

Short St. Gallery



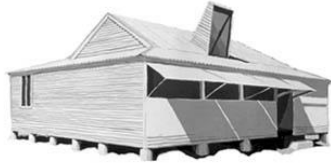
Susan Wanji Wanji

Born	1955
Language	Tiwi
Region	Tiwi Islands

Biography

Susan Wanji Wanji was born in 1955 in the bush at Johnsons Bay near Maningrida. Her parents wrapped her up in paperbark and took her by canoe to the mission at Maningrida. Susan grew up in the bush near Maningrida and when she was around 10 years old her dad made her a little paperbark canoe that she used to go everywhere in. As soon as school was finished she used to run down with her paddle to her canoe. She took the old people out to get cockles and crabs. She used to hunt for stingray, crabs, mangrove worm, mud mussels, fish and cockles with the old people. She used to sail around with a sheet before her dad made me a canvas sail. When Susan was out in rough weather her father used to yell out for her to come back in. This canoe from her childhood features in some of her paintings. Susan learnt from her mother how to weave intricately woven mats and baskets. 1982 Susan moved with her partner to Melville Island and she worked at the health clinic in Snake Bay. Susan learnt how to make bark paintings and carvings from her Tiwi Uncle Romeo Puruntatameri. He used to talk to the young ones telling them how to make carvings and paintings. She also used to make the ceremonial poles (Tutunis). She learnt how to make the armbands and headbands from her Auntie Joberta Puruntatameri. The elders also taught her how to collect the ochres and cook them.

Susan started working at Munupi Arts & Crafts in 1990 and has since developed a unique style that has influences from both Tiwi and Arnhem Land cultures. In 1992 Susan Wanji Wanji travelled to Paris representing Munupi Arts & Crafts and she



Short St. Gallery

assisted with the hanging of the Art Centre exhibition. She continues to paint and exhibit with Munupi Art Centre and she was a finalist in the 2013 Telstra Aboriginal and Torres Strait Art Award. In 2016 Susan was commissioned by the Australian War Memorial Collection Canberra to create a painting of the Bombing of Darwin to commemorate this event. Susan Wanji Wanji's artwork is represented in many national as well as international collections.

Solo Exhibitions

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| 2013 | Merenda Gallery, Fin Art, Fremantle WA |
| 2009 | Makatingarri (running water), Karen Brown, Gallery Darwin NT |
| 2007 | Karen Brown Gallery, Darwin NT |

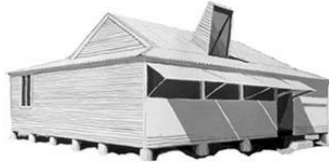
Group Exhibitions

- | | |
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| 2022 | Ngininguwula Kurrujipuni: Our Own Tiwi Ochre Colours – Darwin Hilton Double Tree |
| 2022 | Line In Parrallel – Artitja Fine Art Gallery, South Fremantle, WA |
| 2022 | Tiwi Creation – Cooee Art, Redfern |
| 2021 | Tiwi Papers; Tarnanthi Festival 2021; Art Gallery of South Australia |
| 2021 | YIRRINKIRIPWOJA JILAMARA Darwin Hilton Double Tree |
| 2020 | Tiwi Islands to Arnhemland Munupi Maningrinda Artitja Fine Art Gallery; South Fremantle; WA |
| 2020 | Yalininga, Ngaripantingija, Ngirramini Aboriginal Signature • Estrangin Gallery, Bruxelles, Belgique |
| 2019 | Pupini Jilamara Nginingwula (our Beautiful Paintings) |
| 2018 | Nginingawula Awirankiniwaki, Hilton Double Tree Hilton, August 2018 |
| 2018 | Yoi- Tanz im Mondenschein, ArtKelch Collectors Lounge, Stuttgart, Germany |
| 2018 | Palaner- Aboriginal Art Der Tiwi, Artkelch, Freiburg, Germany |
| 2018 | One island one side. • Yati Ratuwati Yatuwati • Art Aborigène des Iles TIWI, Aboriginal Signature, Brussels, Belgium |
| 2017 | Earth Matters, Form: The Goods Shed; Claremont: WA; 6010; 29 September 17 to 27 February 2018 |
| 2017 | Yrringinkirri Pwoja, Hilton Double Tree Hilton, August 2017 |
| 2017 | Kiripapuranjuwi (skilled Hands), Red Dot Fine Art Gallery; Singapore |
| 2016 | Point of difference; Desent to sea, Artitja fine Art at Engine Room. Perth. WA |
| 2016 | Ngawila Jilamara Exhibition, Hilton Double Tree, Darwin NT |
| 2016 | Spirutual Materialism, Illena Tounta Art Centre, Athens, Greece |
| 2016 | Tiwi Mamirrikuwi Jilamara, Cross Art Project; King Cross, NSW |
| 2015 | We are the artists/creators for our paintings, Hilton Double Tree, Darwin NT |



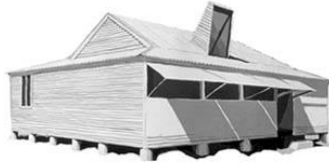
Short St. Gallery

- 2015 Ngawa munupula/ Ngawa Kiripapiranjuwi, new paintings from Munupi Art on the Tiwi Islands, Outstation art from Art Centres, Darwin NT
- 2014 WE ARE TIWI, Munupi Artists from Melville Island, Artitja Fine Art, Fremantle, WA
- 2014 THE TIWI: Art from Jilamara & Munupi Art Centres, Kluge- Ruhe Aboriginal Art, Collection, Virginia, USA
- 2013 Nginingawula Munupi Jilamara. Our paintings, Marshall Arts, Hyde Park, SA
- 2013 'Nga-wuja arungwapi We are going forward', Tiwi Art Network Annual Exhibition, Darwin, NT
- 2012 'Salt of the Earth: Indigenous Art from the Land', McCulloch & McCulloch @ Salt Contemporary, Queenscliff, Victoria
- 2012 TIWI: ART/HISTORY/CULTURE book launch, Aboriginal and Pacific Art, Sydney, NSW
- 2012 'Pattern & Palette', McCullochs @ Whistlewood, Shoreham, Victoria
- 2012 Tiwi Tradition – Munupi Artists of Melville Island, Artitja Fine Art, Fremantle, WA
- 2012 'Parlini Amintiya Awirankini', Tiwi Art Network Annual Exhibition, Darwin, NT
- 2012 'Dot to Dot', Artmob Gallery, Hobart, Tasmania
- 2011 International Grammar School Exhibition, Tali Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 2011 'Nginingawila Kurrujipini (Our Colour)', Tiwi Art Network, Darwin, NT
- 2011 'Tiwi Island Art', Aranda Aboriginal Art, Melbourne, VIC
- 2011 'Munupi Artists of Melville Island', Artitja Fine Art, Fremantle, WA
- 2011 'We Paint the Stories of Our Culture', Museum of Cultural History, University of Oslo, Norway
- 2011 'Nina Puruntatameri & Susan Wanji Wanji', Aboriginal and Pacific Art, Sydney, NSW
- 2011 'Masterstroke', Harvison Gallery, Perth, WA
- 2011 'New Work from the Tiwi Islands', Art Equity, Sydney, NSW
- 2010 'Munupi Arts', Hogarth Galleries, Sydney, NSW
- 2010 'Munupi Arts', Qdos Gallery, Lorne, Victoria
- 2010 Munupi Medley Artmob, Hobart, Tasmania
- 2010 'Kumunupanari – Season of Smoke', Tiwi Art Network, Darwin, NT
- 2010 Critic's Choice (Susan McCulloch's Selection), Artmob, Hobart, Tasmania
- 2010 'Treading Lightly', Tali Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 2010 'A 9x12" Coo-ee Christmas', Coo-ee Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 2009 Ochre Imprints, Tandanya National Aboriginal culture Institute. Adelaide. SA
- 2009 Mukumuwu – 'To Be Together', Darwin NT
- 2008 "Yirrajirima murakupuni nginingaji ngawila pumpuni jilamara", Darwin NT



Short St. Gallery

- 2008 Ignite: St Ignatius Art Show, Adelaide, SA
2007 Tiwi Exhibition, Framed Gallery, Darwin NT
2007 Above and Beyond, Caruana & Reid Fine Art, Elizabeth Bay NSW
2007 Nga-wuja arungwapi – we are going forward, Tiwi Art Network, Darwin, NT
2007 'Cross-section', Northern Editions, Charles Darwin University, Darwin, NT
2007 Group Tiwi Show, Aboriginal and Pacific Art, Waterloo NSW
2007 Three Tiwi Women, Suzanne Oconnell Gallery, Brisbane QLD
2006 Yirrajirima murrakupuni ngawurraningimarri, Tiwi Art Network, Darwin, NT
2006 'Munupi Arts – Indigenous Etchings', Kick Arts Collective, Cairns, Qld
2006 Star Arts, Ambrose Consulting, Darwin, NT
2006 11th National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award, Darwin, NT
2006 'Green Turtle Dreaming'. Touring exhibition – Cairns Regional Gallery QLD, Gab Titui, Cultural Centre, Thursday Is, Darnley Island Cultural Centre, Geelong Gallery, VIC
2006 'New Work from the Tiwi Islands', SoMA Gallery, Adelaide SA
2006 Aboriginal Print Makers, Framed, Darwin, NT
2005 'Green Turtle Dreaming', Museum of Perth, WA. Touring exhibition, Geraldton Museum WA, Kalgoorlie Museum WA, Sarawak Museum, Malaysia • Gadfly Gallery, Perth, WA
2005 Pukupunawu, Bandigan Gallery, Woollahra, NSW
2005 Tiwi Art, Gadfly Gallery, Perth, WA
2005 Munupi Arts Show, Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne VIC
2005 Indigenous Art Exhibition, Australian Embassy, Paris, France
2005 Ngini Ngawula Ngiramini Amitya Murakupuni, Northern Editions Gallery, Charles Darwin University, Darwin, NT
2004 Two Decades of Munupi Prints, KickArts, Cairns, Qld
2004 "Ironwood and Ochre", RAFT Artspace, Darwin, NT
2004 Yirringirripwaja, Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne, VIC
2004 Contexture, Textiles Exhibition, Framed Gallery, Darwin, NT
2004 Salt & Stone: Art Centres of Arnhem Land & Tiwi, The Cross Arts Projects, Sydney, NSW
2004 Kiripuranji – Contemporary Art from the Tiwi Islands, Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade touring exhibition, worldwide
2003 Tayikuwapi – All Together, Art Mob, Hobart, Tas
1998 Walonia Exhibition, Florence, Italy, Brussels, Belgium
1998 United Nations, Geneva, Switzerland
1996 Munupi Tiwi Exhibition, Hong Kong
1996 National Aboriginal Heritage Exhibition, Parliament House Canberra, ACT



Short St. Gallery

- 1994 Epama Epam - Everything has meaning, Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, Canada
1993 Stories, Kerava Art Museum, Helsinki & Rovaneli Art Museum, Lapland, Finland
1991 Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award, Darwin, NT

Collections

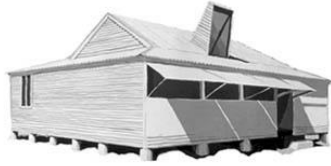
The Museum of Cultural History, University of Oslo, Norway
Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, QLD
Australian Embassy, Paris
National Art Bank, Melbourne, VIC
Flinders University, Adelaide, SA
Australian National Maritime Museum, Sydney, NSW
Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide, SA
National Native Title Tribunal, NT
APAMANA (Asia Pacific Arts), Netherlands
Australian National University, Canberra, ACT
Macquarie University, NSW
Queensland Art Gallery, QLD
Museum & Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin, NT
Levi Kaplan Collection, Seattle, USA
Artbank Collection
Australian war Memorial, Canberra, ACT
Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia
City of Melville Art Collection, Perth, WA
Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide, SA

Awards

- 2013 Preselected for TELSTRA National Aboriginal & Torres, Strait Islander Art Award
2010 Finalist, 27th Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award
2009 Preselected in to the NATSIA awards – Darwin NT
2008 Preselected in the Togart awards – Darwin NT

Bibliography

- 2016 Spiritual Materialism; Dimitios Antonitsis; Illeana Tounta Contemporary Art Centre, Athens, Greece
2012 TIWI: ART/HISTORY/CULTURE, Jennifer Isaacs, 2012, The Miegunyah Press



Short St. Gallery

2002	(Grand!) Jarrikalani, Scholastic Canada
2000	Artist Workshop Animals by Thumbprint Books, London
1994	Australian Naïve Art by Sandra Warner, Craftmans House
1992	Artlink vol. 12 no. 4 Summer - 93 Pg 36
1992	Vision sur les Arts No 181 Julliet 1992. ISSN: 0291-9036