Short St. Gallery

Elaine Wanatjura Lane

Born	Circa 1940
Language Group	Ngaanyatajarra
Region	NG Lands - Ngaanyatajarra

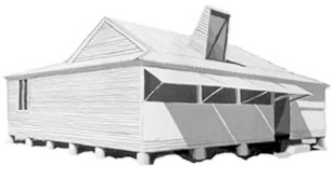
Biography

Elaine was a bush baby, born in the traditional way, close to Kutukampara rockhole, the other side of Mantamaru (Jameson). "There was no blanket, no hospital, just ashes to keep warm". As a young child she travelled the region with her parents living off the land and following a traditional life. Her family would travel between Papulankutja (Blackstone) and Mantamaru and then back to Warburton Ranges visiting Wirtapiwara, Illinpiri and Watatjara. Living 'bush way' with her family has given Elaine a deep attachment to and profound knowledge of her culture and her country. As a child she also spent some years attending school in the Warburton mission and later met her husband there, Paddy Lane, who was working on the station at the time. They had five children together. Elaine now lives at Blackstone, close to her brother Jimmy Donegan, a senior Law Man and artist, in remote Western Australia. She is a respected senior law woman and is the sister of the well known painter Pantjiti Maclean. Her father was a Donegan and she is sister to Pantjiti Mary McLean. Elaine is also a leading fibre artist. She first began making baskets and animal sculptures in 1995. She has always made outstanding baskets and in 1999 she first started to experiment with animal sculptures. Elaine has travelled to Perth with the touring exhibition, Manguri Weaving, opened the exhibition and gave a workshop at the Fremantle Arts Centre. Elaine was part of the team of women from Blackstone who made the full sized grass toyota that won the telstra award. More recently, Elaine has been experimenting with natural bush dyes for her baskets. Elaine paints country around Blackstone, her work reflects the seasons, using the wonderful colours that surround her every day of her life. Many layers overlapping and melding together, expressing the texture and flow of the land.

Short St. Gallery

Group Exhibitions

2019	Desert Mob
2019	Artists of Wanarn, Aboriginal and Pacific Art
2018	Artists of Wanarn
2018	Short Street Gallery Group Show
2018	Pampa Tjilpi Art – Old Lady, Old Man Art , Short St Gallery, Broome
2017	Desert Mob Exhibition
2017	Dreaming Ngurra, Aboriginal and Pacific Art, Sydney
2017	Jimmy Donegan and Company, Short St Gallery, Broome, WA
2015	Tjirntu Tjarrpanguru Tjirntu pakalakuta
2015	Radiance Form Perth, WA
2015	Artitja Fine Art Fremantle WA
2014	Wooloongabba Art Gallery Brisbane Qld
2014	Desert Mob 2014 Araluen Cultural Centre, Alice Springs
2014	WOMAD Market with Tandanya
2013	Yaama Ganu Gallery Moree NSW
2013	Marks in the Sand @ Tandanya South Australia
2012	Family Paintings Art Mob Hobart
2012	Ngaanyatjarra Art of the Lands Lawrence Wilson Gallery (Tjanpi sculptures)
2012	Puple Noon Gallery NSW Papulankutja group show
2011	Desert Mob Araluen Centre Alice Springs
2011	Papulankutja Artists Merenda Gallery Fremantle, WA
2010	Wooloongabba Art Gallery, Papulankutja Artists Group Show, Brisbane
2010	Chapman Gallery, Papulankutja Artists Group Show, Canberra
2010	Desert Mob, Araluen Centre, Alice Springs
2010	William Mora Galleries, Group show, Melbourne
2010	Tunbridge Gallery, Papulankutja Artists Group Show, Margaret River
2009	Desert Mob, Araluen Centre, Alice Springs
2009	Tunbridge Gallery, Margaret River, Western Australia
2009	Colour & Country, Aratong Gallery @ the Australian High Commission, Singapore.
2008	Yamatji Pirni - Many friendships: Life and Art from the Western Desert, Melbourne Museum, Vic.
2008	Who Let the Dog's Out? Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery / Hazelhurst Regional Art Gallery, NSW
2008	We are celebrating, Tandanya National Cultural Institute, Adelaide



Short St. Gallery

2008	Western Desert Mob, Yamatji Pirni: Many Friendships, Melbourne Museum
2007	Desert Diversity, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne, VIC.
2007	Kutju One: Western Desert Mob inaugural exhibition, Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery. Perth International Festival, Perth WA
2007	Fibre and Form, Joel's Fina Art, Melbourne, VIC
2007	Tjanpi Papa Uwangkara, 24th NATSIAA Art Award, MAGNT, Darwin, NT
2007	Big Country, Gallery Gondwana
2007	Shared Exhibition with Mornington Island at Marshall Art, during the Fringe Festival Adelaide
2007	Papulankutja Artists Group Show, Randell Lane Fine Art, Perth WA
2007	Desert Mob
2006	Tjanpi Tjuta, Hogarth Galleries, Melbourne, VIC
2006	Sibling Solidarity, Randell Lane Fine, Perth WA
2006	Desert Mob, Araluen Cultural Centre, Alice Springs
2005	Lirru Puru Kuniya Tjukurrpa, Randell Lane Fine Art at Tristan Gallery, Perth
2005	Tjanpi Toyota 22nd NATSIAA Art Award, MAGNT, Darwin, NT
2004	Fibre Sculpture, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
2004	Seven Sisters, Fibre Art Arising from the west, craft west centre for Contemporary Craft and Design, Perth. National Touring Show.
2004	Desert Mob Araluen Centre Alice Springs
2003	Desert Mob, Araluen Centre, Alice Springs
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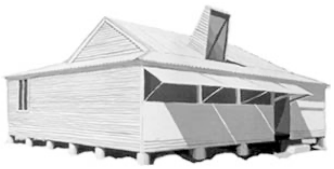
2001	Manguri Weaving, national touring exhibition and USA tour
2000	The Big Basket, World Expo, Hannover, Germany
2000	Desert Mob, Araluen Centre, Alice Springs
2000	Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award, Museum and Art Gallery of the NT, Darwin
1999	Desert Mob, Araluen Centre, Alice Springs
1999	Warka Wiru (Good Work), Uluru-Kata Tjuta Cultural Centre, Uluru-Katja Tjuta National Park
1998	Desert Mob, Araluen Centre, Alice Springs
1998	From the Desert to the Sea, Rayner Sunset Gallery, Sydney, NSW
1997	Desert Mob, Araluen Centre, Alice Springs
1996	Tjanpi, Uluru-Kata Tjuta Cultural Centre, Uluru-Katja Tjuta National Park
1996	Bush Baskets and Bags, Araluen Centre, Alice Springs
1996	Desert Mob, Araluen Centre, Alice Springs
1995	Womens Business Travelling: A Celebration of Womens Work from Western Australia
1995	Desert Mob, Araluen Centre, Alice Springs



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Collections

Museum & Art Gallery of Northern Territory, Darwin, NT
Western Australian Museum
Merenda Collection

Awards

2005	22nd Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Award

Bibliography

2003	Seven Sisters: Fibre Works Arising from the West, Craftwest, Centre for Contemporary Craft and Design
2005	Collaborative Award - Spinifex Toyota - Telstra 2005
2012	Ngaanyatjarra Art of the Lands edited by Tim Acker & John Carty UWAP