



Short St. Gallery



Linda Puna

Born: 1974

Region: Mimili, Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands

Biography:

Linda was born in Mimili Community on the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands in the far northwest of South Australia. Her parents are Puna Yanima and Shannon Kantji. Linda spent her formative years on her homeland around Park Well. Sharing a house with her cousins, sisters and parents, Linda grew up surrounded by skilled artisans and storytellers, learning about the stories that inform her paintings today by watching and listening to the women in her family carve *punu* (wooden sculptures). The men in Linda's family were working as stockmen on stations at the time, and would only come home for the weekends.

Linda recalls loud country music, dancing and storytelling from these weekends. Linda began bringing the stories she learnt from the women in her family to the canvas in 2006. Her paintings often combine Tjukurpa and figurative depictions of everyday community life. As the first Anangu woman to live in a remote community whilst being dependent on an electric wheelchair, Linda shares a unique perspective on life—full of joy, resilience and strengths—in her

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artwork. She often depicts elements of the rocky desert country surrounding Mimili, referencing the Maku (witchetty grub) Tjukurpa. Her paintings often combine these abstract concepts with more figurative depictions of day-to-day objects such as Toyota 4WD vehicles, houses, cardboard boxes, windmills and water tanks. In her very own playful way, Linda uses bold brushstrokes and strong colours to bring to life the reality of remote community life in a fearlessly honest way.

Solo Exhibitions:

2015 Linda Puna Solo, RAFT Artspace, Alice Springs

Group Exhibitions:

2019 The Other Art Fair @ APY Gallery, Australian Technology Park, Sydney
2019 Nganampa Ngurakunpu Kanyintaku, APY Gallery, Sydney
2018 Desert Mob, Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs
2018 Wangka Kutjara, Tjukurpa Kutju (Two voices, one Tjukurpa), blackart projects and Linden New Arts, Melbourne
2018 Nganampa Walytjarara Walytjaraku Christmas pukulpa, APY Gallery, Sydney
2018 Uwankarangka Tjungungku Palyantja, Short Street Gallery, Broome
2017 Minyma Tjutaku Tjukurpa: Women's Stories, Short St Gallery, Broome
2017 Our Rising Stars 2, Hazelhurst Regional Gallery, Gymea
2017 Little Creatures Big Country, Talapi, Alice Springs
2016 Our Rising Stars, Hazelhurst Regional Gallery, Gymea
2016 Desert Mob, Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs
2016 Desert Colour, Talapi, Alice Springs
2015 Tjukurpa Kunpu, Harvey Art Projects, Idaho, USA
2015 Desert Mob, Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs
2015 Salon des Refusés, Outstation Gallery, Darwin
2015 Rising Stars, Outstation Gallery, Darwin
2015 Loreto Spring Art-Emerging Artist Showcase, Loreto College, Marrayatville
2014 Desert Mob, Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs
2014 Uwankara Nganana Mimili Maku Arts, Outstation Gallery, Darwin
2012 Desert Mob, Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs
2012 Wapar-Yankunyjtjara Dreaming, Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne
2012 Ngura Puti (Bush Home), Redot Gallery, Singapore
2011 Waltjapiti Mimili Maku, RAFT Artspace, Alice Springs
2010 Mimili Maku, Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne
2009 Desert Mob, Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs
2008 Desert Mob, Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs
2006 Desert Mob, Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs

Collections:

Araluen Art Centre
SA Native Title Services