



Short St. Gallery



Kunmanara (Ray) Ken

Born c1940
Language Yankunytjatjara
Region Alice Springs, NT

Ray grew up in Pukutja (Ernabella Mission). As a young man he worked as a stockman and ringer at the surrounding cattle stations.

Ray had never painted before mid 2003. He is a slow and meticulous worker who is drawn to vibrant colours that reflect the luminous colours of the sand dunes and desert landscape he paints.

Solo Exhibitions

2014 Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne - Ngayulu witini kanyani, ngayuku tjukurpa - I hold the story of my country

Group Exhibitions

2022 Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne - ALL ABOUT ART 2022 - Annual Collectors Exhibition
2018 Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin - 35th Telstra National Indigenous Art Award Finalist
2018 Aboriginal and Pacific, Sydney - Tjala Arts: New work by senior artists
2018 Tamworth Regional Gallery - Beyond Art: True stories from the desert by senior men, from the Sims Dickson Collection
2018 Short Street Gallery, Broome - Amata Imagined Touring - MAGNT, • UQ Art Museum, • Western Plains Cultural Centre Dubbo, • Mildura Art Gallery •



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- QVMAG Tasmania • Australian National Maritime Museum - Defying Empire - National touring program 2018-2020
- 2018 Art Gallery of New South Wales - The Wynne Prize
- 2018 Alcaston Gallery - Melbourne - Kulata Mens Painting
- 2018 ARTKELCH, Freiburg, Germany - Ngura Ninti - Knowing Country
- 2018 ARTKELCH @ Museum Fünf Kontinente, München, Germany - Don't forget to sing!
- 2017 Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin - 34th Telstra National Indigenous Art Award Finalist
- 2017 Art Gallery of New South Wales - The Wynne Prize
- 2017 National Gallery of Australia - Defying Empire: 3rd National Indigenous Art Triennial
- 2017 ARTKELCH, Freiburg, Germany - Standpunkte! Neue Werke von Tjala Arts (Viewpoints! New Work From Tjala Arts)
- 2017 ARTKELCH, Freiburg, Germany - FINALISTS. 1997 – 2017
- 2017 ARTKELCH @ Teppichhaus Jordan, Waldshut-Tiengen, Germany - Farben der Wüste (Colours of the Desert)
- 2017 ARTKELCH Collectors Lounge @ kptec, Schorndorf, Germany - Farbe bekennen – Neue Werke aus Amata (Show Your Colours - New Work Out of Amata) 2017
- 2017 Alcaston Gallery - Artists of the APY Lands
- 2016 Aboriginal Signature Estrangin Gallery, Brussels - Gems from the desert by Aboriginal Signature Estrangin gallery
- 2016 Hazelhurst Regional Gallery and Art Centre, Sydney - Nganampa Kilipil: Our Stars
- 2016 Aboriginal and Pacific Art, Sydney - 2016 Seven Sisters
- 2016 Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne - Kulata Tjuta - Freddy Ken and Ray Ken
- 2015 Art Gallery of South Australia - TARNANTHI FESTIVAL - Kulata Tjuta Inma, Government House, Adelaide
- 2015 Outstation Gallery and Paul Johnstone Gallery in association with Darwin Festival - Salon des Refues
- 2015 Art Gallery of Western Australian - Western Australian Indigenous Art Award 2015
- 2015 Aboriginal and Pacific Art, Sydney - Tjintu wiru - Beautiful day
- 2015 Outstation Gallery, Darwin - Tjukurpa, Ngura, Waltja - Culture, Country, Family
- 2015 Aboriginal Signature Estrangin Gallery, Brussels - Ligne de vie nomade at Aboriginal Signature Estrangin gallery
- 2014 Araluen Galleries, Alice Springs - Desert Mob
- 2014 Museum and Art Gallery of Northern Territory - 31st Telstra National Indigenous Art Award Finalist
- 2014 Aboriginal and Pacific Art Gallery, Sydney - Paintings from the Heart of Amata Country



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2014	Outstation Gallery Darwin - Tjala-nga Tjara - Its all about Tjara
2014	Red Dot Gallery Singapore - Tjintu kuwaritja wiru mulapa
2014	AGSA - 2014 Adelaide Biennale - DARK HEART
2013	Araleun Galleries, Alice Springs - Desert Mob
2013	Art Gallery of Western Australia - Western Australian Indigenous Art Awards 2013
2013	Outstation Gallery Darwin - APY Lands Survey Exhibition 2013
2013	Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne - Tjala Arts Men
2013	Outstation Gallery Darwin - Kunpu Pulka – Strong and Important
2013	Marshall Arts Gallery Adelaide - Manta wirunya mulapa. This beautiful Earth.
2013	ARTKELCH, Freiburg, Germany - Revival in Small – Western APY Lands
2013	ARTKELCH Collectors Lounge @ kptec, Schorndorf, Germany - A Lesson in Pitjantjatjara
2012	Marshall Arts, Adelaide - Tjala Arts New Works
2012	Short Street Gallery, Perth - Tjala Arts New Works
2012	RAFT Artspace, Alice Springs - Punu Ngura - From the trees
2012	Outstation Gallery, Darwin - Ngura ngura munu malaka ngura kutu - From home and returning home Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne - Kunpu munu ninti pilulka - Nyangatja anangu tjuta ku minyma ku way. Strong and Wise - This is the way of Anangu Women
2012	ARTKELCH @ Kunstwerk, Eberdingen-Nussdorf, @ ARTKELCH, Freiburg, @ Emmanuel Walderdorff Galerie, Köln, @ Grassi Museum, Leipzig, Germany - PRO COMMUNITY – Western APY Lands, Touring exhibition
2011	Chapman Gallery, Canberra - Tjala Arts
2011	ARTKELCH, Leipzig, Germany - Pro Community – Western APY Lands
2011	Aboriginal & Pacific Art, Sydney - Ngura Wiru Mulapa - Our Beautiful Country
2011	Outstation Gallery, Darwin - Nganampa Kampatjanka Ungutja, Behind Our Canvas
2011	Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne - Mens Work Tjala Arts
2011	Raft Artspace, Alice Springs - I Hold My Mothers Story I Hold My Fathers Story
2011	Marshall Arts, Adelaide - Closing the Gap
2010	Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne - Watiku tjukurpa pulka mulapa
2010	South Australian Museum - Tjukurpa Pulkatjara
2010	Outstation Gallery, Darwin - Tjukurpa kunpu nganana kanyini pulka – Our stories, we hold strong
2010	Aboriginal and Pacific Art Gallery, Sydney - Nganampa Tjukurpa Nunpu: Our Strong Stories Tjala Arts, Amata 2010
2010	Araleun Galleries, Alice Springs - Desert Mob
2010	Marshall Arts, Adelaide - APY NPY Exhibition
2009	Randell Lane, Perth - Tjala Arts - New Work
2009	Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne - Tjala Arts - Men
2009	Aboriginal & Pacific Art, Sydney - Tjala Arts



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2009	Chapman Gallery, Canberra - New Work, Tjala Arts
2009	Araluen Galleries, Alice Springs - Desert Mob
2008	Aboriginal & Pacific Art, Sydney - Tjukurpa nganampa kunpu kanyintjaku – Stories that keep culture strong
2008	Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne - Tjala Arts Men
2008	Perth - Randell Lane Fine Art
2007	Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne - Nyangatja nganampa tjukurpa: These are our stories
2006	Red Dot Gallery, Singapore - Utulu kuwaritja Amatala nguru - New mob from Amata
2006	Art Images, Adelaide - Tjala Arts: SALA Festival
2005	Bandigan Art, Sydney - Waku Kunpu: Strong Work
2005	Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne - Amata watiku tkukurpa wiru: Good stories from Amata men

Collections

ART GALLERY OF NEW SOUTH WALES
ART GALLERY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA
ART GALLERY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
LAVERTY COLLECTION
MARSHALL COLLECTION
NATIONAL GALLERY OF AUSTRALIA
NATIONAL GALLERY OF VICTORIA

Bibliography

2018	ARTKELCH, Robyn Kelch: Don't forget to sing!, Exhibition catalogue, Freiburg, Germany, 2018
2017	ARTKELCH, Robyn Kelch: Tjala Arts, Exhibition catalogue, Freiburg, Germany, 2017
2015	Ken Family work on show at Outstation Gallery, The Australian - Nicholas Rothwell - 22 May
2012	For the leaves of the family tree Kieran Finnane, Alice Springs News online, March
2012	The Way its always been and the way of the future Alice Springs News, 10 September
2012	Mysteries of the desert kings stay concealed among the trees Nicholas Rothwell, The Australian, 1 March
2012	Don't fence me in: thrust of artworks parries need for barriers, Robert Nelson, The Age, 18 July



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- 2012 Desert Mob lays out the legacy Nicholas Rothwell, The Australian, 13 September
- 2011 ARTKELCH, Robyn Kelch: Western APY Lands, Exhibition catalogue Pro Community 2011, Freiburg, Germany, 2011
- 2011 APY Art Project involves young and old, Jeremy Eccles, Aboriginal Art News, 23 March

Awards

- 2018 Telstra Prize Finalist
- 2018 Wynne Prize Finalist
- 2014 Telstra Prize Finalist
- 2013 Finalist - Western Australian Indigenous Art Awards
- 2011 Shortlisted for Telstra Prize
- 2009 Shortlisted for Telstra Prize