



# Keith Wikmunea

Born in 1967, Aurukun, Queensland, Australia.

## BIOGRAPHY

Keith Wikmunea was born in 1967 in Aurukun. He was raised in Aurukun by his parents. Keith is from the Language group Wik-Alken (mother's side) and Wik-Mungkan (father's side). His totems are the White Cookatoo, Goanna from his father's side and the Galah and Frilled-neck lizard from his mother's side.

Keith's country is Kencherang (father's side) which is south from Aurukun. There's a large freshwater lagoon there. During the wet season the saltwater comes up the creek during the high tides. "There is one large creek that comes into that country which splits out into my mother's country called Ti-tree". When the freshwater breaks out in the wet season it joins with the creek at Kencherang and connects to the saltwater. Keith belongs to the Apalech Clan from his father's side. His mother's side is the Winchanam Clan. As an artist, Keith is passionate about passing on his creative and cultural knowledge to future generations. His vision is for Wik and Kugu people to keep their culture strong and alive.

Keith started his working career as a house painter for the Aurukun Shire Council. He has also been a member of the Aurukun Justice Group and has been working at the Wik & Kugu Arts Centre for the past two years.

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 *Aak Keenkanam: From The Beginning*, JGM Gallery, London, United Kingdom
- 2022 *Cairns Indigenous Arts Fair (CIAF)*, Cairns, Queensland, Australia
- 2022 *Yuk Wuy Min Ngantamp*, Northsite Gallery, Cairns, Queensland, Australia
- 2022 *Aak Puul*, Brunswick Street Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
- 2022 Sydney Modern Project, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Yirabana Gallery, New South Wales, Australia
- 2021 *Cairns Indigenous Arts Fair (CIAF)*, Cairns, Queensland, Australia
- 2020 *Cairns Indigenous Arts Fair (CIAF)*, Cairns, Queensland, Australia
- 2019 *Cairns Indigenous Arts Fair (CIAF)*, Cairns, Queensland, Australia
- 2019 *Wik and Kugu Art Centre represented by Black Square Arts*, Sydney Contemporary, Carriageworks, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
- 2019 *Salon des Refusés*, Charles Darwin University Art Gallery, Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia
- 2019 *My Country, I Still Call Home: Contemporary Art from Black Queensland* (touring exhibition), Gladstone Regional Art Gallery and Museum, Gladstone, Queensland, Australia
- 2018 *Cairns Indigenous Arts Fair (CIAF)*, Cairns, Queensland, Australia
- 2017 *Cairns Indigenous Arts Fair (CIAF)*, Cairns, Queensland, Australia
- 2017 *Wik & Kugu 2017*, Woolloongabba Art Gallery, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia
- 2017 *Present Tense. Past Legacy: Present Tense*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
- 2017 *My Country, I Still Call Australia Home: Contemporary Art from Black Queensland* (touring exhibition), Perc Tucker Regional Gallery, Townsville, Queensland, Australia
- 2017 *My Country, I Still Call Australia Home: Contemporary Art from Black Queensland* (touring exhibition), Redland Art Gallery, Redland, Queensland, Australia
- 2017 *My Country, I Still Call Australia Home: Contemporary Art from Black Queensland* (touring exhibition), Caboolture Regional Art Gallery, Caboolture, Queensland, Australia
- 2017 *My Country, I Still Call Australia Home: Contemporary Art from Black Queensland* (touring exhibition), Gympie Regional Gallery, Gympie, Queensland, Australia
- 2016 *My Country, I Still Call Australia Home: Contemporary Art from Black Queensland* (touring exhibition), Rockhampton Art Gallery, Rockhampton, Queensland, Australia
- 2016 *Cairns Indigenous Art Fair (CIAF)*, Cairns, Queensland, Australia
- 2016 *My Country, I Still Call Australia Home: Contemporary Art from Black Queensland* (touring exhibition), Logan Art Gallery, Logan, Queensland, Australia

- 2016 *My Country, I Still Call Australia Home: Contemporary Art from Black Queensland* (touring exhibition), Toowoomba Regional Gallery, Toowoomba, Queensland, Australia
- 2016 *My Country, I Still Call Australia Home: Contemporary Art from Black Queensland* (touring exhibition), Logan Art Gallery, Logan, Queensland, Australia
- 2016 *My Country, I Still Call Australia Home: Contemporary Art from Black Queensland* (touring exhibition), Toowoomba Regional Gallery, Toowoomba, Queensland, Australia
- 2014 *My Country: Contemporary Art from Black Australia*, curated by Bruce McLean, Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki, New Zealand
- 2014 *My Country: Contemporary Art from Black Australia* curated by Bruce McLean, Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki, New Zealand
- 2013 *Aurukun - Selected Works*, Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
- 2013 *My Country, I Still Call Australia Home*, Queensland Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia
- 2011 *Aurukun: New Paintings and Sculptures*, Martin Browne Contemporary, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
- 2011 *21st Century: Art In the First Decade*, Queensland Art Gallery / Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia
- 2008 *Aurukun Sculpture*, Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
- 2007 *Puulway, Wik & Kugu Totems by the artists of Aurukun*, Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
- 2006 *Carved From the Cape*, Australian Art Resources, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
- 2005 *New Directions from Aurukun*, Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
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## AWARDS

- 2023 Telstra NATSIAA Art Award - Winner
- 2017 Cairns Indigenous Art Fair, Cairns Regional Gallery Award for Best Art Centre
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## COLLECTIONS

National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia  
National Museum of Australia, Canberra, Australian Central Territory, Australia  
Queensland Art Gallery Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia  
Yiribana Gallery, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia  
Private collection of Magistrate Wendy Cull

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## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2016 Loader, Lisa (2016). *AT THE GALLERY: Even the dogs are barking about fantastic art show*, Central Western Daily.

# JGM GALLERY

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