



# Short St. Gallery



## Selma Coulthard

Born 1954  
Language Group Luritja / Arrente / Western Aranda / Nakamarra  
Region Alice Springs

Selma is an accomplished acrylic and watercolour painter. She grew up in Ntaria (Hermannsburg) where she went to school with fellow artist Ivy Pareroutja.

Selma states about herself: "My name is Selma Coulthard and my Aboriginal name is Nunay. I am a Pertama Maduthara Luritja Tribe from Urrampinyi (Tempe Downs Station) which is located South West of Alice Springs in Central Australia. I was born in Alice Springs in 1954 and grew up at Tempe Downs until the Government started to remove half caste kids from their families and put them in mission boarding homes. I was taken to Ntaria where I did my schooling. It is here that my love for art started when I saw Ivy Pareroutja painting Mt. Hermannsburg. In the 1950s my father used to work as a tourist guide at Palm Valley (a spot we called Titjaritjarra) and I used to see watercolour painters working on site. I have always wanted to be an artist and I just hope that my work will be recognised.

No work is the same each piece is unique in its own right. I usually try and remember the landscape and the way the colours change in different times of the day, sometime I see purple, orange and red. My colours are always true to my country. My first ever watercolour painting, when I was in grade 6, was photographed for the National Geographic magazine. I have always created artwork based on my stories: my work on Mulga Spinifex Country, my country where I grew up and lived - Urrampinyi (Tempe Downs), the oasis in the Desert at Urrampinyi, running Waters at Imakara, spiritual keepers of our land, my Dreaming - the Thorny Devil, animals in my country, paintings depicting women's ceremonial site (business) and more."



# Short St. Gallery

## Group Exhibitions

- 2023 Belonging / Tjoritjarinja, Ngununggula Regional Gallery Southern Highlands, Bowral NSW
- 2023 Apmarra Nuka, Nanda Hobbs, Sydney NSW
- 2022 Kupriya Kwatja Etatha, Tamaranthi Festival of Contemporary Arts, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide
- 2022 Clay on Country, Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs, NT
- 2022 One Too Many, Cross Arts Projects
- 2022 23rd Biennale of Sydney - Rivas, 12 March - 13 June 2022
- 2021 30th Desert Mob Exhibition, Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs, NT
- 2021 Pmara Numaka, Yia Numaka: Our Country, Our Stories, Bett Gallery, Hobart TAS
- 2020 Before and Now, South Australian Museum, Adelaide SA
- 2020 Homeless on my Homeland, NIRIN 22nd Biennale of Sydney, Sydney, NSW
- 2019 Tjina Numa-ka, Pmarra Num-kanha, Itla Itla Num-kanha (Our family, our country, our legacy), Flinders University Art Museum, Adelaide SA
- 2019 Pmarra Numa-Kananhala untha-lapp-urma (Walking through country), Hazelhurst Art centre, Sydney, NSW.
- 2018 Desert Mob, Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs, NT
- 2018 The Endurance of Bush Medicine, Medical History Museum, University of Melbourne, VIC
- 2017 Tjuritja Nana Mara to Paris (From the good Tjuritja to Paris), IDAIA, Paris, France
- 2014 Women Artists of the Hermannsburg School of Art, The Residency, Alice Springs, NT
- 2011 The University Gallery, Newcastle, NSW
- 2011 Wollongong City Gallery, Wollongong, NSW
- 2011 Norpa, Lismore, NSW
- 2011 Chapman Gallery, Canberra, ACT
- 2010 Flinders University City Gallery, Adelaide, SA

## Collections

Queensland Art Gallery Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane, QLD  
Art Gallery of NSW (AGNSW), Sydney, NSW  
Medical History Museum, University of Melbourne, VIC  
Artbank NSW  
Murdoch University Collection, WA