



Short St. Gallery



Yaritji Young

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| Born | 1954 |
| Language Group | Pitjantatjarra |
| Mothers Country | Aron |
| Fathers Country | Wintawata |
| Region | APY Lands |

Biography

Yaritji Young is a highly respected artist and community leader. Yaritji has worked at Tjala Arts (formerly Minymaku Arts) since late 2000 and is now an acclaimed artist with a formidable arts practice. She is a senior law woman in the community as well as a longstanding Director at Tjala Arts, and is deeply committed to fostering law and culture. Born in Ernabella in c.1954, Yaritji now resides in Amata Community in the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands. Yaritji is a traditional owner for Tjala Tjukurpa – the Honey Ant story – near Amata. She paints the journey of the tjala as the honey ants tunnel underground, their transit marked by twisted lines that entwine with rock holes, caves, and landmarks of her country. Yaritji's characteristic bright palette depicts a landscape filled with colour and energy, splashed with wildflowers after rain. Through iconography and distinctive mark-making Yaritji portrays paramount links between the land around Amata and its tjala ancestors, Anangu mythology and the inter-dependence of the honey ant on the environment.

'My paintings are of my country: my father's country, my grandmother's country, the tjala country. Everything that my grandmother taught me, I'm teaching to my grandchildren now. They dance because I have shared what I got from my grandmother with my granddaughters, so they can know their culture.' Yaritji is the eldest daughter of celebrated artists Mick Wikilyiri and Kunmanara (Paniny) Mick. Along with her sisters – Tjungkara Ken, Freda Brady, Maringka Tunkin and Sandra Ken – Yaritji also forms part of the 'Ken Sisters' Collaborative', who were



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awarded the Wynne Prize in 2016 for their collaborative painting at the Art Gallery of New South Wales. Young has exhibited widely across Australia and overseas.

Solo Exhibitions

- 2022 Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne - YAALTJIGKA NGAYULU NGARANYI - WHERE I STAND
- 2021 Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne - YARITJI YOUNG NGURA KUNPU - STRONG COUNTRY
- 2020 Alcaston Gallery - Melbourne - YARITJI YOUNG MAMA UNTALPA KUNPU – STRONG FATHER AND DAUGHTER
- 2019 Alcaston Gallery - YARITJI YOUNG - FROM MY FATHERS COUNTRY
- 2018 Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne - Yaritji Young: Ngayuku Ngura
- 2017 Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne - Yartiji Young: Walytjapitiku Laina

Group Exhibitions

- 2025 Tarrawarra Muesum of Art - Tarrawarra Biennale- Melbourne
- 2024 Olsen Gallery, Sydney - OLSEN GALLERY Minyma Kungkarapa- Yaritji Young and Sylvia Ken
- 2023 Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne - ALCASTON GALLERY - OLD TRACKS NEW ROADS – MAPPING COUNTRY
- 2022 Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne - Sydney Contemporary
- 2022 Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin - 40th Telstra National Indigenous Art Award Finalist
- 2022 Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin - 39th Telstra National Indigenous Art Award Finalist
- 2022 Olsen Gallery, Sydney - TJALA WOMEN (FEATURING THE KEN SISTERS) NGANAMPA NGURA KURUNJARA (PART II)
- 2022 Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne - ALL ABOUT ART 2022 - Annual Collectors Exhibition
- 2021 Art Gallery of South Australia - Tamaranthi 2021
- 2021 Olsen Gallery, Sydney - YARITJI YOUNG +MITAKIKI WOMENS COLLABORATIVE
- 2020 Olsen Gallery, Sydney - NGANAMPA TJUKURPA PULKATJARA-Stories From Our Land
- 2019 Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin - 36th Telstra National Indigenous Art Award Finalist
- 2019 Jan Murphy Gallery, Brisbane - Seven Sisters
- 2019 Art Gallery of New South Wales - Wynne Prize
- 2019 Olsen Gruin Gallery, New York - APY LANDS
- 2018 Olsen Gallery, Sydney - NGANAMPA NGURA KURUNJARA - THE PLACE OF OUR SPIRIT
- 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 Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne - Art of the APY Art Centre Collective



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2018 Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre - Ancient Stories New Narratives: 21st Century Aboriginal Womens Art, new works from the Sims Dickson Collection
2018 Jan Murphy Gallery - Brisbane - Seven Sisters Exhibition
2018 Art Gallery of New South Wales - The Wynne Prize
2018 Art Gallery of South Australia - Divided Worlds, Adelaide Biennial of Art
2018 ARTKELCH @ Museum Fünf Kontinente, München, Germany - Don't forget to sing!
2017 Art Gallery of South Australia - TARNANTHI FESTIVAL - Art Gallery of South Australia Indigenous Art Salon
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 ARTKELCH, Freiburg, Germany - Standpunkt! Neue Werke von Tjala Arts (Viewpoints! New Work From Tjala Arts)
2017 ARTKELCH Collectors Lounge @ kptec, Schorndorf, Germany - Farbe bekennen – Neue Werke aus Amata (Show Your Colours - New Work Out of Amata)
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 Museum and Art Gallery of Northern Territory - 33rd Telstra National Indigenous Art Award Finalist
2016 Art Gallery of New South Wales - Wynne Prize
2016 Art Gallery of New South Wales - Wynne Prize
2016 Aboriginal and Pacific Art, Sydney - 2016 Seven Sisters
2015 Short Street Gallery, Broome - Kwarila Tjunguringayi - All together now
2015 OutStation Gallery, Darwin - Tjukurpa, Ngura, Waltja - Culture, Country, Family
2014 Araluen Galleries, Alice Springs - Desert Mob
2013 Araluen Galleries, Alice Springs - Desert Mob
2013 Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory - 30th Telstra National Indigenous Art Award Finalist
2013 Outstation Gallery Darwin - APY Lands Survey Exhibition 2013
2013 Aboriginal & Pacific Art - Sydney - 2013 Tjukurpa nganampa kunpu kanyintjaku: Stories that keep culture strong
2013 Outstation Gallery Darwin - Kunpu Pulka – Strong and Important
2013 Marshall Arts Gallery Adelaide - Manta wirunya mulapa. This beautiful Earth.
2012 Aboriginal & Pacific Art, Sydney - Tjungu Kutju-tu (Together As One) – Tjala Arts & Tjungu Palya
2012 Marshall Arts, Adelaide - Tjala Arts: New Work
2012 RAFT Artspace, Alice Springs - Punu Ngura - From the trees
2012 Short St Gallery, Broome - One Song Different Tune



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2012 Outstation Gallery, Darwin - Ngura ngura munu malaku ngura kutu - From home and returning home
2011 ARTKELCH @ Kunstwerk, Eberdingen-Nussdorf, @ ARTKELCH, Freiburg, @ Emmanuel Walderdorff Galerie, Köln, @ Grassi Museum, Leipzig, Germany - PRO COMMUNITY – Western APY Lands, Touring exhibition
2011 Marshall Arts, Adelaide - Tjala Arts New Works
2011 Raft Artspace, Alice Springs - I Hold My Fathers Story. I Hold My Mothers Story
2011 Chapman Gallery, Canberra - Tjala Arts New Paintings
2011 Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne - Emerging Artists from Tjala Arts & Kaltjiti Arts
2011 Aboriginal & Pacific Art, Sydney - Ngura wiru mulapa (Beautiful Country)
2011 ARTKELCH, Leipzig, Germany - Pro Community – Western APY Lands
2011 Short St Gallery, Broome - Tjala Artists 2011
2011 Outstation Gallery, Darwin - Nganampa Kampatjanka Uungutja- Beneath our Canvas
2010 Outstation Gallery, Darwin - Tjukurpa kunpu nganana kanyini pulka – Our stories, we hold strong
2010 Araleun Galleries, Alice Springs - Desert Mob
2010 RAFT Art Space, Alice Springs - APY & NPY Survey Exhibition
2009 Outstation Gallery, Darwin - Tjala Arts Group Show
2004 Museum & Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin - Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award
2004 Flinders University Art Museum, Adelaide - Looking after country: Manta Atunymankunytja
2004 Fremantle Arts Centre, WA - 29th Annual Shell Fremantle Print Award
2003 Araleun Galleries, Alice Springs - Desert Mob
2003 Raintree Gallery, Darwin - Ngura-Tjanpi Desert Spinifex Country; works by Anangu Pitjantjatjara artists
2000 Tandanya, Adelaide - Irititja Munu Kuwaritja Tjukurpa (Stories from the past and present)

Awards

2022 Telstra Prize Finalist
2021 Wynne Prize Finalist
2021 Hadley Art Prize Finalist
2018 Wynne Prize Finalist
2018 Telstra Prize Finalist
2017 Wynne Prize Finalist
2017 Telstra Prize Finalist
2016 Wynne Prize Winner
2013 Telstra Prize Finalist



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Collections

ART GALLERY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

ARTBANK

GOMA- QUEENSLAND ART GALLERY

NATIONAL HERITAGE BOARD, SINGAPORE ART MUSEUM

NATSIAA - AWARDS 2013

ART GALLERY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

NATIONAL GALLERY OF VICTORIA

Museo Sa Bassa Blanca, Mallorca Spain