

Short St. Gallery



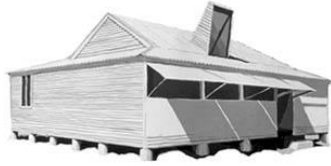
Wilma Rubuno

Born 1969
Language Ömie
Region Papua New Guinea

As a young girl, Wilma was adopted by the late Cecilia Badaru, a Sahuoté clanwoman. Cecilia was the daughter-in-law of a very important barkcloth painter, Avarro, who was a former Chief of Sahuoté clanwomen. In 2010 Wilma's mother Cecilia came to her in a dream, she was holding up a barkcloth painting and she asked Wilma "Can you see this design?" ...Wilma replied "Yes" and then her mother told her "This is your design now and you must paint this design". The next day when Wilma awoke she began painting the design. When the village Chiefs and elders saw the design Wilma was painting they were very surprised because she was painting one of Avarro's designs, that is, without ever having met Avarro. Wilma has been very passionate about painting this important barkcloth design. Her painting style has developed to such intricacy, with a truly breathtaking delicate and careful complexity and harmonious balance of designs, that her works dazzle the eye. She is the proud mother of six children.

Group Exhibitions

2023 Jungle Geometry: New Ömie Paintings from Papua New Guinea, Short Street Gallery, Broome, WA, Australia
2023 Ömie, JGM Gallery, London, UK



Short St. Gallery

- 2013 Painted and Woven in Song: Ömie Barkcloths and Bilums, RAFT
Artspace, Alice Springs, Australia
- 2011 We hold our mother's teachings in our hearts and hands, Short Street
Gallery, Broome, WA, Australia