



# Short St. Gallery

Elizabeth Nyumi



Birth Year                    c.1947-2020  
Language Group            Pintupi  
Region                        West Kimberley

## Biography

Nyumi's mother belonged to the country of Nynmi near Kiwirrkurra on the Pintupi side. Her father was from Alyarra in the region of Ngaanyatjarra. When Nyumi was only a very young child her mother died tragically at the Kanari soakwater close to Jupiter Well. As a young girl, Nyumi lived a nomadic existence with her family group in their country, before walking up the Canning Stock Route into old mission with her father and family group as a teenager. Here she was given clothes and taken to Billiluna Station and trained as a domestic worker and subsequently travelled to many station houses around the region working for the wives of the station managers.

Nyumi is a very strong culture woman and dancer and an enthusiastic teacher of culture to children, ensuring the traditional dances and songs are kept alive. Nyumi had four daughters and three of them are still living and beginning to paint, which is strongly encouraged by Nyumi. Brandy Tjungurrayi and Patrick Olodoodi, both senior Law men and recognised artists, are Nyumi's older brothers.

Nyumi commenced painting in 1987 and began to emerge as a leading artist in the late 1990s. Her paintings are mainly concerned with the country of abundant bush food belonging to her family. Initially she worked with a thick brush, covering the canvas in emanating lines in muted tones. Her style has now developed to using a multitude of dotting to build up fields of texture but retains her signature motifs of small camps, coolamons and bush tucker trees and scrubs. Nyumi has had solo exhibitions in 2001, 2002 and 2003 and she has travelled interstate and overseas to attend openings of her exhibitions. In 2004 Nyumi became the first artist represented by Warlayirti Artists to be selected for the Biennale of Sydney and since this time she has been included in numerous prestigious exhibitions.

## Solo Exhibitions



# Short St. Gallery

2006 Singing and Dancing up the Country, Raft Gallery, Darwin, NT  
2006 Elizabeth Nyumi, Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne, VIC  
2005 Elizabeth Nyumi, Aboriginal and Pacific Art Gallery, Sydney, NSW  
2004 Elizabeth Nyumi, Raft Artspace, Darwin, NT  
2004 Biennale of Sydney, Sydney, NSW  
2003 Elizabeth Nyumi, Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne, VIC  
2002 Elizabeth Nyumi, Aboriginal and Pacific Art Gallery, Sydney, NSW  
2001 Parwalla, Raft Artspace, Darwin, NT

## Group Exhibitions

2015 Warlayirti Artists, Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair, Darwin  
2014 Warlayirti: The Art of Balgo RMIT Gallery, Melbourne  
2014 Fremantle Arts Centre Print Award, Fremantle  
2014 Warlayirti Artists, Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair, Darwin  
2014 Balgo 14, Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne  
2014 Yaninpala Yirwarrawanna Kutjupa Ngurrarakutu – Walking the Path, Nomad Art, Darwin  
2014 Balgo: Past & Present, Coeee Gallery, Sydney  
2014 Summer Collectors Show, Susan McCulloch, Mornington Peninsula  
2013-14 In Print 20/20, Celebrating 20 years of prints & printmaking, Charles Darwin University Art Collection & Northern Editions Printmaking Studio  
2013 Convergence, Warlayirti Artists @ Short St Gallery, Broome  
2013 Kuralka Tjanu Tjukumpa: Kuwarri Marr Ku (Old Stories: New Ceations). Northern Edistions, Nan Giese Gallery, Darwin Festival Exhibition, NT  
2013 Warlayirti Artists, Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair, Darwin  
2013 Warlayirti Artists, Desert Mob Exhibition, Alice Springs  
2013 Re-generation, Susan McCulloch, Melbourne  
2013 Seoul Open Arts Fair, Korea. (Group Exhibition via Desart, Alice Springs.) 2013 Balgo Survey, Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne  
2013 Fresh, McCulloch & McCulloch, Salt Contemporary Queenscliff, Vic  
2013 Nora Wompi & Friends, Suzanne O'Connell, Brisbane  
2012-13: Gestuelles – The Art of Transmission by Aboriginal Desert Women, IDAIA – International Development for Australian, Indigenous Art, Alliances Francaises in Australia.  
2012 Watermark - the Signature of Life, IDAIA, Hong Kong  
2012 Warlayirti Artists, Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair, Darwin  
2012 Warlayirti Artists, Desert Mob Exhibition, Alice Springs  
2012 Warlayirti Artists, Artkelch Pro Community, Freiburg, Grassi Museum Leipzig, Fabrik Der Kunst, Hamburg and Galerie Gunzoburg Bodensee (Lake Constance), Germany  
2012 Balgo 2012, Gallery Gbbrielle Pizzi, Melbourne  
2012 Luminous World: Contemporary Art from the Wesfarmers Collection, touring exhibition, Western Australia Art Gallery  
2011 Balgo – 2011, Redot Gallery, Singapore



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2011 Balgo 2011, Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne  
2011 Desert Mob, Araluen Centre, Alice Springs, NT  
2010 Balgo Survey, Rheinfelden/Baden, Haus Salmegg, Coolamon Aboriginal Art Gallery Schopfheim, Germany  
2010 Balgo Survey, ReDot Gallery, Singapore  
2010 Ingalimpa Tjuntu - Singing Songs - We Sing the Country and that's how we find the way', ReDot Fine Art Galleries, Audi Forum Building, Tokyo  
2010 Balgo Prints, Northern Editions, Darwin  
2009 'Desert Aboriginal Acrylic Painting: Tradition, Boldness and Colour Explosion", Novotel Darling Harbour  
2009 Mixed Show, Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne  
2008 Balgo Survey, ReDot Gallery, Singapore  
2008 Balgo 2008, Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne  
2008 Mixed Show, Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne  
2007 Survey, They Might Be Giants, Woolloongabba Art Gallery, Brisbane, QLD  
2006 Balgo 2006, Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne, VIC  
2006 Recent Works, Short St Gallery, Broome, WA  
2006 Balgo Survey Show, ReDot Gallery, Singapore  
2006 Warlayirti Suite Print Exhibition, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne, VIC  
2006 Survey, Scott Livesey Art Dealer, Melbourne, VIC  
2006 Desert Mob, Araluen Centre for Arts, Alice Springs, NT  
2005 Balgo 2005, Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne, VIC  
2005 Glass from the Sand Country, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne, VIC  
2004 Desert Mob, Araluen Centre for Arts, Alice Springs, NT  
2004 Recent Works, Short St Gallery, Broome, WA  
2004 21st NATSIAA, Museum and Art Gallery of NT, Darwin, NT  
2004 Balgo a Go Go, Grantpirrie, Sydney, NSW  
2004 Biennale of Sydney, Sydney, NSW  
2004 Balgo 4-04, Warlayirti Artists, Balgo, WA  
2003 Eight by Three, Scott Livesey Art Dealer, Melbourne, VIC  
2003 Desert Mob, Araluen Centre for Arts, Alice Springs, NT  
2003 20th NATSIAA, Museum and Art Gallery of NT, Darwin, NT  
2003 Puratjanirri Kamu Warmala, Framed Gallery, Darwin, NT  
2003 Balgo Brilliance, Art Mob, Hobart, TAS  
2003 Palya Minyirri, Thornquest Gallery, Gold Coast, QLD  
2002 30th Alice Prize, Araluen Centre, Alice Springs, NT  
2002 Balgo Hills, Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne, VIC  
2002 Desert Mob, Araluen Centre, Alice Springs, NT  
2002 Balgo Hills, Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne, VIC  
2002 Desert Mob, Araluen Centre, Alice Springs, NT  
2002 Art from Balgo, Gallery Gondwana, Alice Springs, NT  
2002 Balgo Hills: An artist's survey, Hogarth Galleries, Sydney, NSW



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2002 Balgo Hills Artists 2002, Art Mob, Aboriginal Fine Art, Hobart, TAS  
2002 Big Colour My Country, Thomquest Gallery, Gold Coast, QLD  
2001 Aborigena Arte, Australiana Contemporaneu, Torino, Palazzo Bricherasio, Italy  
2001 Desert Mob, Araulen Centre, Alice Springs, NT  
2001 18th NATSIAA, Museum and Art Gallery of NT, Darwin, NT  
2001 Kutjungka, Bett Gallery, Hobart, TAS  
2001 Balgo Works, Staedtische Gallery, Wolsfburg, Germany  
2001 Recent Works by Artists from Balgo Hills, Ochre Gallery, Melbourne, Vic  
2001 Balgo Artists Return to Country, Vivien Anderson Gallery, Melbourne, Vic  
2001 Spirituality and Australian Aboriginal Art, Alcaston Gallery, Madrid, Spain  
2001 Past Modern: an exhibition of Kimberley Landscapes, Short Street Gallery @ Australia Square, Sydney, NSW  
2000 This Earth for Us, Australia Dreaming at the Commonwealth Institute, Bristol/Edinburgh, UK  
2000 The Westside: Images in Ochre and Colour, Coe-ee II Exhibiting Gallery, Yuwayi Art Precinct, World Square, Sydney, NSW  
2000 Balgo Hills, Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne, VIC  
2000 17th NATSIAA, Museum and Art Gallery of NT, Darwin, NT  
2000 Melbourne Artfair 2000, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne, VIC  
2000 Waltja Family, Hogarth Galleries, Sydney, NSW  
2000 Fifth National Indigenous Heritage Art Award & the Art of Place, Old Parliament House, Canberra, ACT  
2000 Balgo Art, Gondwana Gallery, Alice Springs, NT  
2000 Balgo Hills Aboriginal Paintings, Bett Gallery, Hobart, TAS  
2000 Aboriginal Art, Galerie Baehr, Leverkusen, Germany  
2000 Aboriginal Art, Galerie Baehr, Dormagen, Germany  
1999 16th NATSIAA, Museum and Art Gallery of NT, Darwin, NT  
1999 Mularpa (True) Balgo, Framed, the Darwin Gallery, Darwin, NT  
1999 Miliynyin, Hogarth Galleries, Sydney, NSW  
1999 Miliynyin, Japingka Gallery, Fremantle, WA  
1998 Ngurrara: My own Country, Hogarth Galleries, Sydney, NSW  
1998 15th NATSIAA, Museum and Art Gallery of NT, Darwin, NT  
1997 Gallery Gondwana, Alice Springs, NT  
1997 Balgo Paintings, Seywald Gallery, Salzburg, Austria  
1997 New Paintings from Balgo Artists, Vivien Anderson Gallery, Melbourne, VIC  
1997 14th NATSIAA, Museum and Art Gallery of NT, Darwin, NT  
1997 New Painting by Balgo Women, Vivien Anderson Gallery, Melbourne, VIC  
1997 Dreamings: Aboriginal kunst uit Australie, Eusebius, Arnhem, The Netherlands  
1993 Wirrimanu: the Art of Balgo Hills, Coe-ee Aboriginal Art Gallery, Sydney, NSW  
1992 Warlayirti Artists' Homelands, Coe-ee Aboriginal Art Gallery, Sydney, NSW  
1990 Songlines: Paintings from Balgo Hills, Rebecca Hossack Gallery, London, UK  
1989 Warlayirti Artists: Continuing Links with Land, Coe-ee Aboriginal Art Gallery, Sydney,



# Short St. Gallery

NSW

## Collections

National Gallery of Australia  
National Gallery of Victoria  
Art Gallery of Western Australia  
Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory  
Artbank  
The Holmes a Court Collection  
Morven Estate  
Helen Read Collection  
Harland Collection  
Aboriginal Art Museum, Utrecht, The Netherlands  
The Lavery Collection

## Bibliography

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Cowan, J., 1999, Balgo - New Directions, Gordon & Breach Arts International Limited (Craftsman House, Sydney)  
Cowan, J., 1994, Wirrimanu - Aboriginal Art from Balgo Hills, Gordon & Breach Arts International Limited (Craftsman House, Sydney)  
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Watson, C., 1999, 'Touching the Land', Art from the Land, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia  
West, M., (ed), 2001, Telstra presents the 18th National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award, exhibition catalogue, Museum & Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin  
Williamson, S. & Togni, S., 2004 Abundance - The Art of Elizabeth Nyumi, Art & Australia Vol. 41 No.4, Art & Australia Pty Ltd, Paddington