

# Kathy Ramsay

Born Language Group Region Ngarrangarni/Totem Skin 1965 Gija, English, Kriol East Kimberley Crow Nangari



### Biography

Kathy Ramsay is one of Warmun Art Centre's most prolific emerging artists carrying on the legacy of her artistic family. The daughter of artists Rammey and Mona Ramsay, and the granddaughter of the late Timmy Timms, Kathy began painting in 2013, yet has already been included in numerous group exhibitions and private collections across Australia and internationally. Most recently she has been selected for Revealed, a biennial art event celebrating emerging Aboriginal artists in Western Australia.

Of her work Kathy says, "I only started painting in 2013. I like to join in and to be sharing a part of my Country. My mother and my grandfather always told us what this place means, what the names are, and all those Ngarranggami (Dreaming) stories. Now, with all this painting, I'll be the one to tell them to my kids. I'm the mother of three sons, but I lost my oldest son in 2008. He was really strong in corroborree and culture, but my other sons, they carry it on too. They went to school in Warmun, and I worked in the childcare centre and cleaning and bits like that. Now I'm painting all the time. I just paint what my old people told me about our Country – because they are the ones who know the history of our Country, the Country we're still connected to today. Our Country really knows us, and it owns us."

In 2017, Kathy was a finalist in the John Fries Art Award, where she flew to Sydney to attend the opening night and celebrations. In her interview with the national broadcaster, the ABC, Kathy said "Everything is rolling in my mind, I can't stop painting, I like to do it and bring it out through my heart, with the stories." Later on in 2018, Kathy was a finalist in the regional Hedland Art Award for her prominent painting depicting an in depth story about Juwulinji, often the subject in her paintings. Her ancestral Country is also known as Bow River, incorporating rich Ngarranggarni stories with recent histories of station life.

## Themes

Bow River Station



#### **Solo Exhibitions**

2021 Ngaboo-lang: Collaborative works by Rammey Ramsey and Kathy Ramsay -Koskela, Sydney

#### **Group Exhibitions**

2022	Ngamu & Kilyingem: Old & New – Artworks from Gija Women – Short St Gallery, Broome, WA
2021	Tamanthi - Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide, SA
2021	Auckland Art Fair - Tim Melville Booth, Auckland, New Zealand
2020	This Is Tomorrow - Tim Melville Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand
2020	Whenua Ukaipo/United Nations 75 - Public Trust Hall, Te Whanganui-a-tara Wellington
2020	Warlawoon - Paul Johnstone Gallery, Darwin
2020	Juwurlinji - Kristin Hjellegjerde, London
2020	Wigim - Aboriginal Contemporary, Sydney
2020	The Ochre Story - Japingka Aboriginal Art, Fremantle, WA
2020	Badem Mawoondool - red ochre, white ochre - Aboriginal Contemporary, Sydney
2020	Summer Salon - Artitja Fine Art Gallery, South Fremantle, WA
2019	"Connection to Country" Fundraiser exhibition, Form Gallery, Perth WA - Environmental Defenders Office of WA exhibition
2019	Warmun Artists / Whenua - Tim Melville Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand
2019	SALON des Refuses - Telstra NATSIAA - Charles Darwin University Art Gallery, curated by Matt Ward & Paul Johnstone
2019	"Our Land Our Place" NAIDOC Week exhibition by Artitja Fine Art - Government House, Perth WA
2019	Bow River Country - Aboriginal Contemporary, Sydney NSW
2019	Desert River Sea, Art Gallery of Western Australia - A landmark exhibition of Kimberley Aboriginal Art held at the Art Gallery of WA in February 2019
2018	Hedland Art Award - Courthouse Gallery, Port Hedland
2018	GIJA Exhibition, Woolloongabba Art Gallery, Queensland - An exhibition honouring the Warmun artists, and 20 years of the Gija art movement
2018	Warmun At Twenty Exhibition - A group exhibition celebrating 20 years of Warmun Art Centre, Nancy Sever Gallery, Canberra
2018	Kimberley to Coast Exhibition at Salt Contemporary Art - McCulloch & McCulloch, Queenscliff
2017	Port Hedland Art Award - Finalists - Port Hedland Courthouse Gallery
2017	When the sky fell: Legacies of the 1967 Referendum - Perth Institute of Contemporary Art, Perth
2017	Spiritual essence of the Earth with Warmun artists – Aboriginal Signature Estrangin Gallery, Brussels



- 2017 Art of the Gija People Nancy Server Gallery, Canberra
- 2017 For the Women Tandanya, Adelaide
- 2016 Warlbowinj and Jumulunj (River Wallaby and Boab Tree) Paul Johnstone Gallery, Darwin
- 2016 Family Connections, Short St Gallery, Broome, WA
- 2016 Warlbowinj and Jumulunj (River Wallaby and Boab Tree) Paul Johnstone Gallery, Darwin
- 2015 Warmun Then and Now Berndt Museum The University of Western Australia
- 2014 Warmun Aboriginal Art Art Images Gallery, Adelaide, SA
- 2014 Warmun: Gija Contemporary Art of Western Australia Harvey Art Projects, USA
- 2014 Transitions, Short St Gallery, Broome WA

#### Awards

- 2017 Finalist Port Hedland Arts Awards
- 2017 Finalist John Fries Award
- 2015 REVEALED Fremantle Arts Centre WA

## Collections

Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth, WA