



Short St. Gallery



Nyanu (Nyankulya Watson Walyampari) Watson

Born c.1938
Language Group Pitjantjatjara
Region APY Lands

Nyankulya was born at Mt. Aloysius at a rockhole not far from the tri state border, sometime around 1938. As a teenager, she lived at Anumarapiti, now an outstation of Irrunytju. She remembers shortly after this time white fellas came and told her family to go to Ernabella. It was good at the mission, there was lots of flour, tea and sugar. In the morning we would listen for the bell, then we would line up for food, go to church and then to work. She later travelled back to Irrunytju with her family. Nyankulya was a founding member of Irrunytju Arts. She now resides in Nyapari, South Australia.

Nyankula says about her paintings 'I travelled around this country in the early days with my family. There's a lot of rockholes and we used to walk to all of them. We would stop and camp for a while collecting food and then move on to another place. The rockhole at Mt Aloysius had good water. I was born here. The other rockholes in my paintings are: Inurantja, Tjilpultjanga, Kunpunga (waticu ngura men's place) , Mapantji (partilku ngura ringneck parrot place) , Ultjutjara, Itjunga, Yaliri, Palkari, Numpa numpa, Pukara (wati kutjara tjukurpa - two snake mens creation story), Anamarapiti, Palkini, Punu Wara, Apulunga, Attanga and Wanungtjiri." Nyanu grew up at Ernabella when it was a mission. She moved back to Kalka in the homelands movement(an initiative to enable Anangu to return to their own country). She paints with Ninuku Artists, and also works with the Tjanpi Desert Weavers collective and Tjungu Palya.

Group Exhibitions

2018 Talapi Gallery, Alice Springs NT - Bold & Beautiful
2017 Chapman & Bailey Gallery - Ninuku Prints



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2016	Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs NT - Desert Mob
2015	Red Dot Fine Art Gallery, Singapore - Ninuku Tjuta
2015	Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs NT - Desert Mob
2012	Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre, Muswellbrook NSW - Strong Women
2011	RAFT Artspace, Alice Springs NT - Ngintaka
2011	Gallery nine5 and Harvey Art Projects, Soho New York - Manta Iritjangu: Ngura Kutjupalakutu, Ancient Land: New Territory
2011	'Tjunga Palya 2011', Short St Gallery, Broome, WA
2011	'Tjunga Palya - Masterpieces', Chapman Gallery, Canberra, ACT
2011	'Western APY Lands', ArtKelch, Freiburg, Germany
2011	'Wati Ngintaka Tjukurpa', Short St Gallery, Broome, WA
2010	'Raft Launch' Raft Artspace, Alice Springs, NT
2010	'Partnerships' Marshall Arts, Adelaide SA
2010	'Tjukurpa Pulkatjara: The Power of Law South Australian Museum, Adelaide, SA
2010	'Senior Artists Important New Works' Randell Lane Fine Art, Perth, WA
2010	Kulunypa tjuta painamilani, Short St Gallery in Cairns, QLD
2010	New Works by Ninuku Artists, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
2009	Kulilla Nganampa Tjukurpa, Listen to our Stories, Chapman Gallery, Canberra, ACT
2009	Desert Mob, Araluen Centre, Alice Springs, NT
2009	Celebrating Country, Kinship & Culture, Seymour College Art Show, Adelaide, SA
2009	Ninuku Artist Print Exhibition 'Pirinyi', Nomad Art Gallery
2009	Ngura Tjuta: Big Country, Ninuku Art Show, Short St Gallery, Broome, WA
2009	Ninuku Artists 'Ngintaka Tjukurpa: Perentie Lizard Dreaming', Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
2008	Tjukurpa Kutjupa Tutjupa: Other Stories from Ninuku Arts and Tjanpi Desert Weavers, Short St Gallery, Broome, WA
2008	Desert Mob, Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs, NT
2008	Ninuku Arts, Hogarth Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2007	Skin on Skin, Tuggernaong Arts Centre, Canberra, ACT
2007	Seymour College Exhibition, Adelaide, SA
2007	Anangu Backyard, Adelaide Festival Centre, Adelaide, SA
2007	Our Mob, Ninuku Arts, The Adelaide Festival Centre, Adelaide, SA
2007	Desert Mob, Ninuku Arts, Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs, NT
2007	Community in Focus, Ninuku Arts, Randell Lane Fine Art, Perth, WA
2007	Celebration, Tjunga Palya, Chapman Gallery, Canberra, ACT
2007	Uwankara Ngura Palya, Tjunga Palya, Randell Lane Fine Art, Perth, WA



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- 2007 Skin on Skin, Ninuku Arts, Tuggemaong Arts Centre, Canberra, ACT
- 2006 Tjukurpa Mulapa: True Story - Senior Airrunytju Artists, Vivien Anderson Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
- 2005 The Women's Show, Vivien Anderson Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
- 2005 Ngayuku Ngura - 'My Country' New Paintings by senior artists of the Irrunytju Community WA, Vivien Anderson Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
- 2004 Summer Salon, Vivien Anderson Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
- 2002 19th Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Award, Darwin, NT
- 2001 Minyma Pampa Tjukurpa (Stories from the old women), Tjungu Palya, Artplace, Perth, WA

Collections

Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth WA
National Gallery of Australia, Canberra , ACT
National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, VIC
Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs
Artbank, Australian Government National Contemporary Art Rental.
The Marshall Collection, Adelaide, SA
Pat Corrigan Collection, Sydney, NSW
Victorian Tapestry Workshop commission for Australian Embassy in Rome, ITALY
Australian National University, Canberra, ACT
Deakin University, Victoria
Flinders University, South Australia
The Lepley Collection
The Parliament House Collection, ACT
W & V McGeogh Collection, VIC
The Best Knoblacuch Collection, Switzerland

Bibliography

- 2005 Review, Desert Mob 2005 exhibition, Lines Shimmer into shape by Nicholas Rothwell, The Australian, September
- 2006 Rothwell, Nicholas. 'The Deserts Tainted Brush', Review, The Australian, 11 September
- 2006 IAD Press, Jukurpa Diary, Internal Image - 'Ngayuku Ngura 2009'
- 2010 Bevis, Stephen. 'Exhibition overshadowed by death' The West Australian, March 17th.
- 2010 Tjukurpa Pulkatjara - The Power of the Law exhibition catalogue, Ananguku Arts Wakefield Press, pg 40,41.



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- 2009 26th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award, MAGNT. Darwin, NT.
- 2009 Cruthers, John. 'Tjukurpa Mantataja-Stories from the Land' Australian Aboriginal Art Issue 1, March 2009.
- 2009 McCullochs Contemporary Aboriginal Art - the complete guide, pg 128, 142.
- 2008 Desert Mob publicity posters, brochures, catalogue, images of 'Anumarapiti', Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs IAD Press, Jukurpa Diary, internal images 'Ngauuku Ngura' and 'Aloysius'
- 2007 Oglivy, Charlie. The Canberra Times 'Tradition and Exploration mix in joy of contemporary indigenous art'
- 2006 Art on a strong: Aboriginal Threaded objects from Arnhem Land to the central desert. Object Australian Centre for Craft & Design and the Centre for Cross Cultural Research. Outback Blooms, The Herald Sun
- 2006 Desert Dreamers, Felicity Wllian The Perth Voice
- 2005 Review. Desert Mob 2005 exhibition. Lines Shimmer into Shape by Nicholas Rothwell, The Australian, 13 September
- 2009, Diana James, Painting the Song: Kaltjiti artists of the Sand Dune Country, McCulloch & McCulloch
- 2009, Jukurpa Books, Diary 2010, IAD Press, Alice Springs

Awards

- 2009 26th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award
- 2006 23rd Telstra National & Torres Strait Islander Art Award
- 2002 19th Telstra National & Torres Strait Islander Art Award