

## JENNA MAYILEMA LEE

*Gulumerridjin (Larrakia), Wardaman and  
KarraJarri Saltwater woman with mixed  
Japanese, Chinese, Filipino and  
Anglo-Australian ancestry*

Represented by [MARS Gallery](#)

Born: 1992 Canberra ACT

Lives: Melbourne VIC

Instagram: [www.instagram.com/jenna.mlee](https://www.instagram.com/jenna.mlee)

Website: <https://jennalee.art>

Studio Artist: [Gertrude Contemporary 2024-2026](#)

### Biennials/Triennials

Setouchi Triennial, Teshima Island, Japan, 2025

Canberra Biennial, 2024

TarraWarra Biennial: Ua usiusi fa'ava'asavili, 2023

Melbourne Now, National Gallery of Victoria, 2023

Hyphenated Biennial, 2022

### Major Exhibitions

Awakening Histories, Monash University Art Museum (MUMA)

The Neighbour at the Gate, National Art School (NAS) Gallery, 2025

Our Story: Aboriginal Chinese People in Australia, National Museum Australia, 2025

Balarr Inyiny, Drone Light Show, Darwin Festival, 2023

IMAxNowness Asia: Now You're Speakin' My Language, Video Commission, 2023

Making Place: 100 Views of Brisbane, Museum of Brisbane, 2022

Beyond the Binary: Queering the Collection, Pitt Rivers Museum, Oxford UK, 2022

Botanica, Brisbane Botanic Gardens, 2021

Rite of Passage, QUT Art Museum, 2020

Making Art Work, Institute of Modern Art, 2020

Gunyah Kara-wa projection, Brisbane Festival, 2018

### Solo Exhibitions

Of Smoke and Rain, Northern Center for Contemporary Art (NCCA), 2025

Burn before reading, Gertrude Glasshouse, 2025

Guyu-gwa ganagawai (fire grips me / fire warms me), MARS Gallery, 2024 and Fish Lane Vitriens, 2025

To Carry Light, Rockhampton Museum of Art Vitriens, 2023

To Make Light, Open Studio, Kyoto Art Center, 2022

Old Flame, MARS Gallery, 2022

Cont.ained, Artspace Mackay, 2021–22

Linguistic Prosperity Vol. 2, Milani Gallery, 2021

Linguistic Prosperity, Firstdraft, 2021

Body Language, Craft Victoria Makers Vitrine, 2021

A New Translation, MARS Gallery, 2021

### Selected Group Exhibitions

Fashion Artists, MARS Gallery, 2025

Gertrude Studios, Gertrude Contemporary, 2024, 2025

Luminosity, Craft Victoria, 2024

Pattern Recognition, Hawthorn Arts Centre, 2024

Antecedent, Metro Arts, 2024

Out of the Everywhere, Plimsoll Gallery, 2023

Linger, Dash, Talk, Cement Fondu (Sydney WorldPride), 2023

Text In/As, ANZ Level 10 Private Gallery, 2022  
Personal Mythologies, La Trobe University Art Gallery, 2022  
HERE: Between You and the World, POP Galleries, 2022  
Internally disPLACed, Nexus Arts, 2022  
UNIFORM, Wyndham Art Gallery, 2022  
PIVOT II, Onespace Gallery, 2021  
I Am Here, Art House Gallery, 2021  
Here I Am, Ambush Gallery, 2021  
HOME:MADE 20, Canberra Contemporary Art Space, 2020  
Older Than Language, Salamanca Arts Centre, 2020  
Moon in My Mouth, Schoolhouse Studios, 2019  
Intimate Immensity, Outer Space, 2019  
LOVE AND OTHER CRIMES, 2018

### Residencies

(Upcoming) Singapore Art Museum, Artist in Residence, Singapore, 2026  
(Upcoming) Kluge-Ruhe Aboriginal Art Collection Residency, University of Virginia, USA, 2027  
Megalo Press, First Nations Artist in Residence, Canberra Australia, 2025  
(Current) Studio Artist: Gertrude Contemporary 2024-2026  
First Nations Ainu Cultural Exchange, Nibutani, Hokkaidō, Japan, 2024  
Desa Residency, Ubud, Bali, Indonesia, 2024  
Kyoto Art Center Residency, Australia Council for the Arts, 2022  
Maker in Residence, Craft Victoria, 2020

### Awards

FINALIST - Ellen José Art Award for young women, 2025  
SHORTLIST - Venice Biennial Artist Team for 2026 (2025)  
The Ian Potter Cultural Trust, Emerging Artist Grant, 2024  
WINNER - Waterhouse Natural Science Art Prize, SA Museum, 2024  
The Wynne Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, 2024  
The 68th Blake Art Prize, Casula Powerhouse, 2024  
National Works on Paper Prize, Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, 2024  
WINNER - Young/Emerging, Hazelhurst Art Centre Works on Paper Prize, 2023  
Deakin University Art Gallery Small Sculpture Prize, 2023  
Hazelhurst Art Centre Works on Paper Prize, 2022  
Victorian Craft Awards, Craft Victoria, 2022  
Footscray Art Prize, Footscray Community Arts Centre, 2021  
WINNER - Wandjuk Marika 3D Memorial Award, NATSIAA, MAGNT, 2020  
National Works on Paper Prize, Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, 2021  
15 Artists Prize, Redcliffe Art Gallery, 2020  
KWM Contemporary First Nations Art Award, King & Wood Mallesons, 2020  
HIGHLY COMMENDED - Ravenswood Australian Women's Art Prize, 2020  
Libris Award: Contemporary Australian Artist Books, Artspace Mackay, 2020  
WINNER - Dreaming Award, National Indigenous Art Awards, 2019  
John Fries Award, Copyright Agency/UNSW Galleries, 2019  
NATSIAA, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, 2018  
WINNER - Libris Award: Contemporary Australian Artist Books, Artspace Mackay, 2018  
Blacktown Art Prize, Blacktown Arts Centre, 2018

### Curatorial Projects

Alt/Text, Incinerator Gallery, 2023

Elemental, Main Gallery, Craft Victoria, 2021

Selected Public Art and Commissions:

Balarr Inyiny, Drone Light Show, Darwin Festival presented by Fremantle Biennial

Light of An Invasive Native, Moving Objects, Rising Festival, 2021

IMA Bell Tower public projection, Archive of an Invasive Native

Selected Publications,

Press & Interviews:

Art Collector Magazine

Cool Hunter Predictions

Art Guide Australia

Jenna Lee's exquisite art deconstructs colonial objects

SBS NITV Radio

An act of defiance: This Indigenous artist is pulping history books in a creative truth-telling process

Liminal Magazine

Interview #191 — Jenna Lee

Vault Magazine, Issue 36

Object: Jenna Lee

La Trobe Art Institute Exhibition Catalogue

The Life and Growth of Language

Artist Profile Magazine

Feature: Jenna Lee

Education

Graduate Certificate Museum Studies. University of Queensland

Bachelor Fine Art. Queensland College of Art (incomplete)

Bachelor of Visual Communication Design. Queensland College of Art

Certificate III Visual Art and Contemporary Craft. TAFE