



Short St. Gallery

Erica Gallagher

Born	1986
Language	Gija
Region	Kimberley's

Biography

Erica Gallagher is an emerging Gija artist whose work is deeply grounded in family, culture, and Country. A proud Gija woman, Erica is the granddaughter of celebrated senior artist, cultural leader, and Member of the Order of Australia, Peggy Patrick OAM, one of the Kimberley's most respected Law women, storytellers, dancers, and artists. Drawing inspiration from the cultural knowledge and stories passed down through her family, Erica continues a proud artistic lineage while developing her own distinctive voice. Working with traditional ochres and time-honoured painting methods, her artworks reflect the enduring strength of her heritage and her deep connection to Gija Country, sharing stories entrusted to her by her grandparents, ancestors, and Elders.

Alongside her artistic practice, Erica works as both a ranger and in FIFO road construction, maintaining a strong connection to Country through caring for the land and working across the Kimberley, Western Australia, and the Northern Territory. These experiences deepen her understanding of place and continue to inform the stories she brings to canvas. Although still in the early stages of her artistic journey, Erica represents the next generation of Gija artists carrying forward the cultural knowledge, strength, and storytelling traditions of her family. Through her work, she honours the legacy of those who came before her, ensuring that the stories of Gija Country remain strong and continue to be shared with future generations.

Group Exhibitions

2008 Palya Art in Sydney, Mary Place Gallery, Sydney, NSW