

Jack Wilkie-Jans

Freelance Writer

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Profile

Jack Wilkie-Jans (Jack Jans) is a leading First Nations arts worker, writer and policy theorist. With a stellar background in presenting contemporary Indigenous art events and exhibitions across Australia and abroad, Jack is an emerging artist himself as well as artist agent. A proud Waanyi, Teppathiggi and Tjungundji man, he is also of British, Vanuatuan and Danish heritage.

With over a decade of experience across the visual, fine art industry and cultural sectors, Jack exemplifies the highest standards in professional and Cultural best practice. He is an expert in event management, strategic planning, governance and operations advisory services for organisations working with, or owned by, First Nations stakeholders. As an arts writer, Jack has contributed in-depth critiques and profiles of a wealth of esteemed and emerging artists for almost all major arts publications and review platforms in Australia.

Now based in Gimuy/Cairns, Queensland, Jack has an enriched work history in political/policy & community advocacy across Cape York Peninsula, as well as extensive experience in governance & team leadership roles. His current, direct interests in Cape York affairs is focused on the ethical development of the native foods & Indigenous food industry, and First Nations fisheries opportunities.

Experience

Koori Mail / Arts Columnist (fortnightly)

2023 - ongoing

Art Monthly Australasia / Writer

Online, 2024

[What is 'Wilderness Ideology' and why is it problematic?](#)

Artlink / Writer

Regional issue, 2024

Contemporary Indigenous Cape York Art

Garland Magazine / Writer

The Land issue + Online, 2024

Syd Bruce Shortjoe & Bernard Lee Singleton: Men of Country

Artlink / Writer

Online, 2024

Spotfire exhibition, NorthSite Contemporary Arts

Art Collector / Writer

Melbourne Art Fair special edition, 2024

John Prince Siddon and Paula Savage

Art Collector / Writer

January-March,, 2024

Brian Robinson

Art Collector / Writer

The NATSIAA Issue, October-December, 2023

Dhalmula Burarrwaja (winner), George Cooley (finalist) and Wendy Hubert (finalist)

Indigenous Art Code / Features Writer

January-July, 2024

A series of interviews with member artists: 'Fair'.

Arts Hub / Amplify Writer

2023 - ongoing

www.artshub.com.au/author/jack-wilkie-jans

Imprint Magazine / Writer

2023

"The work of Yarrabah's Edna Ambrym" artist profile on Edna Ambrym (Winter Issue, 2023)

FNQ Food Magazine / Writer

2023

"The Hospo Group" a commercial business profile piece, published in the first issue of FNQ Food Magazine for 2023.

Imprint Magazine / Writer

2022

"A glorious debut" artist profile on Teho Ropeyarn (Winter Issue, 2022)

FNQ Food Magazine / Writer

2022

"The Raw Prawn: 20 Years of Local Food" & "Wild Thyme: Helping People, Changing Lives, One Delicious Meal At A Time" restaurant reviews (Special Annual Edition, 2022).

Imprint Magazine / Writer

2021

A profile piece, showcasing the print artists of Pormpuraaw titled "Pormpuraaw Arts &

Culture Centre mixes tradition with new explorations" (Vol. 56.3).

Art Monthly Australasia / Writer

2021

Exhibition review of Cairns Art Gallery's *Ritual: The past in the present* exhibition. Titled "Discovering rituals of Australia and Asia Pacific".

Art Collector / Writer

2021

"Going Strong", a profile piece on the Cairns Indigenous Art Fair (CIAF 2021 Special Edition).

Cairns Indigenous Art Fair / Essayist

2020

Cairns Indigenous Art Fair (2020) *Undercurrents* - Cook 2020 exhibition catalogue essay (co-curated by Janina Harding & Hetti Perkins).

Imprint Magazine / Writer

2020

"Stalwart of the north" a profile piece and review of the history of Umbrella Studio Contemporary Arts (Vol. 55, No. 4).

Imprint Magazine / Writer

2020

"For the future", profiling contemporary Torres Strait Islander printmaking by Fiona Elisala-Mosby (Vol. 55, No. 3).

NITV / Contributor

2018 - 2020

www.sbs.com.au/nitv/person/jack-wilkie-jans

Defending the Oceans touring showcase / Grant Writer & Publicist

2017-2018

www.australiadefendingtheoceans.weebly.com

Oasis Magazine / Contributor

2016 - 2019

Tropic Now / Contributor

2016

The Sydney Morning Herald / Writer

2015

(1)

<https://www.smh.com.au/opinion/learn-from-history-forced-closure-of-remote-communities-not-the-solution-20150422-1mqjgw.html>

(2)

<https://www.smh.com.au/opinion/noel-pearsons-social-experiments-in-north-queensland-are-failing-20151124-gl6u89.html>

First Nations Telegraph / Freelance Contributor

2014-2020

Artlink / Writer

2013

Thancoupie, obituary

Online Opinion / Freelance Contributor

2014 - 2020

Education

James Cook University / B.A. Arts

Jack holds a Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Politics & International Affairs, minoring in Creative Writing.

Awards

Recipient, Sen. Jan McLucas Volunteer Initiative Award (2011).

Nominee, Cultural Award Cairns Region Australian of the Year Awards (2013).

Alumni, National Gallery of Australia's Wesfarmers Indigenous Leadership Programme (2012).

Associate Fellow, Royal Commonwealth Society (2016).

Winner, Understory Film Festival 2020, Best Experimental Film: *Here I Am*.

Winner, Understory Film Festival 2023, Best Experimental Film: White Face of Blak Art