



# Short St. Gallery



## Daniel Walbidi

Born 1983  
Language Bidjádanga  
Region Broome

Daniel Walbidi comes from a small coastal community 250km south of Broome called Bidjádanga which is the traditional homeland of the Karajarri people. Formerly La Grange Mission, it is where people were brought into from the desert to help build the cattle stations there. This is how Daniel's desert parents came to live at the coast. Bidjádanga has five tribes living within the community. Daniel says "We all speak and understand each other's languages and live together as one big family."

At the age of 16 Daniel actively sought to exhibit his work. He was painting on wood board, old doors, off cuts and anything he could find to express himself. He urged the elderly people in the community to start painting so that he could learn about his people's history and cultural background. He has since become initiated and continues to paint and exhibit his work around Australia. He has been collected by some important institutions and is driven to keep painting.

A documentary has been made about his work and the story of his people called Desert Heart which screened on the ABC in March 2008. He continues to display a complex understanding of his traditional country in the Great Sandy Desert of Western Australia. Daniel Walbidi was awarded the painting prize at the National Indigenous Art Awards at the Museum and Art Gallery of Northern Territory in 2014. He was named among the Top 50 of Australia's Most Collectable Artists in Australian Art Collector for 2011. His work has been exhibited around the world including the Metropolitan Museum in New York.



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In 2019, he exhibited the signature piece an installation and video at the Art Gallery of Western Australia, Desert, River, Sea exhibition.

## Solo Exhibitions

- 2024 Yurlupirti: Forever Without End (Eternal), D'Lan Contemporary, New York, USA
- 2017 Daniel Walbidi, Short St Gallery, Broome, WA
- 2015 Wirnpa, Short St Gallery, Broome WA
- 2009 Daniel Walbidi 10 years of Painting, Short St Gallery, Broome WA
- 2007 Winpa, Short St Gallery @ Mary Place, Paddington, Sydney, NSW
- 2006 Daniel Walbidi, William Mora Galleries, Melbourne, VICVIC

## Group Exhibitions

- 2023 Voir L'Invisible, Musee d'Angoulême, France
- 2023 Curated by Conor O'Shea – Sarah Cottier Gallery
- 2022 Monument of Remembrance - Aboriginal art from Australia, Belgium Chocolate Village Museum in partnership with Aboriginal Signature Estrangin Gallery, Belgium
- 2022 Ever Present: First Peoples Art of Australia, Art Gallery of Western & National Gallery of Singapore
- 2019 From the Desert to the Sea: a Journey with the Yulparitja, Aboriginal Signature Estrangin Gallery, Brussels
- 2019 Desert River Sea, Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth, WA
- 2018 Conversations with Matthew Johnsopn, Short St Gallery, Broome, WA
- 2018 Masterpiece 2018 at Aboriginal Signature Estrangin Gallery, Brussels
- 2018 Le Pley & Hassall Collections, Government House, Perth, WA
- 2018 Hedland Art Award, Courthouse Gallery, Port Hedland, WA
- 2018 Wonga (Conversation), Short St. Gallery, Broome WA
- 2018 Antheaum Club Award, Melbourne, VIC
- 2018 Sydney Contemporary Art Fair, Sydney, NSW
- 2017 Spiritual Essence of the Earth, Aboriginal Signature Gallery, Brussels
- 2017 Annual Catalogue of Important Aboriginal Art, William Mora Galleries/ D'Lan International Art, Melbourne, VIC
- 2017 Retrospective Mode Muntu, LA CITE MIROIR, Liege, Estrangin, Fine Art, Belgium
- 2016 Yulparija Calling - Featuring Daniel Walbidi, Short St Gallery, Broome WA
- 2016 Parcours des Mondes, Estrangin Fine Art, Paris, France
- 2015 New Frontiers, Linden Gallery, Melbourne WA
- 2014 National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Awards, MAGNT, Darwin, NT



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- 2014 Saltwater Soul Desert Heart, Short St Gallery Broome, WA
- 2014 Country to Coast; Colours of the Kimberley, Aboriginal Art Museum-Utrecht. Curated by Georges Petitjean
- 2014 Dreamings L'Arte Aborigena Australiana incontra De Chirico, Opera dalla collezione Sordello Missana, Museo Carlo Bilotti, Aranciera di Villa Borghese, Rome
- 2013 Wynne Award Finalist, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 2013 Spring in the Desert, Short St Gallery Broome WA
- 2012 unDisclosed: 2nd National Indigenous Art Triennial, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
- 2012 Round and Round that Rockhole, Short St Gallery, Broome
- 2012 Heart and Soul, The Lavery Collection, AAMU, Utrecht, The Netherlands
- 2011 Northern Impressions- A Celebration of Contemporary Painting, Nyinkka Nyunyu Cultural Centre, NT, and touring
- 2011 Shalom Gamarada Ngiyani Yana Art Fair 2011, Sydney, NSW
- 2011 Pearls, Paint & Ilma, Aratong Galleries, Australian High Commission, Singapore
- 2011 Kirriwirri, Aboriginal and Pacific Art Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 2011 Bidyadanga Recent Paintings, Chapman Gallery, Canberra ACT
- 2010 Bidyadanga Artists Harvey Arts Projects, SunValley, Idaho, USA
- 2010 GRAND NORD GRAND SUD - Artistes inuit et aborigines Daolas Museum, Britany, France
- 2010 Contemporary Aboriginal Painting from Australia, The Metropolitan Museum of New York, USA
- 2010 Melbourne Art Fair, Royal Exhibition Building. - Short St Gallery & William Mora Galleries present the Yulparija artists
- 2009 WA Indigenous Art Awards, Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth, WA
- 2009 Shalom Gamarada Aboriginal Art Exhibition, University of NSW, Sydney
- 2009 26th Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award, MAGNT, Darwin
- 2009 From Desert to Saltwater Country, Redot Gallery, Singapore
- 2008 25th Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award, MAGNT, Darwin
- 2008 Xstrata Emerging Indigenous Art Award, Modern Museum of Art, Brisbane, QLD
- 2008 From Desert to Saltwater, Booker-Lowe Gallery, Houston Texas, USA
- 2008 Bidyadanga Artists 2008, AP Bond Art Dealer, Adelaide, SA
- 2007 Yulparija Artists, New Works on Board, Short St Gallery, Broome WA
- 2007 Winpa, Raft Art Space, Darwin, NT
- 2007 Desert Heart, Nevill Keating Gallery, London, England
- 2007 From the Bungalow I: Yulparija Artists, Johnston Gallery, Perth, WA
- 2006 Bidyadanga Men, Art House Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 2006 Outback Art Prize, Broken Hill Regional Art Gallery, Broken Hill, NSW
- 2005 Return of our land, Gallery Gondwana, Alice Springs, NT
- 2005 Recent works from Kirriwirri, Art House Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 2005 22nd Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Awards, MAGNT, Darwin
- 2005 Big Country, Gallery Gondwana, Alice Springs, NT



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- 2004 Desert Ocean, Short st. Gallery @ Kidogo Gallery, Fremantle, WA
- 2004 Bidyadanga Artists, William Mora Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
- 2004 Bidyadanga Artists Art House Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 2004 New Works by Bidyadanga Artists, Raft Art Space, Darwin, NT
- 2004 Desert to Saltwater, Short st. Gallery @ Mary Place Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 2003 Manjiljara, Short st. Gallery, Broome, WA
- 2001 Salon Show, Elizabeth Bay, Sydney, NSW
- 2001 From here to there, Short st. Gallery, Broome, WA
- 2000 Remote Schools exhibitions, Short st. Gallery, Broome, WA
- 2000 NAIDOC Week exhibition, Short st. Gallery, Broome, WA
- 2000 Stompen Ground exhibition, Goolari Media, Broome, WA
- 1999 Remote Schools exhibition, Matsos, Broome, WA

## Collections

National Gallery of Australia  
National Gallery of Victoria  
Art Gallery of Western Australia  
Parliament House, Canberra  
Newcastle Regional Gallery  
Artbank  
Wesfarmers Collection  
Lavery Collection  
Felton Collection  
Baillieu-Myer Collection  
The Kingston Collection, UK  
Brocard - Estrangin Collection, Belgium  
Sam Barry Collection  
Lepley Collection, Perth  
Corrigan Collection  
University of Newcastle

## Awards

- 2014 Painting Prize, National Indigenous Art Awards, Museum and Art Gallery Northern Territory



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## Bibliography

"Histórias Indígenas (Indigenous Histories)" Catalog – MASP / Museu De Arte De Sao Paulo  
October 2023

"Ever Present: First People's Art of Australia." July 2023 Issue Art Toi Magazine (Auckland Art  
Gallery Membership Magazine).

"Beyond imagination: artists of the Kimberley share stories of country" Sydney Morning Herald,  
2019

"Huge Kimberley art Show for Perth Festival" WA today, the West Australian

Carly Laden, "Country and Culture on Show in Perth", The West Australian, 2018

Desert river Sea Catalogue, Art Gallery of Western Australia, 2018

Nicolas Rothwell, 'NATSIAA shows how urban trends eclipse Aboriginal art traditions', The  
Australian, August 14th, 2015

Ruby Jones, "Tony Albert's We Can Be Heroes wins top prize at National Aboriginal and  
Torres Strait Islander Art Award" ABC News August 9th 2014

Monica Tan, Sydney artist wins Aboriginal art award for work inspired by police shooting, The  
Guardian, August 8th 2014

Mark Naglazas, 'Tony Albert hits Telstra prize target', The West Australian, August 8th, 2014

Andrew Taylor, 'Tony Albert's Heroes hit target at indigenous art', Sydney Morning Herald,  
August 8th, 2014

James Cockington, 'Recovery for Indigenous Art', Sydney Morning Herald, August 5th, 2014

Jane Raffan, Power and Colour: New Painting from the Corrigan Collection of 21st-Century  
Aboriginal Art, pp 14, 360; Macmillan, Melbourne 2012

Expressieve Kracht, Kunst and Cultuur Magazine, number 1, March 2012 p.22

Geissler, Marie; Daniel Walbidi, Impressions from a Desert Culture, Craft Arts International, No.  
82. 2011 p. 42 – 50

Nicolas Rothwell ; Journeys to the Interior; , Black Inc, Australia, 2010

Adrian Newstead, Aboriginal Art, Bran Nu Dae; Art Market Report, Issue 25, First Quarter  
2010, p. 25. 2010

ABC artpost website, [http://artpost.abc.net.au/kickapps/\\_My-Work/BLOG/111758/50484.html](http://artpost.abc.net.au/kickapps/_My-Work/BLOG/111758/50484.html) 2008

Xstrata Award 2008 print catalogue, Modern Museum of Art, QLD, 2008

Desert Heart, documentary by Rebel Films, now a selling DVD, also shown on ABC March  
2008



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Beyond Sacred: Recent Paintings from Australia, Remote Aboriginal Communities - The Collection of Colin and Elizabeth Lavery, Hardie Grant Books Australia, 2008

Heart of our country Bridget McManus, The Sydney Morning Herald Newspaper, The Guide section March 17-23 2008

Desert blooms again by Stephen Bevis, The West Australian Newspaper, Friday March 14 2008

Our Old People Need to Paint, Nicolas Rothwell, The Australian Newspaper, 29th January, 2008

Tribal Landscapes, Olive Aslet, The Financial Times, London, July 7/8 2008

Contemporary Artist Keeps With Tradition, Xavier Dhalluin, Broome Happenings, Issue 77, 2007

The Blue Dreams of a Desert Mob at Sea, Patrick Hutchings, The Age, 14-15th April, 2006

In Living Colour, Julianna Dowling, Notebook, Jan 2006

The New McCullochs Encyclopedia of Australian Art, 2006

## Films

2023 Artist in Focus, Daniel Walbidi – Film Commissioned by the Western Australian Museum in association with Sohan Hayes