Alair Pambegan

Born in 1966, Aurukun, Queensland.

BIOGRAPHY

Alair Pambegan is a Wik-Mungkan man who lives in the western Cape York community of Aurukun in North Queensland. Pambegan is the son of revered lawman, elder and artist Arthur Koo'ekka Pambegan Jr and heir to the Wik-Mungkan artistic traditions. His father was custodian for Walkaln-aw (Bonefish Story Place) and Kalben (Flying Fox Story Place), two significant ancestral narratives and associated story places along the Archer River, in the heart of Wik-Mungkan country. Pambegan was handed down stories and responsibilities from his father.

His practice includes large-scale semi-abstract paintings on canvas, and his installation works are made from milkwood painted with ochres and charcoal. He draws on the stories and law poles of his father, creating vibrant and innovative interpretations of the ancestral narratives.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2015   *Alair Pambegan,* Alaska Projects, Sydney New South Wales, Australia

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2023   *Aak Keenkanam: From The Beginning,* JGM Gallery, London, United Kingdom
2019   *Cairns Indigenous Art Fair 2019,* Cairns Cruise Liner Terminal, Cairns, Queensland, Australia
2018   *APT9 - 'The 9th Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art,* Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia
2018   *Cairns Indigenous Arts Fair 2018,* Cairns Cruise Liner Terminal, Cairns, Queensland, Australia
2014   *John Fries Award 2014 Finalists Exhibition,* UNSW Gallerie, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
2009   *Aurukun Artists, Yuk Wiy Min (Wood and Other Things),* Andrew Baker Gallery, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

COLLECTIONS

Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide, Southern Australia, Australia
Gilbert & Tobin Collection, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, Australian Central Territory, Australia
Queensland Art Gallery Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

AWARDS

2014   2014 John Fries Award - Finalist