

EVERYWHEN ART ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Patrick Mung Mung



Birth date: 1944
Birth place Spring Creek, WA
Language: Gija

Patrick Mung Mung was born at Yunurrel (Spring Creek) in 1944 and, like a number of Indigenous artists from the area, he worked as a stockman for many years on stations in the East Kimberley. He started painting in 1991 and was instrumental in establishing the artist and community owned art centre at Warmun in 1998.

He is now a senior artist at Warmun Art Centre and an elder law and culture man in the Warmun community.

Like his late father, George Mung Mung, Patrick is a strong crosscultural communicator. Mung Mung's work is influenced by the previous generation of Warmun artists, which include Rover Thomas and Paddy Jaminji - in its raw directness and composition. Mung Mung was born at Spring Creek and worked as a stockman for many years on Texas Downs Station and nearby stations in the East Kimberley. He was the last worker to leave Texas Downs when it closed down in the 1970s. In 1991 following his father's death, it fell to Mung Mung to accompany his father's carving 'Mary of Warmun' to Canberra for the exhibition 'Aboriginal Art and Spirituality' at the High Court of Australia. This occasion marked the beginning of a journey for Mung Mung, which was to see him take on his father's role of senior artist, law and culture man. Patrick Mung Mung started painting in 1991, and was instrumental in establishing the artist-and-community-owned art centre at Warmun in 1998.

His knowledge of his country and his cultural memory of family are powerful influences on his art. Painting on canvas with a palette of soft and hard natural pigments that he extracts locally, he depicts the country of his birthplace (Yunurrel), his father's country (Jarlarlu), Ngarranggarni (Dreaming) stories from Texas Downs Station country, and aerial maps of Ngarrgooroon country, which is characterised by hilly terrain and waterholes.

Patrick Mung Mung often presents his narratives as landscapes in colour blocks of varying size that are linked by white dotted lines that simultaneously join and separate the composition, as well as providing movement across the canvas.

Solo Exhibitions

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2010 Raft Artspace, Alice Springs, NT

2008 The Gentle Light of Warmun, Seva Frangos Art, Perth, WA

2007 Patrick Mung Mung & Betty Carrington, Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne, VIC

2006 Patrick Mung Mung & Mabel Juli, Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne, VIC

2003 Artplace, Perth, WA

2000 Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne, VIC

Group Exhibitions

2022 Travelling Through Country, JGM Gallery, London

2020 Ngarranggarni, JGM Gallery, London

2019 "Manparra" Big Boss Man - Male Masters Show, Short Street Gallery, Broome

2019 Ngargoorroon Cowboys - Aboriginal & Pacific Art Gallery, Waterloo, NSW

2019 ProHart Outback Art Prize - Broken Hill Regional Art Gallery, NSW

2019 Hedland Art Award - Courthouse Gallery, Port Hedland

2019 Colours of My Country, Everywhen Artspace, Mornington Peninsula, VIC

2018 Headland Art Awards, Court House Gallery, Port Headland, WA

2018 GIJA Exhibition, Woolloongabba Art Gallery, QLD

2018 Warmun At Twenty, Nancy Sever Gallery, Canberra, ACT

2018 Kimberley to Coast, McCulloch & McCulloch at Salt Contemporary Art, Queenscliff, VIC

2017 Spiritual Essence of the Earth, Aboriginal Signature, Brussels

2017 When The Sky Fell – Legacies of the 1967 Referendum, PICA, Perth, WA

2015 Garnkiny: Constellations of Meaning, RMIT Gallery, Melbourne, VIC

2014 Gija Contemporary Art from Warmun, Aboriginal and Pacific Art, Sydney, NSW

2014 Country to Coast; Colours of the Kimberley, Utrecht

2012 Bankwest Contemporary Art Prize. Bankwest Art Gallery, Perth.

2012 Patrick and Betty. Short Street Gallery, Broome.

2012 29th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin.

2011 28th Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin.

2011 Gallery Gabriel Pizzi, Melbourne, Vic.

2011 Western Australian Indigenous Art Awards. Perth.

2011 Jiliny: Warmun Men. Short Street Gallery, Broome.

2011 My Country and Me. ReDot Gallery, Singapore.

2010 Framed Gallery. Darwin, NT.

2010 Art + Soul. Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney.

2009 Ochre: A Study in Materiality. Short Street Gallery, Broome.

2009 The Best of the Best 2. Framed Gallery, Darwin.

2009 The Youngest One. Chapman Gallery, Canberra.

2009 First and second generation artists from Waringarri and Warmun. Seva Frangos Gallery, Perth.

2009 Sharing Difference on Common Ground: Mangkaja, Mowanjum, Waringarri, Warmun. Holmes a Court Gallery, Perth.

2008 Melbourne Art Fair. Melbourne.

2008 Ten Years of Warmun Ochres. Chapman Gallery, Canberra.

2008 East of East Kimberley: Warmun in Asia. ReDot Gallery, Singapore.

2008 Warmun: Ten Years On. Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne.

2008 Mungowum Ngarraknaari Yaarun (Strong Stories, Strong Culture). Short St. Gallery, Broome.

2007 Warda-wurrarem (all kinds of stars). Raft Artspace, Darwin.

2007 Ochre, Brushes, Canvas: new work from Warmun. Hogarth Galleries, Sydney.

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2007 Greetings from Turkey Creek. Mary Place Gallery, Sydney.
2006 Warmun Art Centre Presents. Mary Place Gallery, Sydney.
2006 Gentlemen of Warmun. Seva Frangos Art, Perth.
2006 Bungle Bungles. Short St. Gallery, Broome.
2005 New Works from Warmun. Framed Gallery, Darwin.
2005 Gija: across the border. Raft Artspace, Darwin.
2005 Waterhole Country. Short St. Gallery, Broome.
2005 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin.
2005 Waterhole11. Grant Pirrie in association with Raft Artspace, Sydney.
2003 Masters Show. Gallery Gondwana, Alice Springs.
2003 True stories: Art of the East Kimberley. Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney.
2003 Framed Gallery. Darwin.
2003 Artist in Residence Exhibition. Coomalie Culture Centre, Bachelor, NT.
2002 Framed Gallery. Darwin.
2002 Munumburra: Wise old men from Warmun. Artplace, Perth.
2002 Im Land Ist Das Sein (Land Is Life, Art from Australia) Agdschloss. Granitz, Binz,

Collections

Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney. Artbank, Sydney.
Australian Tapestry Workshop, Melbourne.
Banks Collection, USA.
Broadmeadows Health Service Collection, Victoria.
Coomalie Culture Centre, Northern Territory.
Edith Cowan University Collection, Western Australia.
Gavan Fox Collection, Adelaide.
Harding Family Collection, Queensland.
Harland Collection, NSW.
Kaplan Collection, USA
Kerry Stokes Collection, Perth.
Murdoch University Collection, Perth.
Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin.
National Australia Bank, Sydney.
National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne.
Nibberluna Collection, Tasmania.
Parliament House Collection, Canberra.
Royal Automobile Club of Victoria Collection, Melbourne.
Ron Whyte collection, Sydney.
Strachan Collection, Melbourne.
Wesfarmers Collection, Perth.

Awards

2012 Winner. Bankwest Contemporary Art Prize.