

# Short St. Gallery



## LINDA SYDDICK

Born: 1936  
Birth Place: Napaltjarri  
Language Group: Pitjantjatjara  
Region: Western / Central Desert

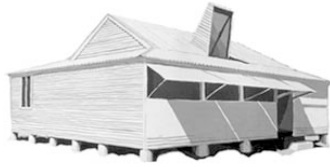
AKA: Linda Tjunkaya Wukula Syddick Napaltjarri

## Biography

Linda's paintings are inspired by both her traditional nomadic life in the desert and the Tjukurpa of her father and stepfather, as well as the Christianity she encountered through the Lutheran Mission at Hassts Bluff mission-run Ration Station in the late 1940's. Linda was born to a Pitjantjatjara mother, Wanala Nangala, from Pulu Rockhole in WA, and Pintupi father Riinytye Tjungurrayi, whose Country was on the shores of Lake Mackay. After Linda's father was killed by a revenge spearign party when Linda was a toddler, Linda's mother took Linda east to Walungurru region, around 1943. Wanala married again to Shorty lungkata Tjungarrayi. Known as a kind man, Shorty Lungkata raised Linda as his own. She grew up in a traditional lifestyle, walking the Pintupi homelands with her family and gaining knowledge of her country. Eventually, as a result of treeble drought and increasing pressure from encroaching Europeans, the family journeyed an incredible distance east to reach the ration depot run by the Lutheran Missionaries at Hassts Bluff. About ten years later, they travelled north to Papunya, then a government Reserve.

Shorty Lungkarta Tjungarrayi was one of the last men to join the other artist while living in Papunya, speaking no English at all. As Linda grew up, and before he died, he instructed Linda carefully so she could carry on his work and paint his Tjukurpa, such as the Emu Dreaming at Warukurthie Rockhole, the Tingari Cycles. He painted blue-tounge lizard, goannam bush banana, snake and bandicoot, and the Tjapaltjarri Brothers. Shorty Lungkarta Tjungarrayi became a famous early Western Desert painter until his death in 1986.

A strong minded and independant woman,, Linda recalled her first experience of painting in the Papunya schoolroom. She began painting seriously for Papunya Tula Artist in the early



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1980's under her fathers tutelage. She continued to develop her style under the guidance of some of the other great masters such as her uncles, Nosepeg Tjupurrula and Uta Uta Tjangla. Linda married several times. Her second husband was Musty Syddick (Cedick), also an occassional painter for Papunya Tila Artist in the 1970's. Linda remarried after his death but retained Syddick as her last name. She had two daughters, Ruby and Irene.

Linda Syddick is an innovator and deeply religious. Her paintings reflect an unusual syncretic approach, synthesising both her knowledge of the Tjukurpa and her staunch Christian beliefs. in 1990 she travelled to Sydney to see her painting Ngkarte Dreaming hung in the annual Blake Prize for Religious Art adn included ina travelling exhibition of 37 paintings to tour the eastern states, She has been a finalist for the Blake Prize and Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander award and she won the Painting Category at the 23rd Telstra NAtional Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award in 2006.

## Solo Exhibitions

- 2017 Witchdoctor and the Windmill Mitchell Fine Art Gallery Brisbane QLD
- 2014 Linda Syddick New Exhibition Japingka Fine Art Gallery Fremantle WA
- 2007 Linda Syddick Napaltjarri Japingka Fine Art Gallery Fremantle WA
- 1993 Linda Syddick Aboriginal & Pacific Art Sydney NSW

## Group Exhibitions

- 2019 We from the centre, travelling to the ocean, Short St Gallery, Broome, WA
- 2018 May Red Soil under Sun Glow, Tongji University Museum, Shanghai
- 2018 April Works on paper, Tangentyere Artist Gallery, Alice Springs NT
- 2017 December Tangentyere Artist Christmas Exhibition, Tangentyere Artist Gallery, Alice Springs NT
- 2017 October Tamanthi Festival Art Fair, Tandanya Cultural Centre Adelaide SA
- 2017 September Desert Mob Araluen Cultural Precinct Alice Springs NT
- 2017 August Darwin Aborginal Art Fair, Darwin Convention Centre Darwin NT
- 2017 April Ngura Kutjupa, Walyta Kutju Tangentyere Artist Gallery Alice Springs NT
- 2017 February Alway Was, Tangentyere Artist Gallery, Alice Springs NT
- 2011 Land, Loss and Identity : Art of a Great Pintupi Lineage, National gallery of Victoria Melbourne VIC
- 2006 Dreaming their Way: Australia Aboriginal Women Painters, National Museum of Women in the Arts Washington, DC USA
- 2004 Holy Holy Holy, National Touring Exhibition created as part of 2004 Adelaide Festival SA
- 2004 Art Event Galarie Arts Australia Stephane Jacob Lille FR
- 2004 Aborigenes, les couleurs du Reve Museum dhistoire naturelle Lyon FR



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- 2003 Salon ART PARIS Galerie Arts d'Australie, Stephane Jacob / Carrousel du Louvre, Paris FRANCE
- 2003 Art Aborigene contemporain Galerie Arts d'Australie Stephane Jacob Cankarjev Dom Ljubljana Slovenie
- 2002 Salon ART PARIS Carrousel du Louvre Galerie Arts d'Australie Stephane Jacob
- 2001 Arts d'Australie Stephane Jacob / Equation-Transparence, Paris FR
- 2000 Arts d'Australie Arts d'Australie Stephane Jacob / Galeries Lafayette, Paris FR
- 2000 Accents Australiens Arts Stephane Jacob / Espace Adamski Designs, Paris FR
- 2000 Arts d'Australie Stephane Jacob / Air France, Paris FR
- 1999 Australie - Art, Arts d'Australie Stephane Jacob / J.L. Amsler - Bastille, Paris FR
- 1998 Festival BD Boum, Arts d'Australie Stephane Jacob / Bibliotheque Municipale, Blois FR
- 1998 Exposition collective, L'Art des Aborigenes d'Australie Le Temps du Reve Arts d'Australie Jacob / Bibliotheque municipale, Le Perreux-sur-Marne FR
- 1998 Exposition collective, L'Art des Aborigenes d'Australie, Arts d'Australie Stephane Jacob / Espace Toyota, Avenue des Champs-Elysees, Paris FR
- 1997 L'Art des Aborigenes d'Australie, Stephane Jacob/Galerie Stassart, Bruzelle Bel
- 1997 Exposition collective, L'Art des Aborigenes d'Australie, Stephane Jacob/ Espace Paul Riquet, Beziers FR
- 1996 L'Art des Aborigenes d'Australie, Arts d'Australie Stephane Jacob / ; Espace Paul Riquet, Beziers FR
- 1996 Dreamings of the Desert South Australian Art Gallery, Adelaide SA
- 1996 Exploring Two Worlds Hogarth Gallery, Sydney NSW
- 1996 Spirit and Place Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney NSW
- 1995 Aboriginal Kunst, Pays-Bas NE
- 1994 People/Places, interactions with land by some contemporary Central Australian Artists Hour Art, Darwin NT
- 1993 Perpetual Motion, Australie Stuttgart, GE
- 1993 Exposition collective Australian National University, Canberra ACT
- 1993 Australian Perspecta Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney.
- 1992 Central Australian Aboriginal Art and Craft Exhibition, Araluen Cultural Centre, Alice Springs NT
- 1990 Our Dreaming Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs NT
- 1989 Papunya Artists LewAllen Gallery Santa Fe, NM USA

## Collections

Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs, NT  
Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide, SA  
Berndt Museum of Anthropology, University of Western Australia, WA  
Diocese of Parramatta, Sydney, NSW



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Dominican Monastery of New Norcia, WA  
Linden Museum, Stuttgart, Germany  
Musée National des Arts d'Afrique et d'Océanie, Paris, France  
Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin, NT  
Museum de Lyon, Lyon, France  
Museum d'Histoire Naturelle de Lyon, Lyon, France  
National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, ACT  
St Andrews Catholic Church, Marayong, NSW  
St Josephs Catholic Church, Hadleigh, Great Britain  
St Patricks Parish Centre, Blacktown, NSW  
St Vincent Private Hospital, Melbourne, VIC  
The Richard Kelton Foundation, Santa Monica, USA

## Bibliography

- 2012 Anon, Linda Syddick Napaltjarri, Wikipedia Last edited 23 December 2017 - [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Linda\\_Syddick\\_Napaltjarri](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Linda_Syddick_Napaltjarri)
- 2008 Johnson, V, Lives of the Papunya Tula Artists, IAD Press, Alice Springs, NT – <http://www.iadpress.com>
- 2005 Myers, F, Linda Syddick On Longing. in M Charlesworth, F Dussart & H Morphy (eds), Aboriginal Religions in Australia: An Anthology of Recent Writings. Ashgate Press, Oxford.
- 2005 Nelson, R, Holy, Holy, Holy, The Age Newspaper, June 29 - <https://www.theage.com.au/news/reviews/holy-holyholy/2005/06/28/1119724631725.html>

## Awards

- 2018 Finalist, Blake Prize for Religious Art, Casual Powerhouse, Sydney, NSW
- 2009 Finalist, 26th Telstra NATSIAA, MAGNT Darwin, NT
- 2008 Finalist, 25th Telstra NATSIAA, MAGNT Darwin, NT
- 2006 Winner, 23rd Telstra NATSIAA, MAGNT Darwin, NT
- 2004 Highly Esteemed, Alice Contemporary Art Prize, Alice Springs, NT
- 2003 Visual Art Grant, Australia Council for the Arts.
- 1996 Two year Visual Arts Fellowship, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Board, Australia Council for the Arts
- 1995 Finalist, 12th Telstra NATSIAA, MAGNT Darwin, NT
- 1995 One year Fellowship, Australia Council for the Arts.
- 1994 Runner Up, Australian Heritage Commission National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award Exhibition, Old Parliament House, Canberra ACT
- 1990 Finalist, Blake Prize for Religious Art, Sydney, NSW across four years in the 1990s