



Short St. Gallery



Aubrey Tigan

Born 1945-2013
Language Bardi
Region Broome

Aubrey was a respected elder and law man from the Bardi and Diawi people. He lived on the peninsula north of Broome with his family. He made riji (carved pearlshell) since he was initiated at the age of 21. He was very involved with the Kimberley Land Council and was an executive member on their committee. He was also on the committee for the Aboriginal Affairs Department. He trained as a jeweller and was a renowned carver. His preferred medium was pearl shell, however having grown up in bush with his traditional family he was proficient in the making of all types of artefacts belonging to the Bardi and Jawu people. He was also a song and dance man, who represented his community internationally in these areas. He travelled extensively around Australia and the world educating people about his cultural traditions.

Solo Exhibitions

2016 Riji, William Mora Galleries, Melbourne, VIC

Group Exhibitions

2020 Ever Present: First Peoples Art of Australia, Art Gallery of Western Australia, AND National Gallery of Singapore

2016 Taba Naba, Australia, Oceania, Arts of the Sea People, Oceanic Museum of Monaco, Monte-Carlo

2015 A short line between three points, Laurel Doody Gallery, Los Angeles, USA

2015 Lustre: Pearlring and Australia exhibition, Museum of Western Australia



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- 2015 Shimmer: Museum of South Australia
- 2011 Forces of Nature, Embassy of Australia, Washington DC, USA
- 2011 Pearls, Paint & Ilma, Aratong Galleries, Australian High Commission, Singapore
- 2009 26th Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award, MAGNT, Darwin
- 2009 Yellow Vest Syndrome: Recent West Australian Art, Fremantle Art Centre, W.A.
- 2008 This Everything Water, South Australian School of Art, UniSA as part of Adelaide Festival
- 2007 Aboriginal objects, sculpture and bush toys, Michael Reid at Elizabeth Bay
- 2006 23rd Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Awards, Museum and Art Gallery of Northern Territory, Darwin
- 2005 Painting Country: A West to East Journey, World Expo Aichi, Japan
- 2005 22nd Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Awards, Museum and Art Gallery of Northern Territory, Darwin
- 2004 Desert Ocean, Kidogo Art House with Short St. Gallery, Fremantle, WA

Publications

- 2011 Art On View, National Gallery of Australia
- 2009 Yellow Vest Syndrome: Recent West Australian Art, Fremantle Art Centre Catalogue
- ? This everything water catalogue, South Australian School of Art
- 2008 Favourite Things of William Mora, Dani Valet, The Age Newspaper
- 2006 Secrets of a Master Carver, Nicolas Rothwell, The Australian
- 2006 The New McCulloch's Encyclopedia of Australian Art

Collections

The British Museum
National Gallery of Australia
National Gallery of Victoria
National Gallery of Queensland
Northern Territory Museum and Art Gallery
Western Australian Museum
Parliament of Australia
Lavery Collection
Kerry Stokes Collection
Other private Collections