



# Peggy Griffiths

Born 1950, Kununurra, Western Australia

## BIOGRAPHY:

Peggy Griffiths arts practice reflects her strong commitment to her Miriwoong culture. Her elegant imagery resonates with references to cultural performance of which she is a renowned dancer. The winding of waterways are 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.

Born on Newry Station to Dinah Dingle and Frank Moore, Peggy lived and learned about her family and bush life. "I grew up on Newry Station and learnt my culture from the old people. I saw my old people being taken away from the camp with chains around their necks and I was hidden once when Welfare came so that they would not take me away. I learned to dance all the traditional dances and I have taught all my children and grandchildren these dances. I went to school at the Kimberley Research School and later at Beagle Bay Mission before I got married at 16 to my promised husband Alan Griffiths. We have been together ever since." Peggy began working with Waringarri Aboriginal Arts in 1985, carving and painting boab nuts and boomerangs. She progressed 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, Charlie Mailman, alive and maintaining her connection to culture Peggy and her husband Alan were often found painting side by side. They were also key performers and teachers of traditional dance for their community. Today Peggy is a highly respected senior artist at Waringarri Aboriginal Arts, teaching other artists as well as contributing to leadership of Waringarri Aboriginal Arts in a Director role.

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS:

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

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS:

- 2018 This Place Holds the Key, JGM Gallery, London, UK
- 2018 The Australian Landscape, Biennale of Australian Art, Ballarat, VIC

## JGM GALLERY

24 Howie Street London SW11 4AY  
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- 2018 Counter Forces: Fire and Water Peggy and Jan Griffiths, The Cross Art Projects, Sydney NSW  
2018 The Art of Healing, Australian Indigenous Bush Medicine, Medical History Museum, University of Melbourne, VIC  
2017 Yirrib – Together, Peggy and Jan Griffiths, JamFactory, Adelaide, SA  
2017 The Hadley Art Award, Hadley Orient Hotel, Hobart, TAS  
2017 When the Sky Fell: Legacies from the 1967 Referendum, Perth Institute of Contemporary Art,  
2016 Community Invitation Art Award, City of Joondalup, Lakeside Shopping City, Joondalup, WA  
2016 Salon16, Charles Darwin University, Darwin, N.T.  
2016 Birrgamibging Merndam – Things Made on Paper, Tunbridge Gallery, Perth, WA  
2015 Art Stage Singapore Mossenson Galleries, Singapore, Malaysia  
2014 Belle Arti Prize, Chapman and Bailey Melbourne, VIC  
2014 In the Saddle, On the Wall, Australia wide travelling exhibition of Kimberley Aboriginal Artists  
2013 Traversing Borders; art from the Kimberley Queensland University of Technology Art Museum, Brisbane, QLD  
2013 The Calleen Art Award, Cowra Regional Art Gallery, NSW  
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  
2012 Sharing Difference on Common Ground, Bunbury Regional Art Galleries, Bunbury, WA  
2012 Sharing Difference on Common Ground, The Cannery Arts Centre, Esperence, WA  
2012 Sharing Difference on Common Ground, Geraldton Regional Art Gallery, Geraldton, WA  
2011 Sharing Difference on Common Ground, Alcoa Mandurah Art Gallery, Mandurah, WA  
2010 Sharing Difference on Common Ground 2, CCAE Darwin, NT  
2010 Small Presents Big Presence - 8 Artists 100 Artworks, Seva Frangos Art Perth, WA  
2009 Best of the Best, Framed Gallery Darwin, NT  
2009 Sharing Difference on Common Ground, Holmes A Court Gallery Perth, WA  
2009 Alan & Peggy Griffiths, Short Street Gallery Broome, WA  
2009 First & Second Generation Artists from Waringarri Aboriginal Arts and Warmun Art Centre, Seva Frangos Art Perth, WA  
2008 Kimberley Ink, Northern Editions Darwin, NT  
2008 Celebration, Seva Frangos Art Perth, WA  
2008 Kimberley Ink and Ochre, Wollongong University, NSW  
2006 Belonging, Dancing, Walking, Seva Frangos Art at Span Galleries Melbourne, VIC  
2005 When Waringarri Came to Town, Woolloongabba Art Gallery Brisbane, QLD  
2004 Waringarri 3 Women, Framed Gallery Darwin, NT  
2004 Kimberley Focus - Alan and Peggy Griffiths Perth International Arts Festival Perth, WA  
2003 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award, Museum and Art Gallery of Northern Territory Darwin, NT  
2003 East Kimberley Art, Short St Gallery Broome, WA  
2002 Heyson Prize, Adelaide, SA  
2002 Love Your Work - 30 Year Exhibition, Fremantle Arts Centre Perth, WA  
2002 Warrgebarenkoo, Fremantle Arts Centre Perth, WA  
2002 Kimberley Ochre, Red Rock Art at Cullen Bay, NT  
2001 Groundwork, Fremantle Arts Centre Perth, WA

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- 2000 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award, Museum and Art Gallery of Northern Territory Darwin, NT  
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1999 East Kimberley Art Award, Kununurra, WA  
1997 East Kimberley Art Award, Kununurra, WA  
1995 Fremantle Print Award Perth, WA

## **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 WA  
Edith Cowan University  
Fremantle Art Collection  
Gallery of Western Australia  
Holmes A Court Collection Perth WA  
Kimberley Development Corporation Collection  
Kluge Ruhe Aboriginal Collection Virginia USA  
National Gallery of Australia  
Ochre Health Centre - Bush Medecine Wall  
Parliament House Collection Canberra ACT  
Parliament House Collection Perth WA  
Royal Perth Hospital Collection  
University of Technology Collection Sydney NSW  
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 ACT

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