

Manyung Gallery Group

• Malvern • Mt Eliza • Sorrento • Mobile

Melanie Hava

My father comes from the lush country of Austria and my mother comes from the South Johnston River Mamu tribe in North Queensland.

I paint in an individual free style where I aim to combine traditional styles of my Aboriginal heritage with my Austrian heritage. I am inspired by both the Australian and Austrian landscapes and particularly the medieval and architectural structures and art in Austria.

I've had a talent and passion for art since I discovered paint in kindergarten in Mount Isa. Over the years I have played around with landscape painting in oils, watercolours, folk-art in acrylics until I discovered a calling to my own style. In the late 1990's, while living in Yowah Opal Fields west of Cunnamulla, I began selling my work on didgeridoos and canvas at local markets and to overseas buyers who frequented the town. In June 2005, after several sales through a local art gallery, I held my first solo exhibition "Migaloo Murri Art," at Outback at Isa in Mount Isa. It was a success with 36 out of the 44 paintings selling in the month long exhibition. I received a further 6 commissions from the Council for paintings for corporate gifts and for the CEO and mayor's offices. Afterwards I travelled to Austria to visit my father's family and to be influenced by the art there. I also put several pieces of work in a small gallery in Austria and sold out.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2011 Feature artist at Tosari Galleries, current July/August

2010 "From Dust To Thunder," Tosari Galleries, Toowoomba (sold out)

2009 "Indigenously Austr(al)ian," Toowoomba Regional Art Gallery, Toowoomba (22/26 sold)

2005 "Migaloo Murri," Outback at Isa, Mount Isa (36/44 sold)

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2012 Earths Elements, Manyung Gallery, Mt Eliza
- 2008 Brisbane Women's Club, Brisbane
- 2007 Gulf of Carpentaria and Savannah Indigenous Dreaming's and Lifestyle exhibition

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Ally Martel, "Indigenous Mix," Highlife Magazine, Spring 2010
- Sandy Pottinger, "Artist Shares Imaginative Landscapes," The Chronicle, 05/06/2010
- Rosie O'Sullivan, "Melanie Hava," Style Magazine, June 2010
- Merryl Miller, "From Dust to Thunder," Style Magazine, June 2010
- Sandy Pottinger, "Solo Exhibitions Shape Focal Points for Brave Artists," The Chronicle, 11/07/2009
- Joann Marsh, "Artist Fuses Cultures to Create Work," The Chronicle, 04/07/2009
- Tahnee Watson, "Pair's Art Becomes Serious Business," The North West Star, 04/03/2008
- Alison Mooney, "Motherhood Influential," The North West Star, 08/01/2008
- Aleisha Orr, "Exhibition Aids Artists," The North West Star, 15/08/2007
- Mia Ginnivan, "Council Commissions Melanie's Impressive Work," The North West Star, 20/09/2005
- Mia Ginnivan, "Talented Young Woman," The North West Star, 10/06/2005