



Short St. Gallery

Mitakiki Women's Collaborative

Language
Region

Pitjantjatjara
APY Lands



Biography

Together forming the Mitakiki Women's Collaborative, Naomi Kantjuriny, Mona Mitakiki and Tjimpayi Presley paint kapi tjukurla (rock holes) that relate to the Kungkarangkalpa tjukurpa. This story involves the Seven Sisters being chased across country by a bad man (Wati Nyiru). The wise elder sisters protect and teach the younger ones, keeping them from falling for his tricks. Wati Nyiru can change shape into different rock formations and landmarks. These sites remain part of the landscape and are important Anangu ceremonial places.

The Seven Sisters story is very important to Anangu culture, as a story about family and culture. Mona, Tjimpayi and Naomi were taught to paint by late senior artist Kunmanara Katie Kawiny, and continue to keep her story alive through their practice for future generations.

Mona Mitakiki Shepherd

Born 1954

Mona started painting with Tjurma Arts and Crafts back in 1998. After a long break she returned to painting at Tjala Arts (formerly Minymaku Arts) in mid 2003. Mona's husband, Michael Mitakiki also painted briefly at the art centre. After the death of her husband in May 2005 Mona changed her surname from Mitakiki to Shepherd for cultural reasons - Pitjantjatjara people are not allowed to see or hear the name of the deceased.

Naomi Kantjuriny

Born 1944

Naomi is a prolific painter who has been working at Tjala Arts (formerly Minymaku) Arts since 2001. An excellent hunter, basket maker and wood carver, Naomi took to painting with remarkable ease. She is recognised for her knowledge of the Tjukurpa stories of the area and whilst she is a new and emerging artist her technique is well developed. Naomi's mother's Dreaming is Malu or kangaroo. Naomi is also a Ngangkari - traditional healer. Ngangkari provide traditional healing treatments and practices of the mind, body and spirit. They are



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exactly like Western doctors and equal to doctors in their effectiveness for the Aboriginal people of her region.

Tjimpayi Presley

Born 1967

Tjimpayi is the daughter of Tjampawa Katie Kawiny who is also a painter at Tjala Arts. Tjimpayi is well known for her 'punu' woodblocks, a process that involves burning the design into a wooden surface using hot wire. However, she is also a talented painter and has recently started making beautiful work on canvas.

Group Exhibitions

- 2022 Short St. Gallery, Broome WA
- 2021 Short St, Gallery, Broome WA
- 2021 Araluen Art Centre - Desert Mob 30
- 2021 Olsen Gallery, Sydney - YARITJI YOUNG +MITAKIKI WOMENS COLLABORATIVE
- 2021 Yamma Ganu Gallery, NSW - Minya Tjuta - Many Women from Tjala Arts
- 2021 Aboriginal Signature, Estrangin Gallery - INSIDE-APY Lands
- 2020 Aboriginal Signature, Estrangin Gallery - Tjungungku Walkatjunanyu — Painting Together
- 2020 Musée des Beaux-Arts de Rennes, France - Kulata Tjuta
- 2020 APY Gallery, Sydney - UWANKARA - All of Us
- 2020 Araluen Cultural Precinct - Desert Mob 2020
- 2020 Aboriginal and Pacific Art, Sydney - Tjala Arts | Tjukurpa nganampa kunpu kanyintjaku: Stories that keep culture strong
- 2020 Outstation Gallery - Tjala Arts 2020
- 2020 Short St Gallery, Broome - Amata Women
- 2019 Nganampa Waltja Tjurkpa – Our Family Tjukurpa, Aboriginal and Pacific Art
- 2019 New works by Tjala Arts, Short Street Gallery - Collaboration
- 2019 APY LANDS, Olsen Gruin Gallery, New York
- 2018 NGANAMPA NGURA KURUNJARA - THE PLACE OF OUR SPIRIT, Olsen Gallery, Sydney
- 2018 Desert Mob 2018, Araluen Galleries
- 2018 Tjala Tjukurpa, Outstation Gallery
- 2018 Tjala Arts: New work by senior artists, Aboriginal and Pacific Art, Sydney
- 2018 The Wynne Prize 2018, Art Gallery of New South Wales -
- 2017 Desert Mob 2017, Araluen Galleries, Alice Springs,
- 2017 Salon De Refuses 2017 - Collaborative painting, Charles Darwin University, in association with Darwin Festival and Paul Johnstone Gallery



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2017	The Wynne Prize 2017, Art Gallery of New South Wales
2017	Tjala Arts, Aboriginal and Pacific Art, Sydney
2016	Salon De Refuses 2017 Charles Darwin University, in association with Darwin Festival and Paul Johnstone Gallery
2016	Seven Sisters, Aboriginal and Pacific Art, Sydney

Collections

PRIVATE COLLECTION

Awards

2021	Wynne Prize Finalist
2018	Wynne Prize Finalist
2017	Wynne Prize Finalist