



Short St. Gallery



Melissa Sandy

Born	1977
Language	Yindjibarndi
Region	East Pilbara

Melissa Sandy was born in Port Hedland in the Pilbara region of Western Australia in 1977 and has lived in Roebourne ever since. "I started painting late in 2006. At first it was something to do to pass the time because I thought I had no artistic talent at all. A couple of paintings later I realised I did have my own style of painting. Painting helps me in so many ways. It helps me to relax, makes me feel more confident about myself and I have found that my art is a great way to express myself. I am so grateful to be able to paint. When any of my paintings are sold it makes me very happy to be able to make someone else happy. Please enjoy my work. Knowing that someone else is benefiting from my art makes it all worthwhile."

Melissa Sandy has had no formal training but shows a natural flair for design and dot painting. She is meticulous about her choice of colours, spending a lot of time mixing her paints to achieve the right colours to complement each other. Her work has proven to be very popular. It is hard for her to get a body of work together as they are often sold before her work is finished. The stories that go with her paintings express the land and the plants from her country and the stories told by her elders. Melissa's work is highly individual and easily recognisable, and she is constantly working on new methods of expression.

Solo Exhibitions

2011 Yinjaa-Barni Art Solo Exhibition Chalk Horse Gallery, Surry Hills, Sydney

Group Exhibitions



Short St. Gallery

- 2023 Tracks we share – Contemporary Art of the Pilbara – The Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth, WA
- 2023 Women of the West – Linton & Kay, Perth, WA
- 2022 Changing Colours, Short St Gallery, Broome WA
- 2017 Cossack Art Awards
- 2017 Colours of our Country, Rio Tinto Exhibition, Perth, WA
- 2016 Ngurra Nyingu, Woodside, Perth, WA
- 2016 Colours of our Country, Rio Tinto, Exhibition, Perth WA
- 2015 Colours of our Country, Rio Tinto Exhibition, Perth, WA
- 2014 Ngurra Nyingu, Woodside, Perth, WA
- 2014 Colours of our Country, Rio Tinto Exhibition, Perth, WA
- 2013 Yinjaa-Barni Artists, Japingka Gallery, Fremantle, WA
- 2013 Ngurra Nyingu, Woodside, Perth, WA
- 2013 Colours of our Country, Rio Tinto Exhibition, Perth, WA
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- 2011 Ngurra Nyingu, Woodside, Perth, WA
- 2011 Yinjaa-Barni Artists, Japingka Gallery, Fremantle, WA
- 2011 Colours of our Country, Rio Tinto Exhibition, Perth, WA
- 2009 Colours of Our Country, Rio Tinto, Exhibition Perth, WA
- 2008 Colours of Our Country, Rio Tinto, Exhibition, Perth, WA
- 2007 LNG World Conference, Barcelona, Spain
- 2007 Australian Embassy' Madrid, Spain.
- 2007 Colours of our Country, Rio Tinto Exhibition, Perth, WA

Collections

Janet Holmes a Court
Flinders University Art Museum, SA

Awards

- 2023 Jury Art Prize: Painting – Best Work by an Regional Artist
- 2022 Perth Royal Art Prize for Landscape – Aboriginal Art Award
- 2018 Cossack art Awards: Painting - Indigenous Artist
- 2008 Cossack art Awards: Painting - WA Indigenous Artist: Any Medium