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**Artist:** Philomena Yeatman  
**Date of Birth:** 1/03/1960  
**Language/s:** Gunggandji



### Biography:

Philomena Yeatman is a Gunggandji woman, born in Cairns in 1960 and raised in Yarrabah Community

Philomena mother's side is Gunggandji and her father's side is Kuku Yalanji.

She began her career in the arts in 1991. At first, she experimented with print and jewellery making and shortly after embraced weaving, ceramics and painting.

Philomena is an renown weaver. Learning traditional practices from her grandmother who taught her how to make baskets and mats using pandanus, cabbage palm and natural dyes found in country. She is passionate about maintaining traditional knowledge. Her vibrant weaving is inspired by traditional forms that were used to carry food collected from the sea and rainforests.

### Group Exhibitions

2020, October	<b>Jabu Birriny (land and sea) Touring Exhibition</b> Mackay Artspace, Mackay QLD
2020, August	<b>Jabu Birriny (land and sea) Touring Exhibition</b> Bannana Shire Regional Art Gallery, Biloela QLD
2020, June	<b>Jabu Birriny (land and sea) Touring Exhibition</b> Tablelands Regional Gallery
2020, April	<b>Jabu Birriny (land and sea) Touring Exhibition</b> Gab Titui Cultural Centre
2020, February	<b>Jabu Birriny (land and sea) Touring Exhibition</b> Grasslands Art Gallery, Tambo QLD
2019, December	<b>Jabu Birriny (land and sea) Touring Exhibition</b> Lapunyah Gallery, Chincilla QLD
2019, October	<b>Jabu Birriny (land and sea) Touring Exhibition</b> Arts Ablaze Conference, Kooralyn QLD
2019, August	<b>Jabu Birriny (land and sea) Touring Exhibition</b> Jan Eckford Centre, Julia Creek QLD
2019, July	<b>Cairns Indigenous Art Fair 2019</b> Cairns Cruise Liner Terminal, Cairns QLD
2018, September	<b>PSBA NAIDOC Art Exhibition 2018</b> Brisbane, QLD
2018, July	<b>Cairns Indigenous Art Fair 2018</b> Cairns Cruise Liner Terminal, Cairns QLD
2017, August	<b>Jabu Birriny (land and sea)</b> State Library of Queensland, Brisbane QLD
2017, July	<b>Cairns Indigenous Art Fair 2017</b> Cairns Cruise Liner Terminal, Cairns QLD
2016, August	<b>Beyond the Surface: New Textiles and Ceramics</b> Cairns Art Gallery, Cairns QLD
2016, July	<b>Freshwater Saltwater: Moving Time</b> UMI Arts, Cairns QLD
2015, July	<b>Cairns Indigenous Art Fair 2015</b> Cairns Cruise Liner Terminal, Cairns QLD
2015, July	<b>Freshwater Saltwater: Celebrating UMI Arts' 10th Anniversary</b> UMI Arts, Cairns QLD
2015, July	<b>Yarrabah: Icons in Clay with Janet Fieldhouse</b> KickArts, Cairns QLD
2014, July	<b>Cairns Indigenous Art Fair 2014</b> Cairns Cruise Liner Terminal, Cairns QLD

- 2013, December** UMI Arts 'you and me' Members Exhibition UMI Arts, Cairns QLD
- 2013, August** UMI Arts - Freshwater Saltwater UMI Arts, Cairns QLD
- 2013, August** Kinship - IACA Exhibition Tank 4, The Tanks Art Centre, Cairns QLD
- 2013, July** Telstra NATSIAA 2013 - Finalists Exhibition MAGNT, Darwin NT
- 2012** Yarrarie You, Yarrarie Me - an Exhibition by Yarrabah Community Art Centre Artists UMI Arts, Cairns QLD
- 2003** Story Place: Indigenous Art of Cape York and the Rainforest Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane QLD

### Themes

Hairymen  
 Traditional Weaving  
 Sea and Land Animals

### Mediums

Print Making	Acrylic on Cotton Canvas	Ceramics
Jewellery	Weaving	Fabric paint on cotton

### Collections

The Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane QLD  
 Cairns Gallery Collection, Cairns QLD  
 Keeping Place, Sate Library of Queensland, Brisbane, QLD

### Bibliography

- 2014** Yarrabah artists take it up a notch for CIAF by Isaac Egan, Kier Shorey and Fiona Sewell, ABC FNQ, 12 June, 2014 - <http://www.abc.net.au/local/photos/2014/06/11/4023026.htm>
- 2015** Yarrabah artists find their own way into the world - Article by Nicolas Rothwell The Australian Feb 26, 2015
- 2017** Jabu Birriny (land + sea): Contemporary stories by Yarrabah artists - <http://jabubirriny.slq.qld.gov.au/>
- 2016** Yarrabah artist Michelle Yeatman shapes stories of her country: <https://www.smh.com.au/entertainment/art-and-design/yarrabah-artist-michelle-yeatman-shapes-stories-of-her-country-20160713-gq52rx.html>
- 2014** Indigenous artists invite the wider Cairns community over the range for the Yarrabah Arts & Cultural Day on June 28 by Denise Carter, The Cairns Post June 26, 2014

### Awards

- 2013** Silkcut Award for Linocut Prints, Glen Eira City Gallery, Melbourne VIC
- 2002** Indigenous Heritage Award - Yagal Mura Mura, Old Parliament House, Canberra ACT

### Commissions

- 2016** Philomena Yeatman, Edna Anbrym and Valmai Pollard, Public Art Mosaic Installation. Shields Street Heart Re-Development