



Short St. Gallery



Puna Yanima

Born	1955
Language	Yankunytjatjara
Region	APY Lands

Puna Yanima was born in the bush, close to De Rose Hill Station in the far north of South Australia. Her father was Norman Yanima and his country was Piltati, near Nyapari, on the APY Lands. Her mother was Lucy Yanima and she was born in Indulkana. Puna spent her first years living off the land and traveling between communities with her parents and her four siblings. She grew up speaking Yankunytjatjara, and eventually moved to Indulkana as a young girl. Once Puna started a family on her own, she moved to Mimili with her partner and four children.

Puna continues to be one of the senior cultural leaders of Mimili Community. She is passionate about sharing her knowledge of inma (ceremonial song and dance) and culture with the next generation. Puna was introduced to the storylines of Antara as a young woman, and has since continued to integrate this knowledge into her life, passionately caring for kapi tjukula (rock holes), apu (rocks) and murpu (mountains). She often goes on bushtrips and camps out for several days with her family.

Puna Yanima started connecting her deep knowledge of country with the practice of painting as soon as Mimili Maku Arts was founded. As one of the community leaders, she was instrumental in developing the art centre in its early stages. Today, Puna is best known for the inky, fluid and free artworks, that radiate a sense of play and joyfulness.



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Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2023 itjanu - flourishing, Aboriginal Signature Estrangin Gallery Brussels, Belgium
- 2022 tjukurla, Short St Gallery, Broome
- 2022 Profundity, Aboriginal Signature Estrangin Gallery, Brussels
- 2021 ilykuwara, APY Gallery, Adelaide
- 2021 Inside - APY Lands, Aboriginal Signature Estrangin Gallery, Brussels
- 2020 kinara mimi, RAFT Artspace, Alice Springs
- 2020 tintungka, Short St Gallery, Broome
- 2019 Milpatjunanyi, APY Gallery, Adelaide
- 2019 Kunpu Nyaranyi, APY Gallery, Sydney
- 2019 Tjitji malatja tjutaku, Aboriginal Signature Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
- 2018 Malatja-malatja, Aboriginal Signature Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
- 2018 Desert Mob, Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs
- 2018 Wangka Kutjara, Tjukurpa Kutju, Linden New Arts, Melbourne
- 2018 Antara, Harvey Art Projects, Idaho, USA
- 2018 Uwankarangka Tungungku Palyantja, Short Street Gallery, Broome
- 2017 Nganampa Manta Lipiwanu, Aboriginal & Pacific Art, Sydney
- 2017 Desert Mob, Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs
- 2017 Salon des Refusés, Charles Darwin University Art Gallery, Darwin
- 2017 Minyma Tjutaku Tjukurpa (Women's Stories), Short St Gallery, Broome
- 2017 Finalist, Hazelhurst Art on Paper, Hazelhurst Regional Gallery, GyMEA
- 2017 Malatja-malatja Tjutaku Kulu, Outstation Gallery, Darwin
- 2016 Nganampa Killipi: Our Stars, Hazelhurst Regional Gallery, GyMEA
- 2016 Desert Mob, Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs
- 2016 Salon des Refusés, Charles Darwin University Art Gallery, Darwin
- 2016 Kantilya ngaranytjaku. Kuranyukutu nyakunyitjaku, Outstation Gallery, Darwin
- 2016 Tjilpi munu Pampaku Tjukurpa Kunpu Kanyintjaku, RAFT Artspace, Alice Springs
- 2015 Tjukurpa Kunpu - Strong Culture, Harvey Art Projects, Idaho, USA
- 2015 Desert Mob, Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs
- 2015 Puttinguru Urukuta - Desert to the Sea, Short Street Gallery, Broome
- 2015 Ngunyitju Kurunpa - Mother Spirit, Outstation Gallery, Darwin
- 2014 Desert Mob, Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs
- 2014 Nganampa Wangka (Our Voice), Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne
- 2014 Uwankara Nganana Mimili Maku Arts, Outstation Gallery, Darwin
- 2013 Pira-Mimi, Outstation Gallery, Darwin
- 2012 Ngura Puti (Bush Home), Redot Gallery, Singapore
- 2012 Desert Mob, Araluen Gallery, Alice Springs
- 2012 Wapar - Yankunyitjajara Dreaming, Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne
- 2012 Mimili Maku Alinytjara, Outstation Gallery, Darwin
- 2012 Tjukurpa Kunpu, A.P. Bond Gallery, Adelaide
- 2011 Waltjapiti Mimili Maku, RAFT Artspace, Alice Springs



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- 2011 Mimili Maku Mirinpa, Chapman Gallery, Canberra
- 2011 Tjukuritja kunpu kanyitjaku, Aboriginal and Pacific Art, Sydney
- 2011 Mimili Maku Arts, A.P. Bond Gallery, Adelaide
- 2010 Mimili Maku, Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne
- 2010 Piny-Pinypa Tjukurpa Exhibition, RAFT Artspace, Alice Springs
- 2010 Desert Mob, Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs
- 2010 APY Lands, RAFT Gallery, Alice Springs
- 2010 Mimili Maku, Bond Gallery, Adelaide

Awards

- 2019 Finalist, Adelaide Perry Prize for Drawing, Adelaide Perry Gallery
- 2018 Finalist, King & Wood Mallesons Contemporary Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award
- 2018 Finalist, National Works on Paper, The Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery

Collections

- ArtBank
- Charles Darwin University Gallery, Darwin
- Private Collections