



# Short St. Gallery



## Alma Webou (Kalaju)

Born 1928-2009  
Language Yulparitja  
Region Broome

Alma Webou (c.1928 - 2009) is a Yulparitja elder who grew up in Pinkalakara in the Great Sandy Desert. She led a traditional existence until the early 1970s when severe drought forced the Yulparitja people to move to Bidiyadanga on the coast. Alma said, "Pinkalakara is the place I was born and grew up; this is my mother's country. (It is near Joanna Spring on Anna Plains station close to the Canning Stock Route.) This country has lots of mayi (bush food). I lost my mummy and sister here." Alma cried when she painted Pinkalarta. Many of her family died because of the droughts in this country. Alma was a senior law woman and was well respected in her community.

### Solo Exhibitions

2005 Pinkalarta, Short St Gallery @ Mary's Place, Sydney, NSW

### Group Exhibitions

- 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
- 2012 West of Well 33, Yaama Ganu Gallery, Sydney
- 2012 Crossing Cultures: The Owen and Wagner Collection of contemporary Aboriginal Australian at the Hood Museum of Art
- 2012 Luminescences: The Colour of Bidiyadanga, Harvey Art Projects, Idaho, USA
- 2012 Round and Round in that Rockhole, Short St Gallery, Broome, W.A.
- 2010 Melbourne Art Fair, Royal Exhibition Building. - Short St Gallery & William Mora Galleries present the Yulparitja artists



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- 2007 Desert Heart, Nevill Keating Gallery, London, England
- 2007 From Pinkalarta to Lungarung: Alma (Kalaju) Webou & Weaver Jack, Aboriginal and Pacific Art, Sydney, NSW
- 2007 From the Bungalow I: Yulparija Artists, Johnston Gallery, Perth, WA
- 2006 Northern Journey, The Priory at Bingie, Bingie, NSW
- 2006 Bidyadanga Women, Chapman Gallery, Canberra, ACT
- 2006 2006 Outback Art Prize, Broken Hill Regional Art Gallery, Broken Hill, NSW
- 2006 Right here, right now: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander acquisitions, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, ACT
- 2006 23rd Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award, Museum and Art Gallery of Northern Territory, Darwin, NT
- 2005 The return of our land, Gallery Gondwana, Alice Springs, NT
- 2005 Mummy + daughter, Jan Billycan and Alma Webou, Willam Mora Galleries, Melbourne, Vic
- 2005 Painting Country - A West to East Journey, World Expo Aichi, Japan
- 2005 Bidyadanga 2005 - Recent Works, Short St Gallery, Broome, WA
- 2004 Desert Ocean, Short st. Gallery @ Kidogo Gallery, Fremantle, WA
- 2004 Divas of the Desert, Gallery Gondwana, Alice Springs, NT
- 2004 Bidyadanga Artists, William Mora Gallery, Melbourne, Vic
- 2004 Bidyadanga Art, Art House Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 2004 21st Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award, Museum & Art Gallery of Northern Territory, Darwin, NT
- 2004 Bidyadanga Artists, Raft Art Space, Darwin, NT
- 2004 Desert to Saltwater, Short st. Gallery @ Mary Place Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 2003 Manyijara, Short st. Gallery, Broome, WA

## Collections

Art Gallery of Western Australia  
Newcastle Art Gallery  
National Gallery of Australia  
National Gallery of Victoria  
Felton Collection  
Museum and Art Gallery of Northern Territory  
Broken Hill Regional Art Gallery  
Laverly Collection  
Myer Collection  
Sam Barry Collection  
Harvey Wagner Collection, USA  
Art Gallery of NSW  
Brocard - Estrangin Collection  
The Hood Museum, Dartmouth, USA



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## Bibliography

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The Collection of Colin and Elizabeth Lavery, Hardie Grant Books Australia, 2008  
The New McCulloch's Encyclopedia of Australian Art, 2006  
The Canberra Times, 'Right here, right now', Sasha Grishin, 1 June 2006  
National Indigenous Times, 'From the Ancient to the Cutting Edge', May 2006  
The Australian, "Look Whose Been Framed Now", 17 March, 2006  
Dynasties, Series:4, Ep:8, The Mora Family, January 2006  
Painting Country-A West to East Journey , World Expo Aichi, Catalogue, July 2005  
The Australian Financial Review Magazine, "Art Direction," June 2004  
The Age Newspaper, "Yulparija show their colours," April 19, 2004  
The Australian Newspaper, "West Coast's Late Bloomers" April 2004  
Colour Power Catalogue, National Gallery of Victoria  
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