



Short St. Gallery

Jan Goongja Griffiths

Born 1971
Language Group KMiriwoong, Ngarinyman
Region Keep River, NT



Biography

Jan Baljagil Gunjaka Griffiths is a dedicated and prolific artist primarily working across painting, ceramics and poetry. Her work explores personal family narratives which have also included multi-media installations, fashion and photography.

"I was born in Kununurra and I went to school in Broome. I first began work as a trainee broadcaster and journalist in 1990. I also did a few months at the Waringarri Aboriginal Arts Centre and enjoyed the little time I spent there. I've worked at the Wyndham Super Market and Tuckerbox store in Kununurra for several years.

I've been painting on and off for a few years now. I'm carrying on the stories of my parents, Peggy and Alan Griffiths' cultural stories that were handed down to my parents and then to me. Both my parents are famous artists in the Kimberley but most importantly, they are my traditional teachers.

I too can keep our tradition alive and hand the stories of our ancestors and how our country came to be, down to the next generation and generations to come. I do this with great pride and honour. My arts practice includes painting, animation, poetry & ceramics"

Jan has exhibited extensively and presented ceramic demonstrations at galleries and festivals within Australia such as the Ceramics Triennial. She was a finalist in the 2018 Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards (NATSIAA), the 2020 Indigenous Fashion Awards, and exhibited at the 2021 Indian Ocean Craft Triennial.

Group Exhibitions

2022 Garrbe Garrbe: Let's Go Collecting, Short St Gallery, Broome, WA
2022 The Churchie, Institute of Modern Art, South Brisbane QLD
2022 Country: From earth to sky, curated by Lisa Waup, Ceramics Triennial, Tangentyere Artists, Alice Springs NT
2022 Judith Neilson Collection, Phoenix Central Park, Chippendale NSW



Short St. Gallery

2021	Indian Ocean Craft Triennial, John Curtin Gallery, Curtin University, Bentley WA
2021	Ngappa Gerlong – Water Water, Paul Johnston Gallery, Darwin, NT
2021	Berrdalngtha Woolrang – Strong Stories, Mossenson Galleries, Subiaco WA
2021	The Alternative Archive, John Curtin Gallery, Curtin University, Bentley WA
2020	Pinpii: First Nations Indigenous Fashion, National Museum of Australia, Canberra ACT
2020	Yoowalkoorl, Come On, Come Here, Midland Junction Arts Centre, Midland WA
2020	Pinpii: First Nations Indigenous Fashion, Bendigo Art Gallery, Bendigo VIC
2019	Wildflower State, Midland Junction Arts Centre, Midland WA
2019	Artist in Residency, King & Wood Mallesons, Canberra ACT
2019	Alternative Archive - Legacy 11 - Dawang Gallery, Waringarri Arts, Kununurra WA
2019	Australia Ceramics Triennial, Princes Wharf, Hobart TAS
2019	Desert River Sea: Portraits of the Kimberley, Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth WA
2018	Indigenous Ceramic Award, Shepparton Art Museum, Shepparton VIC
2018	National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award - Museum & Art Gallery of Northern Territory, Darwin NT
2017	Yirrb: Together, Peggy and Jan Griffiths, JamFactory, Adelaide SA
2017	The Habits of Horses, Mundaring Art Centre, Mundaring WA
2017	Revealed 2017 Emerging artists from WA Art Centres, Department of Culture and the Arts, WA Fremantle Arts Centre, Fremantle WA

Collections

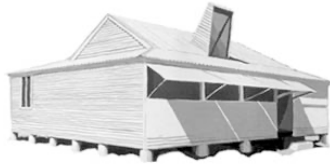
Bendigo Art Gallery
City of Perth Collection
Judith Neilson Collection
Shepparton Art Museum Collection
Kerry Stokes Collection

Bibliography

2018 Indigenous Ceramic Awards catalogue

Awards

2020 Finalist - Cultural Adornment and Wearable Art, National Indigenous Fashion Awards, Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair
2018 Finalist - 2018 Indigenous Ceramic Award, Shepparton Art Museum, Shepparton VIC



Short St. Gallery

2018 Finalist - Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards

Residencies & Workshops

2019 Tarnanthi, public workshop, AGSA. Adelaide, SA
2019 Presentation at Australian Ceramic Triennial Hobart TAS
2017 Totemic Terracotta Workshop with Bernard Kerr, Midland Junction Arts Centre,
Midland WA
2017 Ceramic Residency, JamFactory, Adelaide SA

Commissions

2021 FAR AWAY DOWNS, A Baz Lurhmann animation mini series