



Alison Puruntatameri

Born 1984, Melville Island, Northern Territory, Australia.

BIOGRAPHY

Alison Puruntatameri was born and grew up in Pirlangimpi on Melville Island, Northern Territory, Australia. Pirlangimpi was previously a police post and Roman Catholic Mission for the rehoming of stolen children in the mid- to late-twentieth century. After attending the local school, Puruntatameri went on to work in child care. Puruntatameri paints with her mother, Pauline (Jedda) Puruntatameri, her partner, James Orsto, and other artists of the community at Munupi Arts & Crafts. Her grandfather, Justin Puruntatameri, a deceased senior law man and painter, encouraged Puruntatameri to start painting. His inspiration spurred Puruntatameri to pursue the art form in 2011. She recalls memories relating to hunting excursions with her grandfather when she was a girl, with him teaching her traditional bush craft, telling her his stories, and calling upon old songs. It was these experiences which drew her to the medium of paint as a new pedagogy for transmitting cultural knowledge, continuing her grandfather's work. In particular, Puruntatameri's work - picturing tides and waves - expresses the bond she shares with the waters moving through and around the Tiwi Islands. She says that she remembers her grandfather telling her of his travels to the Tiwi Islands when he was a boy. A reading of her work as visual revivals of her grandfather's memories can be formulated with this biographical context in mind. Puruntatameri's paintings thus consider waterscapes as zones of travel - as told by her grandfather's life history - and as spaces for preserving cultural memory.

Puruntatameri has been a finalist in several art awards, including the Museum of Contemporary Arts 2014 Primavera Art Award; Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards (Telstra NATSIAA) 2022; The Alice Prize 2022; and the Art Gallery of South Australia's 2023 Ramsay Art Awards. She is represented by ReDot Fine Art Gallery.

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 *Yoi*, JGM Galllery, London, United Kingdom
- 2023 *Ngarukuruwala Kapi Murrukupuni (We Sing to the Land)*, Coeee Art Leven, Redfern, New South Wales, Australia
- 2023 *Art of Tiwi Artists of Munupi*, Tarnanthi Festival 2023, AIARTS Gallery, Belair, South Australia, Australia
- 2023 *Pupuni Mantiminga - Fine Lines*, Everywhen Art Space, Flinders, Victoria, Australia
- 2023 *Kurrujupunyi - Ochre Colours*, Double Tree Hilton, Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia
- 2022 *NGININGUWULA KURRUJIPUNI - Our Own Tiwi Ochre Colours*, Double Tree Hilton, Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia
- 2022 *LINE IN PARRALLEL*, Artitja Fine Art Gallery, South Fremantle, Western Australia, Australia
- 2022 *Tiwi Creation*, Coeee Art, Redfern, New South Wales, Australia
- 2021 *Tiwi Papers*, Tarnanthi Festival 2021, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide, South Australia, Australia
- 2021 *Banapa - Nets of the Tiwi Islands* (online exhibition), ReDot Fine Art Gallery, Singapore
- 2021 *YIRRINKIRRIWOJA JILAMARA*, Double Tree Hilton, Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia
- 2020 *Tiwi Islands to Arnhem Land. Pirlangimpi | Maningrinda*, Artitja Fine Art Gallery, South Fremantle, Western Australia, Australia
- 2020 *Yalininga, Ngari pantingija, Ngirramini*, Aboriginal Signature Estrangin Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
- 2019 *Tarnanthi - Journey Through Culture*, ReDot Fine Art Gallery, nthspace, Adelaide, South Australia, Australia
- 2019 *Pupini Jilamara Ngingingwula (Our Beautiful Paintings)*, Double Tree Hilton, Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia
- 2018 *Ngingingawula Awirankiniwaki*, Double Tree Hilton, Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia
- 2018 *One Island one side. • Yati Ratuwati Yatuwati • Munupi and Jilamara working together • Aboriginal Art of the Tiwi Islands*, Aboriginal Signature Estrangin Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
- 2016 *Point of Difference: Desert to Sea*, Artitja Fine Art at Turner Galleries in the Engine Rooms, Perth, Western Australia, Australia
- 2016 *Ngawila Jilamara*, Double Tree Hilton, Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia
- 2014 *Primavera 2014*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
- 2013 *Munupi Art is Tiwi Life*, Marshall Art, Hyde Park, Adelaide, South Australia, Australia
- 2013 *Ngingingawula Munupi Jilamara. Our paintings from Munupi*, Marshall Arts, Adelaide, South Australia, Australia

2012 *Tiwi Book Launch*, Vivien Anderson Gallery, Caulfield North, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

ART PRIZES AND AWARDS

- 2023 Ramsey Art Award, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide, South Australia, Australia
- 2022 Finalist, Telstra NATSIAA Art Award 2022, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Northern Territory, Australia
- 2022 Finalist, Wynne Prize 2022, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
- 2022 Finalist, Alice Spring Art Foundation Prize, Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs, Northern Territory, Australia
- 2015 Primavera Veolia Acquisitive Prize, Museum of Contemporary Art Australia, Sydney New South Wales, Australia
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COLLECTIONS

Veolia Collection, Pyrmont, New South Wales, Australia

Yilli Rreung Housing Aboriginal Corporation, Yarrowonga, Northern Territory, Australia

Westfarmers Collection of Australian Art, Perth, Western Australia, Australia

Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide, South Australia, Australia

Goulburn Regional Art Gallery, Goulburn, New South Wales, Australia

Libby and Michael Kingdon Collection

PUBLICATIONS

- 2023 John McDonald, 'Get your shopping lists ready: The art world's version of Young Talent Time is here', *Sydney Herald Tribune*

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