



Short St. Gallery

Elaine Woods

Birth 1969
Language Group Pitjantjatjara
Region APY Lands



Biography

Elaine regularly travels out bush with her mother and daughters to collect punu (wood for artifact making) and spinifex, bush medicines, bush foods and minkulpa a highly prized native tobacco.

Her mother Maringka is a master at collecting maku (edible grubs that live in the roots of certain trees). Using a crowbar which has been flattened and sharpened on one end and small spade she hits the surface of the ground listening and feeling for the difference that indicates a swollen root and a maku inside. She digs out the root carefully and using the sharpened crow bar breaks it open to reveal a big fat white grub, which is put into a container. Once there are enough maku for a feed a fire is made to cook the grubs.

Elaine now lives in Kanpi with her family. She attended the skills development workshop in Kanpi in October 2014 and learned to make tjanpi sculptures for the first time.

Solo Exhibitions

2009 Publication – Cover – Annual Resources Industry Gala Dinner, South Australian Resources and Energy Investment Conference

Group Exhibitions

2023 Wiru Tjukurpa - Beautiful Law Story, Short St Gallery, Broome WA
2018 Tjungu Palya – Short St Gallery, Broome, WA
2016 Pampa Mara Tjanpi – Tandanya Cultural Institute
2009 Kulini Ngura – Knowing Country – Short St Gallery, Broome, WA