



# Short St. Gallery

## Hector Jandany

Born c. 1923  
Language Group Gija  
Region East Kimberley



## Biography

Also known as Hector Jandaloo, Hector Sundaloo, Hector Chundun.

Hector was born in Warmun (Turkey Creek) along the banks of Turkey Creek. His father was a Mirriwoong man from Newry. Hector never knew his father because he died when Hector was a baby. Hector's mother was a Gija woman who was born at Warmun and who belonged to Ngarrgooroon, country north of Pumululu (the Bungle Bungles). This is the country that Hector often paints. Hector's mother remarried when he was still a little boy, to a man from Springvale Station whom Hector respected as a father. When Hector was approximately 10 years old, he was taken by his relatives and shown his father's own country, which was Argyle, Newry, Mistake Creek, Texas Downs. Hector stayed with his relations for a long time, sometimes working as a stockman and sometimes walking back to Warmun to visit family. Hector worked for many years on Texas Downs Station, mustering cattle and working as a camp cook. During the long years travelling and working in and around Texas and places to the north, Hector learnt many details of the Ngarrangkarni ( Dreamtime) and ceremonial life. He is a very good story teller. When Jimmy Klein, the manager of Texas Downs Station, ( Hector's brother in law) retired, many people left and went to Wyndham or Warmun, setting up camp near the Gymkama location. This was about the time when equal wages for aboriginal people were introduced by the Federal government. This was a difficult time for many Aboriginal people in the East Kimberley as they were forced off the cattle stations and tried to find alternative employment. Hector found work in Wyndham as a cook. Hector painted in Warmun since the establishment of the Bough Shed School in 1979. The school was built with the help of the Catholic church. Hector returned to Warmun and became the chairman of the school. He and many others had strong input into the school, ensuring that Gija language and culture be part of the school curriculum. Hector and others, including his best friends Left Hand George and George Mung Mung, create many paintings and drawings to be used in the teaching of the Ngarrangkarni (Dreaming) at school. Hector remained Chairperson of the school for many, many years. His leadership, charisma and strength have been an inspiration to whitefellas and his own Aboriginal people. Hector's work is known for its restrained use of colour and sombre tones. He painted the country of his mother, Ngarrgooroon - the traditional area just north of



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Pumululu (Bungle Bungles). Hector has exhibited consistently since 1990. Still painting at Warmun Art Centre he continued to be an inspiration to young and emerging artists until his death in 2006.

## **SOLO EXHIBITIONS**

2004 Raft Artspace, Darwin, NT

## **GROUP EXHIBITIONS**

- 2009 Sharing Difference on Common Ground: Mangkaja, Mowanjum, Waringarri, Warmun, Holmes a Court Gallery, Perth, WA
- 2006 Raft Artspace, "Hector Jandany and Charlene Carrington", Darwin, NT
- 2006 Mary Place Gallery, "Warmun Art Centre Presents", Sydney, NSW –
- 2005 Raft Artspace, "Gija- Across the Border", Darwin, NT
- 2005 Short Street Gallery, "Waterhole Country", Broome, WA
- 2003 Raft Artspace in conjunction with Grantpirrie Gallery, "Waterhole", Sydney, NSW
- 2003 Framed Gallery, "Recent works from Warmun, group show", Darwin, NT
- 2003 Yiribana Gallery, Art Gallery of NSW, "True Stories- Art of the East Kimberley"
- 2003 Seva Frangos Art and Span Gallery, "Three old men from Warmun", Melbourne, VIC
- 2002 Bett Gallery- Easter Show, Hobart, TAS
- 2002 Artplace Gallery, "Munumburra- Wise old men from Warmun", Perth, WA
- 2002 Coomalie Culture Centre, Bachelor, NT
- 2002 University of NSW- College of Fine Art-, "O Soul, O Spirit o Fire- 50 years of the Blake Prize for Religious Art", Sydney, NSW
- 2002 Flinders University Art Museum, "Garmerrun- All our country", Adelaide, SA
- 2001 Fireworks Gallery "New Paintings from Warmun Art Centre" - Group Show. Brisbane., QLD
- 2001 Bett Gallery- "Collectors Show", Launceston and Hobart, TAS
- 2001 Michael Nagy Gallery, "Whorled Art- an exhibition of tapas, kilims and paintings", Sydney, NSW
- 2001 Short Street Gallery- "Ochres", Broome
- 2001 Robert Lindsay Gallery ( Seva Frangos) with Billy Thomas and Queenie McKenzie, Melbourne, VIC
- 2000 Bett Gallery, Hobart, TAS - 1999 January Hogarth Galleries, Sydney, NSW
- 1998 Martin Browne Fine Art, Sydney, NSW - 1998 January Span Gallery, Melbourne, VIC –
- 1997 Contemporary Australia Aboriginal Paintings, Songlines Gallery, Amsterdam
- 1997 Imaging the Land- National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, VIC
- 1995 Salvode Gallery
- 1995 William Mora Galleries, Melbourne, VIC
- 1994 Fremantle Arts, Perth, WA
- 1994 Gallery Gondwana, Alice Springs, NT



# Short St. Gallery

- 1994 Canberra Grammar School
- 1994 Australian Heritage Commission National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Award, Old Parliament House, Canberra
- 1994 Australian Heritage Commission, ACT
- 1994 Power of the Land -Masterpieces of Aboriginal Art, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, VIC
- 1994 Tandanya, Adelaide, SA
- 1994 Kimberley Art, Melbourne, VIC
- 1994 Gallery Jila, Broome, WA
- 1994 Hogarth Galleries, Sydney, NSW
- 1993 Images of Power, Aboriginal Art of the Kimberely, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, VIC
- 1993 Indigenart, Perth, WA
- 1992 Chapman Gallery, Canberra, ACT
- 1992 Broome Fringe Festival< Broome, WA
- 1992 The Ninth National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award, Darwin, NT
- 1992 Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne, VIC
- 1991 Hogarth Galleries, Sydney, NSW
- 1991 Gallery Sanyo, Tokyo, Japan
- 1991 Aboriginal Art and Spirituality, High Court, Canberra, ACT
- 1991 VM Gallery, Miami, Florida, USA
- 1991 The Eighth National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award, Darwin, NT –
- 1991 Lindsay Street Gallery, Darwin, NT
- 1990 Dreamtime Gallery, Perth, WA

## **Collections**

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL GALLERY CANBERRA  
BROADMEADOWS HEALTH SERVICES COLLECTION BROADMEADOWS, VIC  
CANDY BENNETT COLLECTION, ADELAIDE, SA  
COOMALIE CULTURE CENTRE COLLECTION, BACHELOR, NT  
FTB GROUP COLLECTION, SYDNEY, NSW  
GAVAN FOX COLLECTION, ADELAIDE, SA  
HELEN READ COLLECTION KAPLAN COLLECTION, USA  
KERRY STOKES COLLECTION NATIONAL GALLERY OF VICTORIA, MELBOURNE  
NORTHERN TERRITORY UNIVERSITY PARLIAMENT HOUSE COLLECTION, MELBOURNE  
RON WHYTE COLLECTION, SYDNEY, NSW  
THE HOLMES A COURT COLLECTION, PERTH UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA,  
BERNDT MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY WESFARMERS COLLECTION

## **Bibliography**



# Short St. Gallery

2001 'From Digging Sticks to Writing Sticks: Stories of Kija Women', Veronica Ryan, Lamb Print, Perth, WA

1900 'Images of Power: Aboriginal Art of the Kimberley', Judith Ryan, National Gallery of Victoria, Vic