



Short St. Gallery



Imelda Yukenbarri Gugaman

Born 1954
Language Kukatja
Region Balgo

Imelda walked into old Mission with her mother, accomplished painter Lucy Yukenbarri, as a small child and lived in the dormitories at the Mission for a number of years. She was looked after by the nuns and has fond memories of this time. She attended the government school at Balgo and left school in 1969. She then lived for a short time in Beagle Bay where she met her husband. They started a family there and after her second child they moved back to Balgo and had two more children. She spent a lot of time with her mother, Lucy, who would explain the importance of passing on the stories they were painting to the children of the family. When Imelda's husband passed away she lived in Mulan for a short time and then moved back to Balgo, where she lives now. Imelda is proud to carry on the legacy of the painting style and stories of her mother. As well as painting in the Art Centre every day, Imelda is an active member of the community and has served on the Warlayirti Board of Directors for many years. She has travelled around Australia and overseas with her art, and recently travelled to Melbourne to attend the opening of "Warlayirti: The Art of Balgo" and dance with other Balgo artists at the National Gallery of Victoria in St Kilda.

Group Exhibitions

2023 Desert Mob – Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs
2023 Balgo Survey Show – Aboriginal Contemporary, Sydney
2023 Kutjuwarrainpala Tutjulu Wakarninpa: All women painting together – Paul Johnstone Gallery, Darwin



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- 2023 Balgo Cool – Short Street Gallery, Broome
2022 Desert Mob – Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs
2022 Ngurra Kutjuwarra – Warlayiriti 35th Birthday – Warlayirti Artists Gallery, Wirrimanu
2022 Luurnpa (Kingfisher Dreaming) – Aboriginal Contemporary, Sydney
2020 Desert Mob - Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs
2020 Kuwarritjanuluya Wakarninpa: a new generation are doing it now – Paul Johnstone Gallery, Darwin
2020 Matriarchs - Paul Johnstone Gallery, Darwin
2019 Wirrimanu Balgo Artists - Japingka Aboriginal Art, Fremantle
2019 Desert Mob – Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs
2019 Salon des Refuses - Charles Sturt University Gallery, Darwin
2019 Desert River Sea: Kimberley Art Then & Now - Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth
2018 Desert Mob - Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs
2018 WAU! Focus in Western Australia – Rovaniemi Museum, Finland
2017 TARNANTHI FESTIVAL - Art Gallery of SA, Adelaide
2017 Salon 17 - CDU Gallery, Darwin
2016 Kings and Queens - Yaama Ganu Gallery, Moree, NSW
2016 Desert Mob - Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs
2016 Imelda and Family; A Collection of Fine Warlayirti Indigenous Art – Redot Gallery, Singapore
2015 Warlayirti: the Art of Balgo - RMIT Gallery, Melbourne & Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs
2015 Warlayirti Artists – Art from Balgo - Art Atrium, Sydney
2014 Desert Mob - Araluen Art Centre
2014 Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair - Darwin Convention Centre, Darwin
2014 Balgo 14 - Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne
2014 Balgo: Past & Present - Cooe Gallery, Sydney
2013 Desert Mob – Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs
2013 Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair - Darwin Convention Centre, Darwin
2013 Gestuelles, the Art of Transmission by Aboriginal Desert Women - IDAIA, Paris, France
2013 Convergence - Short St Gallery, Broome
2013 Balgo Survey - Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne
2013 Seoul Open Arts Fair - Korea
2012 Watermark - the Signature of Life - IDAIA, Hong Kong
2012 Desert Mob - Araluen Art Centre
2012 Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair - Darwin Convention Centre, Darwin
2012 Wangkartu, Winpurpurla Soakwaters Continuing Through Time – Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne



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- 2012 Warlayirti Artists - Artkelch Pro Community, Freiburg, Grassi Museum Leipzig, Fabrik Der Kunste, Hamburg and Galerie Gunzoburg Bodensee (Lake Constance), Germany
- 2012 Balgo Survey - Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne
- 2011 Desert Mob - Araluen Art Centre
- 2011 Balgo Survey - Redot Gallery, Singapore
- 2010 'Ingalimpa Tjuntu' – Singing Songs, "We sing the country and that's how we find the way" - In conjunction with Redot Gallery @ Audi Forum Tokyo
- 2010 Balgo Survey - Redot Gallery, Singapore
- 2009 Balgo Survey: Art from Balgo - Outstation Gallery, Darwin
- 2009 Lamparrrta, Tjanu, Nyarni - Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne
- 2008 Desert Mob - Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs
- 2008 Wirrimanu: Aboriginal Art from Balgo – Outstation, Darwin
- 2008 Balgo Survey - Redot Gallery, Singapore
- 2008 2 x 2 Sisters, All One Family - Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne
- 2008 Balgo Survey - Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne
- 2008 Revealed - Gallery Central, Perth
- 2008 The Power of Observation; Emerging Artists Exhibition - Gallery Gondwana, Alice Springs
- 2007 Desert Mob - Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs
- 2007 Group Exhibition - Gallery Gondwana, Alice Springs
- 2007 Survey Exhibition - Tony Bond Gallery, Adelaide
- 2006 Helicopter Tjungurrayi, Imelda (Gugaman)Yukenbarri, Christine Yukenbarri, Carmel Yukenbarri - Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne
- 2006 Desert Mob - Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs

Collections

Art Gallery of Western Australia

Bibliography

- 2021 Balgo: Creating Country
- 2019 Desert Mob catalogue
- 2014 Healy, Jacqueline (ed), Warlayirti: The Art of Balgo RMIT Gallery, Melbourne
- 2013 Tjukurrpa Diary

Awards

- 2021 Finalist, Vincent Lingiari Art Award, Alice Springs
- 2019 Finalist, Bayside Acquisitive Art Prize