

DHUWARRWARR MARIKA

Language: Yol ũ Matha
Region: Arnhem Land (East)
Born: ca. 1945



© Buku-Larr gay Mulka

Dhuwarrwarr is sister of Wandjuk, Bay ũl and Banduk Marika, and daughter of Mawalan, the Rirratji ũ clan leader who originally welcomed the missionaries to set up on his land, creating the beginnings of modern day Yirrkala.

Dhuwarrwarr is believed by many (including Professor Howard Morphy and herself) to be the first Yol ũ woman authorised to paint sacred designs on her own. This is supported by some recently rediscovered contemporaneous evidence. The 1974 catalogue for 'Art of Aboriginal Australians presented by Rothmans Pall Mall Canada' says the following about a work by Dhuwarrwarr: "This is a most unusual painting in that it was painted by a woman of the Rirratjingu tribe of Yirrkala. It is unprecedented for a woman to be allowed to paint on bark any aspect of sacred mythology. Dhuwarrwarr's father, Mawalan, was the ceremonial leader of the Rirratjingu tribe and was steeped in the mythology of his people. He painted up to the time of his death, and with failing eyesight and poor health, allowed Dhuwarrwarr to help him, after consultation with his sons and brothers and elders of the group. She has not painted since his death until recently, when she again requested permission from her brothers to do so."

Dhuwarrwarr continues:

"From that time when my father was painting my elder sister helped him but she is a little blind now. From when I was twelve to this time I started to paint. Sometimes I used to help my father. That one (her nephew Mawalan #2) he learned from grandfather and his father. He watched his grandfather - that my father. Currently I'm doing my own art using the same design and lino printing - my fathers design but my own imagination.

When my father was alive they only painted on bark. He used to cut bark and lay it flat and store it for the dry season. His (Mawalan #2) sister Rarriwuy is learning - I have been teaching her. I'm teaching my brother's children for all the painting as well as my children. I used to ask them to come and watch me. I use my own colours from the shore - the yellow and the red, just a rock, and the black, bŕy ũ (not) charcoal. Like my brother (Wandjuk), I sometimes mix yellow and black to make green. I used to go and get it in a bucket and mash it up and leave it in the sun to dry.

I am trying hard to get this man (Mawalan#2) to come back to do the painting. Not all the painting I can remember (being done) but this one; Dja 'kawu and this one from my brother, and this one; Djarrak (seagull). Early stage when Dorothy Bennett used to come here to collect barks my father and brother used to paint."

Dhuwarrwarr is a statesperson for her people, representing them on various committees and institutions such as Land Councils and Women's groups. In 1993 she travelled to Europe as an invited speaking guest for the opening of the international traveling exhibition of 'Aratjara - Art of the First Australians'. She also attends to the day-to-day needs of a wide group of young and old clans-people with a particular emphasis on guiding and guarding the young minds of her family. She lives on Rirratjingu land either at her house overlooking the beach and creek at Yirrkala or at Gutjangan on Bremer Island. Her first genuine solo exhibition held relatively late in her career, 'Milngurr' at Vivien Anderson Gallery in Melbourne in 2008 was a literal sell out within 5 minutes of opening. Institutional collections purchased the bulk of the works. She has continued to exhibit commercially and to be shown in Institutional shows to this day. She creates every day as a personal need.

MEDIUM

Natürliche Erdpigmente auf Rinde

Natürliche Erdpigmente auf Larrakitj (Gedenkpfähle)

Natürliche Pigmente auf Eisenholz

Natürliche Erdpigmente auf einheimischem Hibiskus-Holz

Limitierte Edition von Drucken

Pandanus und natürliche Färbemittel

PRIZES

- 2020 **Finalist 37th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award**, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia
- 2020 **Finalist Wynne Prize**, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
- 2019 **Finalist 36th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award**, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin, Northern Territory
- 2006 **Finalist 23rd Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award**, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia
- 1998 **Finalist 15th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award**, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia
- 1997 **Finalist 14th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award**, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia

- 1996 **Finalist 13th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award**, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia
- 1995 **Finalist 12th Telstra National Aboriginal Art Award**, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia
- 1994 **Finalist 11th National Aboriginal Art Awards**, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia
- 1990 **Career Development Grant**, Australia Council of the Arts, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia

COLLECTIONS

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, Australia
National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia
Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia
Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin, Australia
South Australian Museum, Adelaide, Australia
Artbank, Sydney, Australia
Berndt Museum of Anthropology, Perth, Australia
The Kerry Stokes Collection, Perth, Australia
Kluge Ruhe Collection, Charlottesville, USA
The Kelton Foundation, Santa Monica, USA
Nahum Gutman Museum of Art, Tel Aviv, Israel
Rautenstrauch-Joest-Museum, Köln, Germany

COMMISSIONS

- 2006 **Duyfken - The Aboriginal Print Portfolio**, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Sydney
- 1993 **Kunst am Bau: Gemälde im Foyer des Flughafens Darwin**, FAC Darwin Airport Commission, Darwin

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2007 **Milngurr**, Vivien Anderson Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS IN AUSTRALIA

- 2020 **37th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award**, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin, Northern Territory

- 2020 **Wynne Prize**, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, New South Wales
- 2019 **Buku-Larr gay Mulka - Mittji - The Group**, Hugo Michell Gallery, Adelaide, South Australia
- 2019 **By the Stars, Wind and Ocean Currents**, The Cross Art Projects, Sydney, New South Wales
- 2019 **Water**, Queensland Art Gallery & Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane, Queensland
- 2019 **Tarnanthi Festival**, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide, South Australia
- 2019 **36th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award**, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin, Northern Territory
- 2019 **Balnhdhurr – A Lasting Impression**, Whitlam Institute Gallery, Sydney, New South Wales
- 2019 **Balnhdhurr – A Lasting Impression**, Cowra Regional Art Gallery, Cowra, New South Wales
- 2019 **Balnhdhurr – A Lasting Impression**, Wollongong Art Gallery, Wollongong, New South Wales
- 2019 **First Ladies**, Vivien Anderson Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria
- 2018 **Balnhdhurr – A Lasting Impression**, Warwick Art Gallery, Caboolture Regional Art Gallery, Warwick, Caboolture, Queensland
- 2018 **Balnhdhurr – A Lasting Impression**, Caboolture Regional Art Gallery, Caboolture, Queensland
- 2018 **Gruppenausstellung**, Gapan Gallery @ Garma Festival, Gulkula, Northern Territory
- 2018 **Balnhdhurr – A Lasting Impression**, Griffith Regional Art Gallery, Griffith, New South Wales
- 2018 **Emerging Contemporaries, Indigenous Jewellery Project**, Craft ACT, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory
- 2017 **Balnhdhurr – A Lasting Impression**, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart, Tasmania
- 2017 **Balnhdhurr – A Lasting Impression**, Bayside Arts and Cultural Centre Galley, Brighton, Victoria
- 2017 **Salon des Refusés 2017**, Paul Johnstone Gallery und Outstation Gallery @ CDU Art Gallery, Darwin, Northern Territory
- 2017 **Gruppenausstellung**, Gapan Gallery @ Garma Festival, Gulkula, Northern Territory
- 2017 **Balnhdhurr – A Lasting Impression**, Castlemaine State Festival, Castlemaine, Victoria
- 2017 **Environmental Defenders Office NT Fundraising Auction**, Outstation Gallery, Darwin, Northern Territory
- 2017 **Balnhdhurr – A Lasting Impression**, The University of Newcastle Gallery, Newcastle, New South Wales
- 2017 **Legends and Lore**, Artitja Fine Art, Perth, Western Australia
- 2016 **Gapan Gallery in the Past**, Nomad Art Productions und Nomad Art, Darwin, Northern Territory
- 2016 **Buku-Larr gay Mulka – Yirrkala Print Space Exhibition**, Gapan Gallery @ Garma Festival, Gulkula, Northern Territory
- 2016 **Gruppenausstellung Yirrkala Print Space**, Koskela, Sydney, New South Wales

- 2016 **Balnhdhurr – A Lasting Impression**, Charles Darwin University Gallery, Darwin, Northern Territory
- 2015 **Balnhdhurr – A Lasting Impression**, Tarnanthi Festival 2015 @ Adelaide College of the Arts, Adelaide, South Australia
- 2014 **Buku-Larr gay Mulka - Yirrkala Print Space Exhibition**, Gapan Gallery @ Garma Festival, Gulkula, Northern Territory
- 2013 **The Women's Show**, Vivian Anderson Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria
- 2010 **Buku-Larr gay Mulka Print Space Collograph Print Exhibition**, Gapan Gallery @ Garma Festival, Gulkula, Northern Territory
- 2010 **Larrakitj, The Kerry Stokes Collection, 17th Biennale of Sydney**, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney, New South Wales
- 2009 **Floating Life – Contemporary Aboriginal Fibra Art**, Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane, Queensland
- 2009 **After Berndt – Etchings from the Drawings**, Indigenart, Subiaco, Western Australia
- 2008 **The Ecologies Project**, Monash University Museum of Art, Melbourne, Victoria
- 2008 **Buku-Larr gay Mulka Print Space – After Berndt Etchings and Print Exhibition**, Gapan Gallery @ Darwin Festival, Darwin, Northern Territory
- 2008 **After Berndt**, Gapan Gallery @ Garma Festival, Gulkula, Northern Territory
- 2007 **Bukulunthunmi – Coming Together, One Place**, Raft Artspace, Darwin, Northern Territory
- 2007 **Japanese Woodblock**, Galuku Gallery @ Darwin Festival, Darwin, Northern Territory
- 2007 **Japanese Woodblock**, Gapan Gallery @ Garma Festival, Gulkula, Northern Territory
- 2007 **The Women's Show**, Vivien Anderson Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria
- 2006 **Buku-Larr gay Mulka – Yirrkala Print Space Exhibition**, Galuku Gallery @ Darwin Festival, Darwin Botanical Gardens, Darwin, Northern Territory
- 2006 **Walking together to aid Aboriginal Health**, Shalom Gamarada College, Sydney, New South Wales
- 2006 **Buku-Larr gay Mulka – Yirrkala Print Space Exhibition**, Gapan Gallery @ Darwin Festival, Darwin, Northern Territory
- 2006 **Duyfken – The Aboriginal Print Portfolio**, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Sydney, New South Wales
- 2006 **Masterworks**, Vivien Anderson Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria
- 2006 **23rd Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award**, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin, Northern Territory
- 2006 **Bulayi – Small Gems**, Suzanne O'Connell Gallery, Brisbane, Queensland
- 2001 **Extinction Denied**, Humane Society International @ Volvo Gallery, Sydney, New South Wales

- 2000 **Printmakers Touring Exhibition**, Fireworks Gallery, Brisbane, Queensland
- 2000 **Printmakers Touring Exhibition**, Ben Grady Gallery, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory
- 1999 **Printmakers Touring Exhibition**, Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Cooperative, Sydney, New South Wales
- 1999 **Yirrkala Printmakers Show**, Original Dreamtime Gallery, Alice Springs, Northern Territory
- 1999 **Yirrkala Printmakers Show**, Alcaston House, Melbourne, Victoria
- 1999 **Saltwater Country – Bark Paintings from Yirrkala, Wanderausstellung**, Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs, Northern Territory
- 1999 **Saltwater Country – Bark Paintings from Yirrkala, Wanderausstellung**, Heide Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne, Victoria
- 1999 **Saltwater Country – Bark Paintings from Yirrkala, Wanderausstellung**, The National Maritime Museum, Sydney, New South Wales
- 1999 **Saltwater Country – Bark Paintings from Yirrkala, Wanderausstellung**, John Curtin Gallery, Curtin University, Perth, Western Australia
- 1999 **Saltwater Country – Bark Paintings from Yirrkala, Wanderausstellung**, Drill Hall Gallery, Australian National University, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory
- 1999 **Printmakers Touring Exhibition**, Hogarth Galleries, Sydney, New South Wales
- 1998 **15th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award**, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin, Northern Territory
- 1998 **Buku-Larrnggay Printmakers Exhibition**, Northern Territory University Art Gallery, Darwin, Northern Territory
- 1998 **Bark Paintings and Lino Cut Prints – Dhuwarrwarr Marika and Gaymala Yunupingu**, Japingka Gallery, Fremantle, Western Australia
- 1997 **14th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award**, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin, Northern Territory
- 1997 **The Painters of the Wagilag Sisters Story 1937-1997**, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory
- 1996 **13th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award**, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin, Northern Territory
- 1995 **12th Telstra National Aboriginal Art Award**, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin, Northern Territory
- 1995 **Buku-Larrnggay Mulka - Miny'tji from the East**, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Victoria
- 1994 **11th National Aboriginal Art Award**, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin, Northern Territory
- 1989 **Paintings and Sculptures from Yirrkala, North East Arnhem Land**, Lyttleton Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria

1987 **Sisters Miyalku. Exhibition of Aboriginal Women's Work**, Australian Museum, Sydney, New South Wales

SELECTED INTERNATIONAL GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2020/21 **RESIST! Die Kunst des Widerstands**, Rautenstrauch-Joest-Museum, Köln, Germany
2018 **Minytji – Essence of the Land**, Aboriginal Signature, Brüssel, Belgium
2015 **Lumggurma**, Brumby-Ute Gallery, Aspen, Colorado, USA
2014 **Earth Wind and Fire**, Galleria Gracis, Milano, Italy
2010 **Djirrirra and Dhuwarrwarr: Bark Paintings**, Chiaroscuro Contemporary Art, Santa Fe, USA
1999 **Yirrkala Printmakers Show**, Rebecca Hossack Art Gallery, London, Great Britain
1974-76 **Art of Aboriginal Australia, Wanderausstellung**, Rothmans of Pall Mall Ltd., Canada

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Singh, Rani; Elliot, Davis (Hg.): **The Beauty of Distance. Songs of Survival in a Precarious Age**, Ausstellungskatalog (17th Biennale of Sydney), Sydney, Australien, 2010

Barlow, Geraldine; McFarlane, Kyla: **The Ecologies Project**, Ausstellungskatalog, Melbourne, Australien, 2008

Hutcherson, Gillian: **Gong-Wapitja, Women and Art from Yirrkala, Northeast Arnhem Land**, Aboriginal Studies Press, Canberra, Australien, 1998

Caruana, Wally: **The Painters of the Wagilag Sisters Story 1937-1997**, Ausstellungskatalog, Canberra, Australien, 1997

Lendon, Nigel: **Having a History: Development and Change in the Paintings of the Story of the Wagilag Sisters**, Aboriginal Art in the Public Eye, in: Art Monthly Australia Dezember-Februar 1992-93, No. 56, Supplement, Canberra, Australien, 1992

Isaacs, Jennifer: **The Marika Sisters at the Australian Museum**, in: Art Monthly Australia, No. 3, August 1987, Canberra, Australien, 1987

Status: August 2020 | June 2021