



Buku-Larrnggay Mulka Centre

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Galuma Maymuru (dec)

Date of Birth: 7/08/1951

Country:

Homeland: Djarrakpi

Biography

Galuma is the surviving daughter of the great Narritjin. Galuma was one of the first Yolŋu women to be instructed to paint (by her father) the sacred clan designs that were previously the domain of high ranking men.

In preparation for her first solo exhibition of her art she rang through to Buku-Larrnggay the following statement:

"This is what I really learnt from my father. First when I was still in school at Yirrkala he used to let me sit next to him, me and my brothers and he used to show us all the paintings from Wayawu and Djarrakpi. And he'd say this is our paintings and I'm telling you this about the paintings for in the future when I'm passed away you can use them. Then I forgot all this when I was in school - then I stopped but I was still thinking the way he was teaching us. Then one day I decided to start on a bark by helping him at Yirrkala. Every afternoon after work I used to sit with him and paint little barks - mostly from Djarrakpi but a little from the freshwater country at Wayawu but not Milŋaywuy. Then I kept on doing it over and over on cardboard until my hand it gets better and better and I put it in my mind, then it was working and I kept on doing it.

I went to Djarrakpi with my family to live with my father and my mother and brothers. My brothers passed away and we had to go back to Yirrkala. I left my father and mother there when I went to live at Bäniyala. My husbands family were living there. I was teaching at the Bäniyala school still doing a little bit of painting but mainly schooling.

When my father and family died I stopped painting - just doing school work. Once I moved to Dhuruputjpi in 1982/3 I started to paint again because no one else was doing it and I was thinking about the way my father was talking and how did he handle all this. How did my father do all this? - travel and paint - how to handle this painting so I kept on thinking. I'm not really prouder myself but I want to do this painting as my father did it and to keep it in my mind. But I really want this painting to keep going.

My gurrurŋ (Djambawa Marawili) he is looking after it as his Märi (mothers mothers side) and others are looking after it also. I have to teach my kids in case some one might steal the designs. So my kids can know what their mothers paintings is".

As a participant in the groundbreaking exhibition 'Buwayak' at Annandale Galleries in 2003 and a winner of that year's Best Bark painting prize at the Telstra Aboriginal Art Awards her significance cannot be overstated. Her health problems have not stopped her from painting or living in the remote homelands of Dhuruputjpi, Djarrakpi or Yilpara. She is a fierce advocate and mainstay of homeland life. Her importance was acknowledged by two solo shows at Annandale Galleries in 2007 and 2014.

Solo Exhibitions

2014 The Torrent Galuma Maymuru - Annandale Galleries, Sydney NSW

2012 Mother Cloud - Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne

Group Exhibitions

2019 Tarnanthi 2019 - Art Gallery of South Australia

2018 Matriarchs: Motherlines of the Yolgnu and Tiwi Islands - The Cross Art Projects, Sydney

2017 Gapu-Moŋuk: Saltwater Journey to Sea Country - National Australian Maritime Museum

2017 Art of Memory, Fish and Crabs: Jacqueline Gribbin and Galuma Maymuru - The Cross Art Projects, Sydney NSW

2016 Middle Distance - Hanging Valley at PRAXIS Artspace, Adelaide SA

2016 Gapan 16 - Prints from Garma 2016 - Chapman & Bailey and Hanging Valley, Melbourne VIC

2016 Tradition & Innovation - Paris Parcours des Mondes 2016-Aboriginal Signature • Estrangin Gallery

2015 Lundumirringu - Annandale Galleries, Sydney NSW
2015 Revolution: New work celebrating 20 years of printmaking at Yirrkala Print Space. - Nomad Art, Darwin
2015 Buku-Larrnggay Mulka - Yirrkala Print Space Exhibition - Gapan Gallery, Garma Festival, Gulkula, Northeast Arnhem Land NT
2015 Mother to Daughter: On Art and Caring for Homelands - The Cross Art Projects, Sydney NSW
2014 Earth Wind and Fire - Galleria Gracis, Milan Italy (JGM ART)
2013 30th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award - Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin NT
2013 FOUND - Annandale Galleries, Sydney NSW
2013 Prized - Nomad Art, Darwin, NT
2012 'The Philosophy of Water' Baluka, Galuma and Napuwarri - Short Street Gallery, Broome WA
2011 Miyalk - Women, Feminine Art from Yirrkala - Framed Gallery, Darwin NT
2010 17th Biennale of Sydney - Larrakitj, the Kerry Stokes Collection - Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney NSW
2009 Larrakitj, The Kerry Stokes Collection, - Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth, WA
2009 Larrakitj from Yirrkala, Indigenart - Mossenson Gallery, Perth, WA
2008 Outside Inside - Bark and Hollow Logs from Yirrkala - Bett Gallery Hobart, TAS
2007 Bukulungthunmi - Coming Together, One Place - Raft Artspace, Darwin NT
2007 Galuku Gallery - Darwin Festival, Darwin Botanical Gardens, NT
2007 Solo Show - Annandale Galleries, Sydney NSW
2006 'Dreaming their Way- Australian Aboriginal Women Painters' - National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington D.C., USA
2006 'Bulayi- Small Gems' - Suzanne O'Connell Gallery, Brisbane QLD
2005 'Yâkumirri' - Holmes a Court Gallery , Perth
2005 'Yâkumirri' - Raft Artspace, Darwin NT
2005 Solo Exhibition in conjunction with Source of Fire -
2004 21st Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award - Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin NT
2004 Circle. Line. Column - Annandale Galleries, Sydney NSW
2003 20th National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award - Museum & Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT), Darwin NT
2003 Larrakitj - Rebecca Hossack Gallery
2003 Buwayak - Annandale Galleries, Sydney NSW
2002 19th National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award - Museum & Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT), Darwin NT
2002 Bark Paintings by Galuma and Dhukal - Framed Gallery, Darwin, NT
2002 Larrakitj Installation - Sydney Opera House, Sydney NSW
2001 Sacred bark paintings from Outstation artist Galuma Maymuru - Helen Maxwell Gallery, Canberra ACT
2001 New from Old- Gawirrin, Ya?garriny, Dula, Wanyubi, Wukun, Galuma - Annandale Galleries, Sydney NSW
2000 Aboriginal Bark Paintings, Sculptures and Hollow Logs - Annandale Galleries, Sydney, NSW
2000 'Saltwater Country - Bark Paintings from Yirrkala' - A National Tour - John Curtin Gallery, Curtin University, Perth WA
2000 Fifth National Indigenous Heritage Art Awards - Old Parliament House, Canberra, ACT
1999 'Saltwater Country - Bark Paintings from Yirrkala' - A National Tour - Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane QLD
1999 'Saltwater Country - Bark Paintings from Yirrkala' - A National Tour - Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs NT
1999 'Saltwater Country - Bark Paintings from Yirrkala' - A National Tour - Museum of Modern Art at Heide, Melbourne VIC
1999 'Saltwater Country - Bark Paintings from Yirrkala' - A National Tour - The National Maritime Museum, Sydney NSW
1999 'Saltwater Country - Bark Paintings from Yirrkala' - A National Tour - Drill Hall Gallery, Australian National University, Canberra ACT
1999 Solo 'In Memory of Narritjin' - William Mora Gallery, Melbourne VIC
1998 15th National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award - Museum & Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT), Darwin NT

- 1998** 14th National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards - Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin NT
- 1996** Big Barks - Annandale Galleries, Sydney NSW
- 1996** 13th National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award - Museum & Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT), Darwin NT
- 1996** Miny'tji Dhawu - Savode Gallery Brisbane, QLD
- 1992** The 9th National Aboriginal Art Awards Exhibition - Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin NT
- 1984** 1st National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award - Museum & Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT), Darwin NT

Collections

Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney NSW

Charles Darwin University Art Collection

Kerry Stokes Larrakitj Collection, WA

National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne VIC

National Museum of Australia, Canberra ACT

RMIT University Art Collection

Seattle Art Museum, Seattle USA

The Lavery Collection, Sydney NSW

Bibliography

- 2013** Annandale Galleries Catalogue: Found - http://www.annandalegalleries.com.au/images/Catalogue_LR.pdf