



Short St. Gallery



Alfonso Puautjimi

Born	1969
Language	Tiwi
Region	Tiwi Islands

Alfonso is a widely exhibited major artist well known for his natural ochre works on paper and canvas. He has been painting since 1997 and the subject matter for his paintings is drawn from his environment. Images of Tutini (pukumani poles), carved heads, figures and birds as still life groupings of carvings and his imaginative versions of the local landscape including plants, animals and trees, boats, planes and cars are most frequently seen as well as abstract patterns based on Tiwi ceremonial body painting, known as Jilamara.

Alfonso uses bold brush strokes, generous paint application and applies black lines over broad areas of colour, finishing with another layer of colour. His paintwork has a strong textural effect. He has recently tried etching, with great success.

Solo Exhibitions

2024	Alfonso Puautjimi: Bicycles, Aboriginal and Pacific Art, Sydney
2019	Natural ochres on paper, Aboriginal and Pacific Art, Sydney, NSW
2015	Alfonso Puautjimi: Tiwi Arts, Aboriginal and Pacific Art, Sydney
2006	Alfonso Puautjimi Recent Works, William Mora Galleries, Richmond, Victoria

Group Exhibitions

2026	Ngawa Ngirramni – Our Story, Short St Gallery, Broome WA
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- 2025 Bush Car, Short St Gallery, Broome, WA
- 2025 Too Deadly: Ten Years of Tarnanthi, Art Gallery of South Australia Tiwi Ningani (Tiwi Today), Outstation Gallery at Tactile Arts, an exhibition by men from Ngaruwanajirri-Harold Munkara, David Tipuamantumirri, Barry Kantilla, Thomas Munkanome, Gordon Pupangamirri, Graham Tipungwuti.
- 2024 Grey Bike 2023, Telstra NATSIAA (National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Art Awards)
- 2024 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award, Works on paper
- 2023 Works from Ngaruwanajirri, Past and Present
- 2022 Ochres from Tiwi, A collection of natural ochre works on paper from Ngaruwanajirri Inc, Jilamara and Munupi Tarnanthi, Festival AGSA Adelaide, SA
- 2020 TIWI, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, VIC
- 2020 Alfonso Puautjimi, Lorna Kantilla, Jane Tipuamantumirri and Alexandrina Kantilla. Short St Gallery Broome, WA.
- 2019 Pupuni Jilamara Nginingwula, Double Tree Hilton, Darwin, NT
- 2018 Nginingawula Awirankini Waki, Double Tree Hilton, Darwin, NT
- 2017 Yirringinkiri Pwoja, Double Tree Hilton, Darwin NT
- 2016 Ngawila Jilamara, Double Tree Hilton, Darwin NT
- 2015 Ngaruwanajirri, Tiwi Artists, Aboriginal and Pacific Art, Waterloo, Sydney.
- 2013 Artback, Chan Contemporary Art Space, Darwin, NT
- 2013 Alfonso & Jane, Nomad Art, Darwin, NT
- 2011 Ngaruwanajirri : helping one another, Charles Darwin University Art Gallery, Casuarina, NT
- 2011 Good, Strong & Powerful – Artback, travelling Australia from 2011- 2013
- 2010 No Words Necessary, Suzanne O'Connell Gallery, Australian Indigenous Art, New Farm, Queensland
- 2010 Kapala, Short St Gallery, Broome, WA
- 2010 Natural ochres on paper, Nomad Art, Canberra, ACT
- 2010 Natural ochres on canvas and Arches paper, Outstation Art, Parap, NT
- 2010 Christmas Show, Raft Artspace, Alice Springs, NT
- 2010 Arampini: Artists from the Tiwi islands, NAS Gallery, National Art School, Darlinghurst, NSW
- 2009 Natural ochres on paper, Raft Artspace, Darwin, NT
- 2008 New work from the Tiwi Islands, SoMA Galleries, Norwood, Adelaide, SA
- 2008 Tokwampini Tiwi Bird Carvings, Aboriginal and Pacific Art, Sydney, NSW
- 2008 Natural ochres on paper, Raft Artspace, Darwin, NT
- 2008 Nginingawula Awirankini Waki, Hilton Double Tree, Darwin, NT
- 2007 Yirringiripwaja, FAC Gallery, University of Wollongong, NSW
- 2007 3 man show, Short St Gallery, Broome, WA
- 2007 Works on Paper and Canvas, Raft Artspace, Darwin, NT
- 2007 Ngaruwanajirri Yikuri, Aboriginal and Pacific Art, Sydney
- 2006 All the Tiwi Mob, Short St Gallery, Broome, WA



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- 2006 Tiwi Art, Raft Artspace, Darwin, NT
2006 Ngaruwanajiri, Supreme Court, Darwin, NT
2006 Works on paper and canvas, Raft Artspace, Darwin NT
2005 Ngaruwanajiri Artists at Raft 11, Raft Artspace, Darwin, NT
2005 Ngaruwanajiri, Aboriginal and Pacific Art, Sydney, NSW
2004 Yirrajirima, Raft Artspace, Darwin, NT
2004 The Batchelor Collection 1994-2004, Darwin Supreme Court Foyer, Darwin, NT
2003 Ngaruwanajiri Yirrara, Aboriginal and Pacific Art, Waterloo, NSW
2002 Ngaruwanajiri Group Exhibition Tayikuwapi, Coomalie Culture Centre, Batchelor, NT
2002 Ngaruwanajiri - Paintings by Tiwi Artists, Aboriginal and Pacific Art, Sydney, NSW

Publications

- 2014 Ngumtakura Wangki – Amy's Story Annette Puruta Kogolo and Marminjija Joy Nuggett with Sandy Toussaint UniPrint, The University of Western Australia
2004 National Gallery of Victoria Colour Power: Aboriginal art post 1984
2003 Exhibition Catalogue: Cullity Gallery UWA Perth/ Mangkaja Arts Resource Agency Martuwarra and Jila [River and Desert
2002 Exhibition Catalogue Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art Marrawarra and Jila entry / Ngurrara Canvas 1 entry
2001 Kaltja Now National Aboriginal Cultural Institute – Tandanya Painting Up Big, The Ngurrara Canvas
2000 IATSI Canberra Karrayili: The History of Karrayili Adult Education Centre 1996 Karrayili Adult Education Centre and Mangkaja Arts exhibition catalogue
Minyarti Wangki Ngajukura Ngurrarajangka [This is the word from my country]
1995 Mangkaja Arts Resource Agency Mangkaja: Old Mangkaja, New Prints
1994 Exhibition catalogue Ngajakurra Ngurrara Minyarti [This Is My Country]

Collections

Art Collection at the Batchelor Institute, Batchelor, N.T.
Charles Darwin University Art Collection, Casuarina, Darwin, NT.
Lam Collection, University of San Antonio, San Antonio, Texas, USA.
University of Newcastle Art Collection, Newcastle, NSW.