



Short St. Gallery

Lily Long (Jatarr)



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| Birth Year | c.1940 |
| Language Group | Warrman |
| Region | Karlamilyi |

Biography

"This Karlamilyi area, big land. That's a ngurra (home Country, camp) belonging to our old people, Warrman people. We talk for our land, our jila (snake). I grew up in this Country, my Country. This land belongs to our father. In pujiman (traditional, desert dwelling) days I walked around here, used to walk up and down tuwa (sandhill) and back to the main camp belonging to Martu. We are Warrman ladies, painting Kintyre and Karlamilyi. We can share this Country."

- Sisters Wurta Amy French and Jatarr Lily Long

Jatarr Lily Long is a Warrman woman and senior custodian for Karlamilyi (Rudall River) Country. She was born in the late 1930s at Jatarrngara, a water source on the Karlamilyi River from which her name is derived. Jatarr is the sister of fellow artists Helen Dale Samson and the late Wurta Amy French. Her father was a drover who attempted, unsuccessfully, to 'steal' Jatarr's mother and take her back to the Kimberley region.

Jatarr grew up with her family in the area surrounding Tiwa (Canning Stock Route Well 26), a water source located east of Parngurr Aboriginal Community and just west of a culturally significant group of hills called Partujarrapirri. Her family returned to the Karlamilyi region for a time, moving between camps located all along the Karlamilyi River and up to the large salt lake, Nyayartakujarra (Lake Dora). In the late 1940's her family left Karlamilyi and travelled on foot for more than 200 kilometres to Jigalong Mission, where a supply of rationed food and water was assured. There they were reunited with family members that had already moved in from the desert.

At Jigalong, Jatarr lived in a dormitory with her two sisters and went to school. Later, she worked as a cook on various pastoral stations in the Pilbara and mined for tin and other minerals with a yandy (dish used for winnowing seed). Eventually, Jatarr relocated Irrungadji Aboriginal community, just outside of Nullagine, where she continues to live with her sister Wurta, children and grandchildren.



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Today Jatarr lives at Irrungadji Community near Nullagine with her children and grandchildren. As an artist, she has always worked with her sisters at her side, and they have frequently collaborated on larger works. In her paintings, Jatarr depicts her ngurra (home Country, camp) and its animals, waterholes, and Jukurpa (Dreaming) stories. She uses her art as a means of transferring cultural knowledge to her children and grandchildren and as a political platform, protecting her Country from mining and other disruptions. Jatarr is known for her soft pastel palettes and dreamy landscapes, which blend aerial and frontal perspectives. Her work has been widely exhibited in Australia and internationally, and is held in major collections including the National Gallery of Victoria, Art Gallery of Western Australia, and National Museum of Australia.

Solo Exhibitions

2011 Warmman Country, William Mora Galleries, Melbourne

Exhibitions

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| 2024 | Kujungka, Martumili Gallery, Newman, WA |
| 2024 | Martumili Artists at Japingka Gallery, Fremantle |
| 2024 | THE MATERIAL ART FAIR- Mexico City |
| 2023 | Represent Part 1, Aboriginal Figurative Practice in Western Australia, FORM Gallery, Perth, WA |
| 2023 | Paper Wangka (Paper Story), Chapman and Bailey, Melbourne, Vic |
| 2023 | Dancing For Our Country, Yaama Ganu, Moree, NSW |
| 2023 | Desert Mob 2023, Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs |
| 2023 | TDF Collect Presents: 'Martumili Artists', Collingwood, Vic |
| 2023 | Songlines - Centres dart du desert australien, IDAIA/ Australian Embassy, Paris, France |
| 2022 | Tracks We Share |
| 2021 | Desert Mob 2021, Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs, NT |
| 2021 | Martumili Mob, The Courthouse Gallery, Port Hedland, WA |
| 2021 | Paper Wangka (Paper Story), Martumili Gallery, Newman, WA |
| 2020 | Martumili Ngurra - Our Country, Aboriginal Contemporary, Bronte, NSW |
| 2020 | Ngurra Means Home, Martumili Gallery, Newman, WA |
| 2019 | Martumili Kuulkaja (Martu Schools), Martumili Gallery, Newman, WA |
| 2019 | Martu Wangka, Martumili Gallery, Newman, WA |
| 2018 | Hedland Art Award, The Courthouse Gallery, Port Hedland, WA |
| 2018 | Warla Tuwa, Aboriginal Contemporary, Bronte, NSW |
| 2017 | Art at the Heart, Martumili Gallery, Newman, WA |
| 2017 | Community Life, Martumili Gallery, Newman, WA |
| 2017 | After The Rains, Martumili Gallery, Newman, WA |



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| 2016 | Scratching the surface, Alliance Francaise de Sydney, Sydney, NSW |
| 2016 | Desert Mob |
| 2015 | Desert Mob, Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs, NT |
| 2015 | Pukurlpa - Good Inside, Yaama Ganu Gallery, Moree, NSW |
| 2014 | Martumili, Harvey Arts Projects, USA |
| 2014 | Right Now, Boomali Gallery, Leichardt, Vic |
| 2013 | Martumili Arts Show, Newman Visitors Centre, Newman |
| 2013 | A Study of the Figurative in Desert Painting, Short Street Gallery, Broome |
| 2013 | The Great Sandy Desert, Yaama Ganu Gallery, Moree |
| 2012 | We Don't Need A Map: a Martu experience of the Western Desert |
| 2012 | Warla: an explanation of the salt lakes in the Great Sandy Desert, Short Street Gallery, Broome |
| 2012 | Decrochage de l'exposition des Martumili Artists, Galerie Kungka, France |
| 2012 | Desert Mob, Araluen Centre, Alice Springs |
| 2012 | Martumili Artists 2012, Merenda Gallery, Perth |
| 2011 | Living Water- Contemporary Art of the Far Western Desert, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne |
| 2011 | Yiwarra Kuju- One Road, One People, Perth Convention Exhibition Centre, Perth |
| 2011 | Yiwarra Kuju- One Road, One People, Australian Museum, Sydney |
| 2010 | Yiwarra Kuju- One Road, One People, National Museum of Australia, Canberra |
| 2010 | Jakulpa laju kartyinpa (Bringing a message), Chapman Gallery, Canberra |
| 2010 | Warla Tjartrjal - Edge of the Lake, Short St. Gallery, Broome |
| 2009 | Wangka-Lampaju (Our Story), Randell Lane Art Gallery, Perth |
| 2009 | Puntu Kurnu (Belongs to the People), Newman Visitors Centre, Newman |
| 2009 | Warranpalampa (Our Country), William Mora Galleries, Melbourne |
| 2009 | Warranpalampaju Kayili Yaninpa (Our Country Travelling North), RAFT Artspace, Darwin |
| 2009 | Yankuni Laju Kamkani Kukungka (We Are Travelling Together By Air), ReDot Gallery, Singapore |
| 2008 | Jitirangu (Rainbow), Randell Lane Gallery, Perth |
| 2007 | Martu-la Wakaru Kuwarri Wiyaju, William Mora Galleries, Melbourne |

Collections

National Gallery of Victoria
National Museum of Australia

Awards

2013 Finalist, Glencore Art Centre Award