

EVERYWHEN ART

ARTIST CV

Karina Coombes



Date of Birth: 1982

Language: Tiwi

Karina is the daughter of Florence Puruntatameri-Coombes, and Graeme Coombes. Her mother is a Tiwi woman from Pirlangimpi Community on Melville Island. Her father originated from Queenstown, New Zealand but married Florence as a young man and called Pirlangimpi home for over 30 years. He raised Karina and her siblings on the islands, visiting New Zealand only a handful of times during that time with his wife and children. Graeme passed away in 2010.

Karina still lives permanently at Pirlangimpi with her three children, Stanley, Latoya and Janae. She works for the Tiwi Islands Training and Employment Board. Also now known as 'Penny' due to her being a Penrith Panthers supporter as a young girl, she now follows AFL more so than Rugby League.

Her artistic career began in mid-2010 under the direction of her grandfather, Justin Puruntatameri and her aunty Florence (Justin's eldest daughter). Justin in particular was able to give Karina invaluable advice on what she could correctly portray as defined by her Tiwi family ties. She has since progressed from depicting Jarrikalani and Takaringa, to portraying the various incarnations of the night sky as it appears over the Tiwi Islands.

- 2023** Kurrujupunyi - Ochre Colours, Hilton Double Tree, Darwin, NT
- 2022** LINE IN PARALLEL, Artitja Fine Art, South Fremantle, WA
- 2017** Earth Matters, Form: The Goods Shed, Claremont, WA
- 2017** Golden Years, Northern Centre for Contemporary Art, Darwin, NT
- 2017** Kiripapuranjuwi (Skilled Hands), Red Dot Fine Art Gallery, Singapore
- 2016** Point of difference: Desert to sea, Artitja Fine Art at Engine Room, Perth, WA
- 2016** Ngawila Jilamara Exhibition, Hilton Double Tree, Darwin, NT
- 2016** Spiritual Materialism, Illena Tounta Art Centre, Athens, Greece
- 2013** 'Gallerist's Choice' Artmob Aboriginal Fine Art, Hobart, TAS
- 2012** Tiwi Tradition – Munupi Artists of Melville Island, Artitja Fine Art, Fremantle, WA
- 2012** 'Dot to Dot', Artmob Gallery, Hobart, Tasmania
- 2012** 'Parlini Amintiya Awirankini', Tiwi Art Network Annual Exhibition, Darwin, NT
- 2011** 'Tiwi Island Art', Aranda Aboriginal Art, Melbourne, VIC
- 2011** 'Tiwi Temptations', Artmob, Hobart, Tasmania
- 2011** 'Emma's Choice', Artmob Gallery, Hobart, Tasmania