

Derek Jungarrayi Thompson

Birth Year 1976
Birth Place Papunya
Language Group Pitjantjatjara
Region APY Lands



Biography

Derek Jungarrayi Thompson is the maternal grandson of Papunya Tula Artist, Makinti Napanangka. He first came to work at Ernabella Arts over April 2011, during the first men-only ceramic workshop. Everyone was surprised by Derek's first drawings on clay and he explained that he draws 'all the time, at home.

Derek is also an avid hunter. The translation of his drawings of the Pukatja landscape and animal life onto ceramics is quite unique and has received instant interest from collectors and curators.

In 2012 Derek was selected to be a finalist in the Gold Coast International Ceramic art Award. He also undertook a residency at the Ceramic Workshop of the Australian National University, where he did pottery and printmaking. In 2013 Thompson's work 'Ngintaka Kutjara' was highly commended in the Muswellbrook Art Prize and acquired by Muswellbrook Regional Gallery. Since then his collaborative works with Ngunytjima Carroll have been selected for the NATSIAAs (National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards), the Sunshine Coast Art Prize and the City of Hobart Art Prize. Ngunytjima throws tall pots, which Derek draws on, using the sgraffito technique.

Derek and Tjimpuna Williams were awarded a New Work grant by the Australia Council for the Arts and in May 2013 undertook a big pot workshop in Jingdezhen, China. This work was exhibited in March 2014 at Sydney's prestigious Sabbia Gallery. In 2015 he is exhibited with Sabbia Gallery in Sydney and Canberra, as part of the Australian Ceramics Triennale.

He has been a key-contributing artist in Ernabella's annual Watiku (men's) ceramic exhibition at Raft artspace, Alice Springs. In 2016 he was included in the Sabbia 'Ceramics Masters' exhibition. From 2017 his work is touring regional Australia as part of the major exhibition 'Clay Stories: Indigenous ceramics from remote Australia'. He also presented new work alongside Pepai Jangala Carroll at the Art Gallery of South Australia in Tamanthi | Festival of contemporary Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art.



In 2017 Derek's work was exhibited at Harvey Arts in the USA in Nyuyuntjaku - Keeping the fire alive | New paintings and ceramics by the artists of Ernabella Arts and in 2018 his work was exhibited several times, including in Something Blue at the Sabbia Gallery in Sydney.

Derek also undertook a ceramics residency at JamFactory, Adelaide alongside three other Indigenous male potters.

In 2019 Derek attended a ceramic residency at ANU. This brought together artists from Emabella Arts, Erub Arts on the Torres Strait Islands, Hermannsburg Potters from the Northern Territory and Girringun Art Centre in Queensland and provided a unique opportunity for these artists to learn from each other. The work created during this residency was then shown at an exhibition at Nishi Gallery in Canberra titled Berder. Gaba. Urrknga. Wantja.

Group Exhibitions

2021	Short Street Gallery, Broome, WA - Desert Creatures
2021	Outstation, Darwin, NT - Emabella Arts Group Exhibition
2021	Artitja Fine Art Gallery, South Fremantle, WA - Ananyi Nyurakutu - Going Home
2020	Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide, SA - Tamarthi Aboriginal and Torres
	Strait Islander Art: Open Hands
2020	Charles Darwin University Gallery - Salon de Refuse
2020	Short Street Gallery, Broome, WA - Nganampa Tjukurpa Ananyi Wilurara (Our
_0_0	Stories Going West)
2020	SDR Gallery at Paul Johnston Gallery, Darwin, NT - Manngu (nest)
2019	Aboriginal Contemporary, Sydney, NSW - Ernabella Arts: Small Ceramics
2019	Salon Project Space, Parap, NT - Stoneware from the Desert
2019	Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs, NT - Desert Mob 2019
2019	Talapi Gallery, Alice Springs, NT - Desert Colour featuring Ernabella ceramics
2019	APY Collective Gallery, Adelaide, SA - Uwankara Tjungu (all in)
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	Hazlehurst Regional Gallery - Weapons for the Soldier
2018	Hawkesbury Regional Gallery, NSW - WILD: Flora and fauna in Australian Art
2018	Sabbia Gallery - Something Blue
2017	Harvey Arts, USA - Nyuyuntjaku - Keeping the fire alive New paintings and
	ceramics by the artists of Ernabella Arts
2017	Sturt Gallery, Mittagong NSW - In These Hands: Mara Nyangangka
2017	TARNANTHI: Festival of contemporary of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
	Art, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide SA - Mark and Memory
2017	Talapi Gallery, Alice Springs, NT - Little Creatures - Big Country



Short St. Gallery

2017	Sabbia Gallery, Sydney NSW - Clay Stories: Indigenous ceramics from remote
2016	Australia Hazelhurst Regional Gallery & Arts Centre - Nganampa Kililpil: Our Stars
2016	Salt Contemporary, Queenscliff, VIC - Inheritance
2016	Raft Artspace, Alice Springs NT - Paluru tjukurpa pulka kanyilpai: He keeps our
2010	stories safe
2016	Sabbia Gallery, Sydney - Abundance - The Australian landscape in ceramics
2015	Raft Artspace, Alice Springs NT - Wati tjuta-ku Tjukurpa kunpu ngaranyi – All
	the men have strong stories, always there
2015	Short Street Gallery, Broome - Kuruntu mukuringkula kulira palyantja (Stories
0045	straight from the heart)
2015	Sabbia Gallery, Paddington NSW - Yangupala Tjuta Waakarinyi (Many Young
2014	People Working) ReDot Fine Art Gallery, Singapore - Ngura Kutjupa, Tjukurpa Kutju (Different
2014	Country, Same Story)
2014	Shanghai Urban Planning Exhibition Centre, Shanghai China - Fragrant Lands —
	Exhibition of Chinese and Australian Indigenous Art
2014	Raft Artspace, Alice Springs NT - Tjulpirpa wiya - Clay!
2014	Tandanya, Adelaide SA - Fragrant Lands — Exhibition of Chinese and Australian
	Indigenous Art
2014	Boomalli Gallery, Leichardt NSW - Right Now. In support of Artist Resale Royalty
2014	Sabbia Gallery, Paddington NSW - Tjungu Warkarintja: Fifteen Years
2013	Noosa Regional Gallery, Sunshine Coast QLD - Sunshine Coast Art Prize 2013
2013	Raft Artspace, Alice Springs NT - Emabella Men, New Ceramics
2013	Nomad Gallery, Darwin NT - Derek Thompson and Ngunytjima Carroll
2013	Salt Contemporary Art, Queenscliff VIC - Ochres and Barks: Contemporary
0010	Indigenous Art of the Land
2013	Strathnaim Arts, Canberra ACT - Putitja: From the Bush
2013	Aboriginal and Pacific Art Gallery, Sydney NSW - Putitja: From Spinifex Country
2013	Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin WA - NATSIAAs Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne VIC - Dickie Minyintiri, Pantiiti Lionel, Derek
2013	Alcastori Gallery, Melbourne vic - Dickle Milityiritiri, Partijiti Lloriet, Detek Thompson
2013	Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs NT - Desert Mob 2013
2013	Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart TAS - City of Hobart Art Prize
2013	Short St Gallery, Broome WA - A Study of the Figurative in Desert Painting
2013	Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre, Muswellbrook NSW - 42nd Muswellbrook
2010	Art Prize
2012	Talapi Gallery, Alice Springs NT - Wanampi, Ngintaka and other epic stories
2012	Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne VIC - Uwankara Kurunpa Kutju-Tjara
2012	South Australian Museum, Adelaide SA - Ngayuku Ngura, Ngayuku Tjukurpa
2012	Aboriginal and Pacific Art Gallery, Sydney NSW - Kapi Ukalingany



Short St. Gallery

2012	Gold Coast City Gallery, Surfers Paradise QLD - Gold Coast International
	Ceramic Art Award
2012	Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs NT - Desert Mob 2012
2012	Talapi Gallery, Alice Springs NT - Desert Colours
2012	Raft Artspace, Alice Springs NT - We know our land, we keep our land

Awards

2019	Artist in Resident, Australian National University School of Art and Design
	Ceramic Workshop
2013	New Work Grant, ATSIAB, Australia Council for the Arts
2013	Highly Commended, NATSIAA Telstra Awards, Museum and Art Gallery
	Northern Territory, Darwin
2013	Highly Commended, 42nd Muswellbrook Art Prize

Bibliography

2016	Inompson, D with Inompson, A. Working potter 2016, Ceramics Monthly,
	June 2016, 42-45
2014	OCallaghan, G. Tjungu (together): Derek Thompson and Tjimpuna Williams in
	China, Artlink Indigenous: Blackground, Vol 34, No. 2, 2014 page 71-72
2014	OCallaghan, G. Tjungu Warkarintja (working together) in Jingdezhen, The
	Journal of Australian Ceramics, April 2014, p 26 – 31
2014	DeBoos, J. From Emabella to Jingdezhen, Craft Arts International, No 90,
	2014, p.38-42
2014	McKenzie, H. Emabella in Jingdezhen, Ceramics Monthly, January 2014, p.
	18-22
2011	Lee, J. Watiku Workshop. Minyma Wiya! The Journal of Australian Ceramics,
	November 2011, p 69 – 71
	100011001 2011, p 00 11

Collections

Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin NT, 2013 Muswellbrook Regional Art Gallery, NSW, 2013

National Museum of Australia, Canberra ACT, 2014

Parliament House Collection, Canberra

Powerhouse Museum, Sydney, NSW, 2014

Queensland Art Gallery / Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane, QLD, 2014

The ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences Artworks and Antiquities Collection, Canberra ACT, 2014

University of Wollongong, NSW, 2014