



Short St. Gallery

Yurpiya Lionel

Birth Year 1960
Birth Place Donalds Well, Kenmore Park
Language Group Pitjantjatjara
Region APY Lands



Biography

Yurpiya was born at the homeland Donald's Well, near Kenmore Park, about 45 kms east of Ernabella. She is the daughter of Pantjiti Lionel, a very senior Pitjantjatjara woman and artist. Her family lived in Ernabella where she ended school. In 2004 Yurpiya started painting at Ernabella Arts and is now a leader of the women's painting studio. She has three children and several grandchildren - her daughters Rachael and Alison Lionel are rising stars of the painting and ceramic studios.

Yurpiya is also a very accomplished fibre sculptor and weaver. In 2011 her work was acquired by the University of Newcastle. In 2015 Yurpiya was a finalist in the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards, and in 2018 she was a finalist in the Wynne Prize.

In 2017 she exhibited alongside her two daughters and her mother in The Lionel family - Tjukurpa tutjura kunpu ngaranytjaku (Keeping our tjukurpa strong forever.)

In 2018 Sabbia Gallery featured her work at Sydney Contemporary. In the same year, her paintings were exhibited in APY LANDS LA: Central Desert Painters of Australia in Los Angeles.

In 2020 she participated in Nganampa ngura-nguru nyurampa ngurakutu (From our place to your place) at Aboriginal Signature in Brussels.

Yurpiya continues to exhibit both nationally and internationally.

Group Exhibitions

2022 Short Street Gallery, Broome, WA – Manta Tjula – Soft Earth
2021 Aboriginal Signature, Bruxelles, Belgium - Caress the Earth: Manta Ngura Atuntju Kanyini
2021 Everywhen Artspace, Mornington Peninsular, VIC - Three Ladies from Ernabella: Minyma Mankurpa Ernabella la Nguru
2021 Outstation, Darwin, NT - Ernabella Arts Group Exhibition



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- 2021 Artitja Fine Art Gallery, South Fremantle, WA - Ananyi Nyurakutu- Going Home
- 2021 Talapi Gallery, Alice Springs, NT - Flying Colours
- 2020 Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide, SA - Tamarthi Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art: Open Hands
- 2020 Aboriginal Contemporary, Sydney, NSW - Nganampa Tjukurpa Ananyi Kakarara (Our Stories Going East)
- 2020 Talapi Gallery, Alice Springs, NT - Flying Colours
- 2020 Aboriginal Signature, Brussels, Belgium - Nganampa ngura-nguru nyurampa ngurakutu (From our place to your place)
- 2019 Sabbia Gallery, Sydney, NSW - Together we tell our stories Indigenous Glass, Ceramics, Fibre + Canvas
- 2019 JamFactory Craft and Design Centre, Adelaide, VIC - Wanapari - in a line, following one another
- 2019 Everywhen Space, McCulloch and McCulloch, VIC - ReGeneration: Showing, teaching, passing down.
- 2019 Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs, NT - Desert Mob 2019
- 2019 Heide Museum of Modern Art, Bulleen, VIC - An Idea Needing to be Made: Contemporary Ceramics
- 2019 Talapi Gallery, Alice Springs, NT - About Country
- 2019 Olsen Gruin, Los Angeles, USA - APY LANDS LA: Central Desert Painters of Australia
- 2019 Short Street Gallery, Broome, WA - Anangu uwankara tjunguringkula pukulpa nyinama | Anangu happily sitting and working together
- 2018 Sabbia Gallery at Carriageworks, Sydney Contemporary
- 2018 Araluen Art Centre, Desert Mob 2018
- 2018 Wynne Prize Finalist, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, NSW
- 2017 Nyuyuntjaku-Keeping the fire alive: New paintings and ceramics by the artist of Ernabella Arts, Harvey Arts, USA
- 2017 In These Hands:Mara Nyangangka, Strut Gallery, Mittagong NSW
- 2017 Desert mob 2017, Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs NT
- 2017 Spirited-Kurunitja, Short St Gallery, Broome WA
- 2017 The Lionel Family: Tjukurpa tititjura ngaranyjaku Keeping our Tjukurpa Strong forever, Turnbridge Gallery, Subiaco
- 2017 Inuntjii-Regeneration, Aboriginal Signature, Estrangin Gallery, Bruxelles, Belgium
- 2017 Nganampa Killipi Kuwartija Tjuta pakani:Our Rising Stars II, Hazelhurst Regional Community Gallery NSW
- 2017 Inuntjii – Regeneration - Aboriginal Signature, Estrangin gallery, Bruxelles,
- 2017 Nganampa Killipi Kuwartija Tjuta pakani: Our Rising Stars II - Hazelhurst Regional Community Gallery, NSW
- 2017 Relative Colours - Aboriginal Contemporary, Sydney, NSW
- 2016 Nganampa Killipil: Our Stars - Hazelhurst Regional Gallery & Arts Centre



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- 2016 Nganampa Killipi Kuwartija Tjuta pakani: Our Rising Stars - Hazelhurst Regional Community Gallery, NSW
- 2016 Inheritance - Salt Contemporary, Queenscliff, VIC
- 2016 Desert Mob - Araluen Arts Centre
- 2016 Tradition and Innovation - Parcours des Mondes, Paris, France
- 2016 Kuwaritja: APY kakarara guru | New work from the Eastern APY Lands – Outstation Gallery, Darwin
- 2016 The Blooming Desert - Talapi Gallery, Alice Springs
- 2015 Tjukurpa Kunpu / Strong Culture: HOLIDAY SHOW 2015-2016 - Harvey Art Projects, USA
- 2015 Artisans in the Gardens - Lion Gate Lodge, The Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney
- 2015 Desert Mob - Araluen Arts Centre
- 2015 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts Awards - Museum and Art Gallery Northern Territory, Darwin NT
- 2015 Paysages Aborigènes incarnés de l'APY land (Incarnated Aboriginal landscape from the APY lands) - Aboriginal Signature, Brussels
- 2015 Kuruntu mukuringkula kulira palyantja (Stories straight from the heart) - Short Street Gallery, Broome
- 2015 Rising Stars - Outstation Gallery, Darwin NT
- 2014 APY 7 - Raft ArtSpace, Alice Springs NT
- 2014 Desert Mob 2014 - Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs NT
- 2014 Pilanypa - Harvey Art Projects, Idaho USA
- 2014 Desert Colour - Talapai Gallery, Alice Springs NT
- 2013 Desert Mob 2013 - Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs NT
- 2013 APY Lands Survey Exhibition - Outstation Gallery, Darwin NT
- 2013 Nyinninga (The Cold Time of the Year) - Harvey Art Projects, Idaho USA
- 2013 Putitja - Strathnairn Gallery, Canberra ACT
- 2013 Australian Vision, NAIDOC 2013 - Australian High Commission, Singapore in conjunction with Redot Gallery
- 2012 Kapi Ukalinganyi - Aboriginal and Pacific Art Gallery, Sydney NSW
- 2012 Tjukurpa Mulapa (True Stories) - Redot Fine Art Gallery, Singapore
- 2012 Ngapartji Ngapartji - Chapman Gallery, Canberra ACT
- 2012 Tjamuku Kamiku Tjukurpa - Outstation Gallery, Darwin NT
- 2011 Tjukurpa nyangatja ngananala unngu ngaranyi - Aboriginal and Pacific Art, Sydney NSW
- 2011 Ernabella Undiscovered - Tunbridge Gallery, Margaret River WA
- 2011 Ngura Kutju, Tjukurpa Pulkatjara - Short St Gallery, Broome WA
- 2011 Tjukurpa Irititja, Walka Kuwaritja - Marshall Arts, Adelaide SA
- 2011 Ernabella Arts Kuwari - Ernabella Arts Now - Chapman Gallery, Canberra ACT
- 2011 Desert Mob - Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs NT



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- 2010 Ngura Nganampa tjulpu wirutjara munu kapi wala wirutjara - Outstation Gallery, Darwin, NT
- 2010 Recent Paintings - Chapman Gallery, Canberra, ACT
- 2010 Ara irititja munu ara kuwaritja Ernabella-la - Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
- 2010 Our Mob - Adelaide Festival Centre, Adelaide, SA
- 2010 Ngura Nganampa (Our Country) - JamFactory Contemporary Craft, Adelaide SA
- 2009 Anangu Backyard - Adelaide Festival Centre, Adelaide, SA
- 2008 Nganampa Tjukurpa (Our stories) - Indigenart (Mossensson Galleries), Perth, WA
- 2008 Nganampa warka wiru (Our work is beautiful) - Cudgegong Gallery, Gulgong, NSW
- 2008 Desert Mob (with Tjanpi Desert Weavers) - Araluen Cultural Centre, Alice Springs, NT

Collections

University of Newcastle, 2011

Awards

- 2020 Waterhouse Natural Science Prize, Finalist
- 2018 Wynne Prize, Finalist
- 2015 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award, Finalist
- 2007 Special Mention, Alice Springs Beanie Festival, Araluen Cultural Precinct, Alice Springs

Bibliography

- 2014 ARTKELCH, Robyn Kelch: Eastern APY Lands, exhibition catalogue Pro Community 2014, Freiburg, Germany