting Impression – Tarnanthi 2015 - Adelaide College of the Arts, Adelaide SA
2015 Lumggurma - Brumby Ute Aspen, Colorado USA
2014 Yukuwa ga Ganguri: Bark Paintings, Larrakitj and Banumbirr - Vivien Anderson Gallery, VIC
2014 Buku-Larrnggay Mulka - Yirrkala Print Space Exhibition - Gapan Gallery, Garma Festival, Gulkula, Northeast Arnhem Land NT
2013 Buku-Larrnggay Mulka - Yirrkala Print Space Exhibition - Gapan Gallery, Garma Festival, Gulkula, Northeast Arnhem Land NT
2013 FOUND - Annandale Galleries, Sydney NSW
2013 Prized - Nomad Art, Darwin, NT
2012 Gan'yu Gallery, Darwin Festival - Darwin, NT
2012 The Art of Arnhem Land - JGM Gallery, London UK
2012 "I am Yukuwa" - Vivien Anderson Gallery, Melbourne VIC
2011 Barku! Treasures from a Distant Land - Harvey Art Projects, Sun Valley, Idaho USA
2010 Indigenous Art of the Northern Territory, from north east Arnhem Land to the Western Desert - Chunshen Cultural Square, Shanghai, China
2011 28th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award - Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin NT
2011 Womens Show - Vivien Anderson Gallery, Melbourne VIC
2011 Miyalk - Women, Feminine Art from Yirrkala - Framed Gallery, Darwin NT
2010 27th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award - Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin NT
2010 17th Biennale of Sydney - Larrakitj, the Kerry Stokes Collection - Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney NSW



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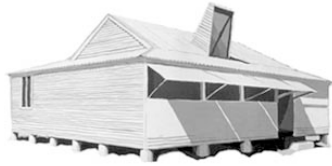
2010 The White Show - Short Street Gallery, Broome, WA
2010 Womens Show - Vivien Anderson Gallery, Melbourne VIC
2010 'Returning to Djakapurra' - A Collection of Poles and Barks from Yirrkala - Redot Gallery, Singapore
2010 Djirirra and Dhuwarrwarr, Bark Paintings at Santa Fe - Chiaroscuro Gallery, Santa Fe, New Mexico USA
2010 'Yukuwa' - Bark Paintings and Larrakitj - Short Street Gallery, Broome, WA
2009 'Buyku' - Vivien Anderson Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
2009 26th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award - Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin NT
2009 Larrakitj, The Kerry Stokes Collection, - Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth, WA
2009 Womens Show - Vivien Anderson Gallery, Melbourne VIC
2009 Yalari Art Auction - Brisbane, QLD 2008 Togart Contemporary Art Award - Winner - New Convention Centre, Darwin NT
2008 Outside Inside - Bark and Hollow Logs from Yirrkala - Bett Gallery Hobart, TAS
2008 A Few Real Gems I Have Come Across - Mogo Raw Art and Blues, Mogo, NSW
2007 Cross Currents - Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney, NSW
2007 Bukulungthunmi - Coming Together, One Place - Raft Artspace, Darwin NT
2007 Galuku Gallery - Darwin Festival, Darwin Botanical Gardens, NT
2006 Ngann Girra Festival - Albury Regional Museum, NSW
2006 Gangan, Waturr Yumutjin Djirirra - Raft Artspace, Darwin NT
2006 'Bulayi- Small Gems' - Suzanne O'Connell Gallery, Brisbane QLD
2006 Arnhem Land Ochres - Mina Mina Art Gallery Brunswick Heads, NSW
2005 'Yäkumirri' - Raft Artspace, Darwin NT

Collections

Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney NSW
Kerry Stokes Collection, Perth WA
Levi and Kaplan Collection, Seattle USA
Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin NT
National Gallery of Australia, Canberra ACT
Queensland Art Gallery and Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane QLD
The Laverty Collection, Sydney NSW
TOGA Group Companies Art Collection
Woodside Energy Ltd. Art Collection

Bibliography

2013 Annandale Galleries Catalogue: Found -
http://www.annandalegalleries.com.au/images/Catalogue_LR.pdf



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2010 Catalogue: 17th Biennale of Sydney - The Beauty of Distance, Songs of Survival, in a Precarious Age. ISBN 978 0 64652 794 9

2007 Catalogue: Cross Currents - Focus n Australian Contemporary Art. A publication by the Museum of Contemporary Art ISBN: 9781921034206 pp132 - 139

Awards

2012 Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards, Darwin NT - Winner Best Bark Painting

2008 TOGA Northern Territory Contemporary Art Award - Winner