

Deborah Wurrkidj

Born 1971 Language Kuninjku Region Maningrida



Biography

Deborah Wurrkidj was born in 1971 at Maningrida in north-central Arnhem Land. Her language is Kuninjku and her moiety is Duwa. Deborah is well known for her fibre weaving, bark painting, woodcarving and printmaking.

Deborah is a versatile artist who has readily adapted to new art forms while retaining strong clan traditions. Her work is tactile and intricate and illustrates the artistic innovation that has occurred in Maningrida over the last 30 years.

Alongside her highly regarded fine art practice Deborah, with her mother, Helen Lanyinwanga, and sister Jennifer Wurrkidj has been working at Bábbarra Designs since 1991. She is a leading textile artist and an integral member of Bábbarra Women's Centre.

Deborah has exhibited nationally including the 19th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award in 2002 and is represented in a number of state and private collections.

Group Exhibitions

2022	Spirit in Bark - Koskela Gallery Rosebery
2022	Thread Count - Agency Projects & Padre Coffee
2021	Spirit Worlds: Contemporary Works from Maningrida - Michael Reid Berlin
2021	Lineage - Delmar Gallery, Ashfield NSW
2021	Northern Waters – Short St Gallery, Broome, WA
2020	Tamanthi Art Fair – Lot Fourteen, Adelaide SA
2020	RESILIENCE: The power of the past today – Maningrida – Aboriginal Estrangin Fine Art, Brussels, BELGIUM
2018	From Coast to Escarpment: Spirit Worlds of Maningrida - Michael Reid, Sydney, NSW
2018	Ngaldjorlhbo Mother of Everything Mère de Toute Création - IDAIA, Paris, France



Short St. Gallery

2018 2017	Karrang Kunred: Motherland - Cross Art Projects, Sydney, NSW Karridjowkke Kunronj (Crossing Streams) - Nomad Art, Darwin, NT
2014	Barks, Spirit Figures, Lorrkon and Ceremonial Poles - Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne, VIC
2010	Replant: a new generation of botanical art - National touring exhibition, curated by Nomad Arts, Darwin, NT
2009	Works in Season: Bark Paintings, Carvings & Weavings - Hogarth Galleries, Sydney, NSW
2009 2009	Survey from Maningrida Arts & Culture - The Mossenson Gallery, Perth, WA Ancestral Spirit Beings and Ceremonial Lorrkon - Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne, VIC
2009	During the Wet - Hemphill Fine Arts, Washington, USA
2009	Sculpture Show - Fireworks Gallery, Brisbane, QLD
2009	Fibre & Rarrk - Marina Murdilnga & Debra Wurrkidj - Vivian Anderson Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
2009	26th National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Awards Exhibition - Museum and Art Gallery Northern Territory, Darwin, NT
2009	Orche - A Study in Materiality - Short Street Gallery, Broome, WA
2008	25th National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Awards Exhibition - Museum and Art Gallery Northern Territory, Darwin, NT
2008	Maningrida Art - Chapman Gallery, Canberra
2008	Weaving around the Traps - Chapman & Bailey, Melbourne, VIC
2008	Womens Show - Vivien Anderson Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
2008	African Muse - Ecorces recentes de Maningrida, Galerie Luc Bertier, Paris, France
2008	Maningrida Arising - Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne, VIC
2008	Recent works from Maningrida - Chapman Gallery, Canberra, ACT
2007	Bark Paintings from Maningrida - Short Street Gallery, Broome, WA
2007 2006	Spirit in Variation Part II - Annandale Galleries, Sydney, NSW Cross-section - a collection of prints from NTU stockroom - NTU, Darwin, NT
2005	Paris-Djinkarr-Milmilngkan - Maningrida Arts & Culture, Darwin, NT
2004	Crossing Country - The alchemy of Western Amhem Land art - AGNSW,
2004	Sydney, NSW
2003	Weave - NTU Gallery, Darwin, NT
2003	Weave - Federation Centre for the Arts, Bundoora Homestead, VIC
2002	Maningrida Fibre - Redback Art Gallery, QLD
2002	19th Telstra National & Torres Strait Islander Art Award Exhibition - Museum &
	Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin
2001	Good Colour: Prints from Maningrida Women's Centre - Raft Artspace, Darwin

Collections



Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane, QLD

Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide, SA

Artbank, Sydney, Australia