

Peggy Madijarroong Griffiths

Born 1950, Kununurra, Western Australia.

BIOGRAPHY

Peggy Madijarroong Griffiths grew up on Newry Station where she learned about her culture and bush life from her elders, despite being during the assimilation policies being practiced in Australia at that time. Griffiths' work reflects her strong commitment to her Miriwoong culture, with elegant imagery that resonates with references to cultural performance of which she is a renowned dancer. The winding of waterways mimics the sinuous and graceful body movements of a dancer; the outlining dotting reflects a performer's body painting. Her works document the traditional country of her mother and grandfather, and her recent works capture the movement of wind through the spinifex country, which for the artist is evidence that the spirit of culture is alive.

Griffiths began working with Waringarri Aboriginal Arts in 1985, carving and painting boab nuts and boomerangs. Later moving to painting on canvas and working with limited edition prints, she is the first indigenous artist to win the prestigious *Fremantle Print Award*.

Committed to keeping the stories of her grandfather alive and maintaining her connection to culture, Griffith's teaches traditional dances at Waringarri Aboriginal Arts Centre, and is a highly respected senior artist and leader within her community. Griffiths received a Fellowship by the Western Australian Department of Culture and the Arts and represented Western Australia in the Great Australian Landscape Project at the Biennale of Australian Art in 2018. Her has exhibited internationally with work part of multiple public and private collections.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2011 Peggy Griffiths, Seva Frangos Art Perth, Australia
- 2008 West meets East Peggy Griffiths, Seva Frangos Art Perth, Australia
- 2005 Dreaming the Spinifex, Seva Frangos Art at Span Galleries Melbourne, Australia

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2018 This Place Holds the Key, JGM Gallery, London, United Kingdom
- 2018 The Australian Landscape, Biennale of Australian Art, Ballarat, Australia
- 2018 Counter Forces: Fire and Water Peggy and Jan Griffiths, The Cross Art Projects, Sydney, Australia
- 2018 The Art of Healing, Australian Indigenous Bush Medicine, Medical History Museum, University of Melbourne, Australia
- 2017 Yirrib Together, Peggy and Jan Griffiths, Jam Factory, Adelaide, Australia
- 2017 The Hadley Art Award, Hadley Orient Hotel, Hobart, Australia
- 2017 When the Sky Fell: Legacies from the 1967 Referendum, Perth Institute of Contemporary Art, Perth, Australia
- 2016 Community Invitation Art Award, City of Joondalup, Lakeside Shopping City, Joondalup, Australia
- 2016 Salon16, Charles Darwin University, Darwin, Australia
- 2016 Birrgamibging Merndam Things Made on Paper, Tunbridge Gallery, Perth, Australia
- 2015 Art Stage Singapore, Mossenson Galleries, Singapore, Malaysia
- 2014 Belle Arti Prize, Chapman and Bailey Melbourne, Australia
- 2014 In the Saddle, On the Wall, Australia wide travelling exhibition of Kimberley Aboriginal Artists, Australia
- 2013 Traversing Borders; art from the Kimberley, Queensland University of Technology Art Museum, Brisbane, Australia
- 2013 The Calleen Art Award, Cowra Regional Art Gallery, Australia
- 2013 Our Living Land, An Exhibition of Leading Artists from the East Kimberley, OFOTO ANART Gallery, Shanghai, China
- 2013 Our Living Land, An Exhibition of Leading Artists from the East Kimberley, Salvo Hotel, Shanghai China
- 2013 The 2013 Sulman Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Australia
- 2012 Sharing Difference on Common Ground, Bunbury Regional Art Galleries, Bunbury, Australia
- 2012 Sharing Difference on Common Ground, The Cannery Arts Centre, Esperence, Australia
- 2012 Sharing Difference on Common Ground, Geraldton Regional Art Gallery, Geraldton, Australia
- 2011 Sharing Difference on Common Ground, Alcoa Mandurah Art Gallery, Mandurah, Australia
- 2010 Sharing Difference on Common Ground 2, CCAE Darwin, Australia

- 2010 Small Presents Big Presence 8 Artists 100 Artworks, Seva Frangos Art Perth, Australia
- 2009 Best of the Best, Framed Gallery Darwin, Australia
- 2009 Sharing Difference on Common Ground, Holmes A Court Gallery Perth, Australia
- 2009 Alan & Peggy Griffiths, Short Street Gallery Broome, Australia
- 2009 First & Second Generation Artists from Waringarri Aboriginal Arts and Warmun Art Centre, Seva Frangos Art Perth, Australia
- 2008 Kimberley Ink, Northern Editions Darwin, Australia
- 2008 Celebration, Seva Frangos Art Perth, Australia
- 2008 Kimberley Ink and Ochre, Wollongong University, Australia
- 2006 Belonging, Dancing, Walking, Seva Frangos Art at Span Galleries Melbourne, Australia
- 2005 When Waringarri Came to Town, Woolloongabba Art Gallery Brisbane, Australia
- 2004 Waringarri 3 Women, Framed Gallery Darwin, Australia
- 2004 Kimberley Focus Alan and Peggy Griffiths, Perth International Arts Festival, Perth, Australia
- 2003 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award, Museum and Art Gallery of Northern Territory, Darwin, Australia
- 2003 East Kimberley Art, Short St Gallery, Broome, Australia
- 2002 Heyson Prize, Adelaide, Australia
- 2002 Love Your Work 30 Year Exhibition, Fremantle Arts Centre Perth, Australia
- 2002 Warrgebarenkoo, Fremantle Arts Centre Perth, Australia
- 2002 Kimberley Ochre, Red Rock Art at Cullen Bay, Australia
- 2001 Groundwork, Fremantle Arts Centre Perth, Australia
- 2000 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award, Museum and Art Gallery of Northern Territory Darwin, Australia
- 1999 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award, Museum and Art Gallery of Northern Territory Darwin, Australia
- 1999 East Kimberley Art Award, Kununurra, Australia
- 1997 East Kimberley Art Award, Kununurra, Australia

COLLECTIONS

Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Islander Studies Collection

Artbank Australia

Australian Equity - Kerry Stokes Collection

Church Gallery Art Angels

City of South Perth Collection, Western Australia

Edith Cowan University

Fremantle Art Collection

Gallery of Western Australia

Holmes A Court Collection Perth, Western Australia

Kimberley Development Corporation Collection

Kluge Ruhe Aboriginal Collection Virginia, United States

National Gallery of Australia

Ochre Health Centre - Bush Medecine Wall

Parliament House Collection Canberra

Parliament House Collection Perth

Royal Perth Hospital Collection

University of Technology Collection Sydney

University of Wollongong Collection

Wesfarmers Collection

Zhongfu Group Collection

AIATSIS Australina Institute of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Studies Collection

Department of Housing, Government of Western Australia

Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, Canberra, Australia

