



# Short St. Gallery



## PETER MUNGKURI

|                |                                  |
|----------------|----------------------------------|
| Birth Year     | 1946                             |
| Birth Place    | Fregon                           |
| Language Group | Yankunytjatjara / Pitjantjatjara |
| Region         | APY Lands                        |

### Biography

Peter Mungkuri was born in the bush near Granite Downs, living a traditional life with his parents, three brothers and many sisters. During his early childhood the cattle stations at Mimili and Granite Downs were established, and as a young man he worked for the small Mimili community; watering the trees and establishing the bush garden.

Peter never attended school; instead learning about the land and his culture from his parents and family, as a young man he began working as a cook at the neighboring cattle station and began riding their horses. During this time, Peter became a highly skilled horseman, which led to him working as a stockman.

*"I never went to school, my school was riding horses and all that... I was learning to ride horses, branding, and breaking them; we always learning on the horses. We were living in the scrub and the bush; there was no community, no houses for us."*

As a stockman Peter traveled on horseback between Mimili and Oodnadatta, Kenmore Park and Finke; mustering cattle and droving for weeks on end, alongside his friends (and future painting colleagues) Alec Baker and Whiskey Tjukangku. These three men all recall their time working in the saddle with enduring fondness and pride.

*"We were working together, we go everywhere; Mimili, Kenmore Park, Granite Downs, all over the place, every station, that was in the mission days. We were always riding around, laughing at other blokes, we had a good time. We didn't worry about other things, we just ride around working hard and have good time."*

Having retired from stockman's work, Peter is now a dedicated artist, working daily at the Iwantja Arts art centre in Indulkana Community. Peter is a highly respected elder and leader in



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his community and all throughout the APY Lands. Peter Mungkuri's paintings express his extensive knowledge of country and Anangu culture, and reflect on his experiences working the land as a stockman.

*"I've got good knowledge of horses, stockmen, the country. These things, everything, is my memory – my knowledge, I like painting my country, I like to paint the memories of my country."*

Peter Mungkuri's paintings and work on paper have been acquired by cultural institutions and significant collections in Australia and overseas. Peter Mungkuri was the winner of the inaugural Hadley's Prize for landscape painting in 2017 and was the winner of the NATSIAA General Painting Award in 2018.

## EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 Wilurara Ananyi : Goin' Out West, Short St Gallery, Broome, WA
- 2019 Wynne Exhibition, Art Gallery of NSW
- 2018 Wynne Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 2018 NGURA KUNPU - STRONG COUNTRY, Short St Gallery, Broome, WA
- 2018 Weapons for the Soldier, Hazelhurst Regional Arts Centre, Gymea
- 2018 Nganana Kuranyukutu Ma-Palyani, APY Gallery, Sydney
- 2018 Desert Mob, Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs
- 2018 Art of the APY Lands, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne
- 2018 A Lightness of Spirit is the Measure of Happiness, Australian Centre for Contemporary Art (ACCA), Melbourne
- 2018 Four Senior Men, One Strong Story, Aboriginal and Pacific Art, Sydney NSW
- 2017 Kunpu Mayatja Kutjara, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne
- 2017 TARNANTHI, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide
- 2017 Desert Mob, Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs
- 2017 Winner - Hadley's Art Prize, Hobart
- 2017 Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award – shortlisted, Museum and Art Gallery of Northern Territory, Darwin
- 2017 Many Hands - Paintings from Iwantja, Short St Gallery, Broome, WA
- 2017 Artists of the APY Lands, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne
- 2016 Nganampa Killipil: Our Stars, Hazelhurst Regional Gallery, Gymea, NSW
- 2016 Point of Difference - from Desert to Sea, Artitja Fine Arts, Perth, WA
- 2016 Desert Mob, Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs
- 2016 Salon des Refusal, Outsation Gallery, Darwin
- 2016 National Works on Paper Award - shortlisted. Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, Victoria



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- 2016 Ngura: Country, Short St Gallery, Broome, WA
- 2016 The 39th Alice Art Prize 2016 - shortlisted, Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, VIC
- 2015 Ngura Kunpu (Strong Country) Westspace Gallery, Melbourne - upcoming
- 2015 Desert Mob, Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs
- 2015 APY Showcase, Tandanya, South Australia
- 2015 Salon Exhibition, Outstation Gallery, Darwin
- 2015 Good Friend Ghost Stories & Cowboy Stories, Short St Gallery, Broome, Western Australia
- 2015 APY Exhibition, Raft Artspace, Alice Springs
- 2015 Artitja Fine Arts, Fremantle Western Australia
- 2014 Desert Mob, Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs
- 2014 Viscopy Right Now, Boomalli Gallery, Sydney
- 2014 Desert Mob, Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs
- 2014 Aboriginal Art from the Eastern APY Lands, Kelch Gallery, Freiburg Germany
- 2014 Artitja Fine Art, Fremantle Western Australia
- 2013 Telstra Art Award, Darwin Museum and Art Gallery
- 2013 Outstation, Iwantja Men, Darwin
- 2013 Desert Mob, Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs
- 2013 Harvey Arts Projects, Idaho USA
- 2013 Tali Gallery, Sydney
- 2012 Aboriginal and Pacific Art Gallery, Sydney
- 2012 Chapman Gallery, Canberra
- 2012 Mossenson Gallery, Collingwood
- 2012 Tunbridge Gallery, Margeret River
- 2012 Raft Artspace, Alice Springs
- 2011 Desert Mob, Alice Springs
- 2011 Harvey Arts Projects, Idaho USA
- 2011 Mens Show, Gallery 139, Adelaide
- 2011 Booker Lowe Gallery, Houston Texas
- 2011 Mens Show, Mossenson Gallery, Melbourne
- 2010 Mossenson Gallery, Melbourne
- 2010 Desert Mob, Alice Springs
- 2010 Solo Show, Gallery 139, Adelaide
- 2010 Mossenson Gallery, Perth
- 2009 Desert Mob, Alice Springs
- 2009 Australia Dreaming Gallery, Melbourne
- 2008 Tandanya, Adelaide



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## **COLLECTIONS**

Art Gallery of South Australia  
Art Gallery of NSW  
Foundation Opale  
Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory  
Artbank

## **AWARDS**

2018 General Painting Award, Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award –Museum and Art Gallery of Northern Territory, Darwin, NT  
2017 Hadley's Art Award, Hobart, Tasmania  
2016 People's Choice Award, 39th Alice Art Prize 2016 Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs, NT