



Lydia Balbal

Born in 1958, Broome, Australia.

BIOGRAPHY

Lydia Balbal is a Mangala woman. She was married to the Yulparija artist Nabiru Bullen until his death in 2009. Balbal's country is near Punmu in the Great Sandy Desert of Western Australia.

Her people's existence was threatened by severe drought so that they had little choice but to leave their traditional country. Her family were some of the last to walk out to the coastal town of Bidyadanga (then La Grange Mission) located two hours south of Broome in the early 70s. Balbal first began painting in 2007 but has already received significant attention from collectors and the media alike. She has exhibited extensively throughout Australia and internationally.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2017 *Lydia Balbal - Underground*, Short St Gallery, Broome, Western Australia, Australia
 - 2017 *Mangala Woman: Lydia Balbal*, AirSpace Gallery, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
 - 2013 *Pikarong: King Brown Country*, William Mora Galleries, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
 - 2012 *Lydia Balbal/Strong Woman Country*, IDAIA - International Development of Australian Indigenous Art, Paris, France
 - 2010 *Piti*, Outstation Gallery, Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia
 - 2009 *Lydia Balbal Solo*, Aboriginal and Pacific Art Gallery, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
 - 2008 *Salt Lake Country*, Short Street Gallery, Broome, Western Australia, Australia
 - 2008 *Lydia Balbal*, William Mora Galleries, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
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GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 *Ngurra*, JGM Gallery, London, United Kingdom
- 2023 *Voir L'Invisible*, Musee d'Angoulême, France
- 2023 *Pink is Punk*, Short St Gallery, Broome, Western Australia, Australia
- 2022 *Monument of Remembrance - Aboriginal art from Australia*, Belgium Chocolate Village Museum in partnership with Aboriginal Signature Estrangin Gallery, Belgium
- 2019 *From the Desert to the Sea : a Journey with the Yulparitja*, Aboriginal Signature Estrangin Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
- 2018 *Le Pley Collection*, Residence of the Australian Ambassador, Beijing, China
- 2017 *Hedland Art Award*, Courthouse Gallery, Port Hedland, Western Australia, Australia
- 2017 *Songs of a Secret Country*, Kluge-Ruhe Art Gallery, University of Virginia, United States
- 2017 *Desert Colour 2017*, Talapi, Alice Springs, Northern Territory, Australia
- 2017 *Electric*, Harvey Arts Projects, United States
- 2016 *Parcours des Mondes*, Estragin Fine Art, Paris, France
- 2015 *OFF COURSE Art Fair*, Brussels, Belgium 2014 Saltwater Soul Desert Heart, Short St Gallery, Broome, Australia
- 2014 *Country to Coast; Colours of the Kimberley*, curated by Georges Petitjean Aboriginal Art Museum, Utrecht, The Netherlands
- 2014 *Dreamings: Arte Aborigena Australiana incontra de Chirico (Aboriginal Australian art meets De Chirico)*, Museo Carlo Bilotti, Villa Borghese, Rome, Italy
- 2013/14 *Memoires vivres. Une Histoire de art Aborigene*, Musee d'Acquitaine, Bordeaux, France
- 2013 *Womens Show*, Vivien Anderson Gallery, Victoria, Australia
- 2012 *West of Well 33*, Yaama Ganu Gallery, Sydney, Australia
- 2012 *Luminous*, World Contemporary Art from the West Farmers Collection, Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth, Australia
- 2012 *WaterMark, the Signature of Life*, IDAIA- International Development of Australian Indigenous Art, The Space, Hong Kong
- 2012 *Luminescences: The Colour of Bidyadanga*, Harvey Art Projects, Idaho, United States
- 2012 *29th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Island Art Award*, Museum and Art Gallery of Northern Territory, Australia
- 2012 *Jan Billycan; Lydia Balbal*, Arthouse Gallery, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia

- 2012 *Un-acclimatised*, Monash University Museum of Art at Switchback Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
- 2012 *Round and Round in that Rockhole*, Short St Gallery, Broome, Western Australia, Australia
- 2011 *Aboriginal Art*, ININTI in collaboration with International Development for Australian Indigenous Art, Madrid, Spain
- 2011 *Australian Aboriginal Art: Painting from the Deserts*, ININTI in collaboration with IDAIA, Madrid, Spain
- 2011 *Shalom Gamarada*, Ngiyani Yana Art Fair 2011, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
- 2011 *Hedland Art Awards*, Courthouse Gallery, Port Hedland, Western Australia, Australia
- 2011 *Summer Haze*, JGM Gallery, London, United Kingdom
- 2011 *Pearls, Paint; Ilma*, Aratong Galleries, Australian High Commission, Singapore
- 2011 *Remix*, WA Contemporary Art, Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth, Western Australia, Australia
- 2011 *Kirriwirri*, Aboriginal and Pacific Art Gallery, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
- 2011 *Green*, Outstation Gallery, Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia
- 2011 *Bidyadanga Recent Paintings*, Chapman Gallery, Canberra, Australia
- 2010 *Bidyadanga Artists*, Harvey Arts Projects, SunValley, Idaho, United States
- 2010 Short St Gallery / William Mora Galleries present the Yulparija artists, Melbourne Art Fair, Royal Exhibition Building.
- 2010 *27th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Island Art Award*, Museum and Art Gallery of Northern Territory, Australia
- 2010 *Royal Scottish Bank Emerging Art Award*, Selected Finalist, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
- 2010 *White*, Short St Gallery, Broome, Western Australia, Australia
- 2009 *Short on Size*, Short St Gallery, Broome, Western Australia, Australia
- 2009 *26th Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award*, MAGNT, Darwin, Australia
- 2008 *Bidyadanga Art Show*, AP Bond Art, Adelaide, South Australia, Australia
- 2008 *From Desert to Saltwater*, Booker-Lowe Gallery, Houston Texas, United States
- 2008 *25th Telstra National Aboriginal & AMP; Torres Strait Island Art Award*, Museum and Art Gallery of Northern Territory, Australia

COLLECTIONS

Murdoch University Art Collection, Perth, Western Australia, Australia

Aboriginal Art Museum, Thomas Vroom Collection, Utrecht, The Netherlands

National Gallery of Victoria, Felton Collection, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

Museum of Contemporary Art Australia, Laverty Collection, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia

Artbank, Australia

Monash University Art Collection, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

John Cruthers, The Lepley Collection, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia

Western Australian Art Gallery, Perth, Western Australia, Australia

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, ACT, Australia

Wesfarmers Collection, Australia

Australia Parliament House Collection, Canberra, ACT, Australia

Brocard - Estrangin Collection

Kluge-Ruhe Aboriginal Art Collection of the University of Virginia, United States

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Dreamings: Arte Aborigena Australiana incontra de Chirico (Aboriginal Australian art meets De Chirico), Museo Carlo Bilotti, Catalogue 2014,

Art Monthly, Laverty 2: A Brave New aesthetic world, Jeremy Eccles, September 2011

Beyond Sacred, Australian Aboriginal Art, Colin & Elizabeth Laverty, 2011

Art Monthly, Green at Darwin Outstation, Skye Raab, May 1 2011

Nicholas Rothwell, Journeys to the Interior Black Inc, Australia, 2010

The Australian Newspaper, Revelatory Show of Strength in Tradition, Nicholas Rothwell, August 16, 2010

The Australian Newspaper, Turning Landscape on its Head, Nicholas Rothwell, December 8 2008

The Australian Newspaper, In the Shadow of Modernity, Nicholas Rothwell, December 13, 2008

The Age Newspaper, Dreamtime Designers, Bruce Elder, March 15 2008

JGM GALLERY

24 Howie Street London SW11 4AF

Phone: +44 (0) 207 228 6027 | Email: info@jmgallery.com | Website: www.jmgallery.com