



Eileen Yaritja Stevens

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| Birth Date | 1/01/1919 |
| Language | Pitjantjatjara |
| Place of Birth | Makiri |
| Community | Nyapari : SA |

Biography

Eileen was born in the bush at Makiri, Tjala Minyma Tjukurpa (Honeyant Women's sacred place) c1919. Her father was a Yangkunyjatjara man and her mother a Pitjantjatjara woman. When Eileen was a young woman she worked at Ernabella mission milking goats. "I was a hard worker at the mission, but it was good." Her husband also worked at Ernabella chopping trees for building projects. Later they came to Nyapari, Eileen's husband's country. Eileen passed away in February 2008, she was 89 and still singing and painting with a passion and energy.

Tjunga Palya: Located about 100kms south of Uluru, Nyapari is set at the base of the majestic Mann Ranges in the heart of country traditionally owned by the Pitjantjatjara people. These ranges known to Anangu as Murputja, likening the mountain to the bony ridge of a person's spine, are the source of many water holes and traditional camping places. The homelands of Kanpi, Nyapari, Angatja, Umpukulu and Tjankanu have grown from these seasonal camping places into permanent settlements. Over fifty artists from Murputja joined together with family members living in traditional country 180kms to the south at Watarru and created Tjunga Palya (Good Together). Tjunga Palya is 100% owned and managed by Aboriginal people ensuring the wealth of talent and economic returns are retained in the community. Tjunga Palya promotes cultural integrity and the ethical sales of authentic art.

Solo Exhibitions

2007 'Minyma Kutju', Vivien Anderson Gallery, Melbourne.

Group Exhibitions

- 2011** 'Strong Women Strong Painting Strong Culture' Sims Dickson Collection, Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre, New South Wales.
- 2011** 'Green' Outstation Gallery, Darwin, Northern Territory.
- 2011** 'Living Water' National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia
- 2011** 'Tjunga Palya 2011' Short St Gallery, Broome, Western Australia
- 2010** 'Partnerships' Marshall Arts, Adelaide, South Australia
- 2010** 'Tjukurpa Pulkatjara: The Power of the Law' South Australian Museum, Adelaide, South Australia
- 2010** 'Desert Country' South Australian Art Gallery, Adelaide, SA
- 2010** 'Raft Launch' Raft Artspace, Alice Springs, Northern Territory.
- 2010** 'Desert Country' Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide, South Australia.
- 2010** 'Inma Mantangka Ngarinyi - Song of the Land' Putipula Gallery, Noosa, Queensland.
- 2010** 'Australian Contemporary Indigenous Art - Now' Chiaroscuro Gallery, Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA in conjunction with Vivien Anderson Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria.
- 2009** 'Kulini Ngura - Knowing Country' Short St Gallery, Broome, Western Australia
- 2009** 'Wanampiku Munu Kalayaku Ngura' Chapman Gallery, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory.
- 2009** 'Tjukurpa Wirunya Kanyini' Aboriginal and Pacific Arts, Sydney, New South Wales.
- 2009** 'Masterstroke' Randell Lane Fine Art, Perth, Western Australia
- 2009** 'Celebrating Country: Kinship and Culture' Seymour College exhibition, Adelaide, South Australia.
- 2008** 'Tjukurpa Kutjupa Kutjupa Tjuta', Aboriginal and Pacific Arts, Sydney.
- 2008** "Manta Nyangatja Pitjantjatjara" Short St Gallery, Broome, Western Australia
- 2008** 'Tjukurpa Kunpu', Marshall Arts, Adelaide.
- 2008** 'Anangu Backyard- Stories for Children', Adelaide Festival Centre, Adelaide.



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- 2008 'The Ecologies Project' Monash University Museum of Art, Victoria
- 2008 'Iwara Mantangka - Land Lines' Randell Lane Fine Art, Perth, Western Australia
- 2008 'Womens Show', Vivien Anderson Gallery, Melbourne.
- 2008 'Expressions of Cultural Connections: Evolution of Aboriginal Artists' The American Club, ReDot Gallery, Singapore
- 2008 'Tjunga Palyaku Warka Nyuwana' ReDot Gallery, Singapore
- 2007 'Skin to Skin', Tuggeranong Arts Centre, Canberra.
- 2007 'Piltati', Marshall Arts, Adelaide.
- 2007 'Nganampa Nguraku Tjukurpa', Aboriginal and Pacific Arts, Sydney.
- 2007 'Our Mob', Adelaide Festival Centre, Adelaide.
- 2007 'Womens Show', Vivien Anderson Gallery, Melbourne.
- 2007 'Desert Mob' Araluen Gallery, Alice Springs.
- 2007 'Desert Master Class' South Australian Museum
- 2007 'Celebration' Chapman Gallery, Canberra.
- 2007 'Uwankara Ngura Palya', Randall Lane Fine Art, Perth.
- 2007 'Spring Art', Loreto School, Adelaide.
- 2007 'Red Dirt Country', Museum of Modern Art, Spoleto, Italy.
- 2006 'Womens Show', Vivien Anderson Gallery, Melbourne.
- 2006 'Anangu Backyard', Adelaide Festival Centre, Adelaide.
- 2006 'Minyma Kutjara Kutjara' Vivien Anderson Gallery, Melbourne.
- 2006 'Our Mob', Adelaide Festival Centre, Adelaide.
- 2006 'Desert Mob' Araluen Gallery, Alice Springs.
- 2006 'Tjukurpa Manatja', Randall Lane Fine Art, Perth.
- 2006 'Nganampa Tjukurpa Nganampa Ngura' Marshall Arts, Adelaide.
- 2005 'Nganampa Ngura', Aboriginal and Pacific Arts, Sydney.
- 2005 'New Work from the APY Lands', South Australian Museum, Adelaide.
- 2005 'Womens Show', Vivien Anderson Gallery, Melbourne.
- 2005 'Desert Mob' Araluen Gallery, Alice Springs.
- 2005 'Art from the APY Lands', Marshall Arts, Adelaide.
- 2004 'Summer Salon', Vivien Anderson Gallery, Melbourne.

Themes

Makiri - Honey Ant Women's Creation Story

Piltati - Wanampi (Rainbow Serpent) Creation Story

Collections

ARALUEN GALLERY, ALICE SPRINGS, NORTHERN TERRITORY
IAN BERNDT COLLECTION, PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA
KAPLAN-LEVI COLLECTION, SEATTLE, USA
THE ART GALLERY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA, ADELAIDE, SA
THE ART GALLERY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA, PERTH, WA
THE LEPLEY COLLECTION, PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.
THE MARSHALL COLLECTION ADELAIDE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA
THE MERENDA COLLECTION
THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF AUSTRALIA, CANBERRA, ACT

Bibliography

- 2005 Review. Desert Mob 2005 exhibition. Lines shimmer into shape by Nicholas Rothwell. The Australian, 13 September 2005
- 2006 Review. Desert Mob 2006 exhibition. The deserts tainted brush by Nicholas Rothwell, The Australian, 11 Sept 2006
- 2006 IAD Press, Tjukurpa Diary, 'Wati Kutjara Nyinanyi' March.
- 2006 Review; Tjukurpa Mantatja exhibition. Perth Voice, 4th November by Fiona Willan
- 2006 Review; Tjukurpa Mantatja exhibition. Western Suburbs Weekly, 'Old tales to draw on. 7th November.
- 2006 Review; Tjukurpa Mantatja exhibition. The West Australian- Today Section- by Steven Bevis, 6th November
- 2006 IAD Press, Tjukurpa Calander, 'Wati Kutjara Nyinanyi' November.

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Collections

THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF VICTORIA, MELBOURNE, VIC

W & V MCGEOCH, MELBOURNE, VICTORIA

Bibliography

- 2007 'The New McCulloch's Encyclopedia of Australian Art'. Two images reproduced (in Aboriginal & Artists) page 14 & page 58.
- 2007 Publication- 'Eileen Yaritja Stevens, Minyma Kutju - One Women', Dr Christine Nicholls, Vivien Anderson.
- 2007 Aisan Art News November / December. 'A Voyage Into The Land' by Dr Christine Nicholls.
- 2008 'Life Force' Contemporary Aboriginal Art is making waves globally - by Carmel Dwyer. Harpers Bazaar, March 2008
- 2009 IAD Press, Jukurpa Diary, internal image 'Tjawanyi'
- 2008 IAD Press, Jukurpa Diary, internal image 'Wati Kutjara Two Men'
- 2007 IAD Press, Jukurpa Calander, internal image 'Piltati'
- 2008 McCulloch's Contemporary Aboriginal Art- the complete guide, pg 126, 128
- 2007 Ogilvy, Charly. ' Tradition and Exploration Mix in Joy of Contemporary Indigenous Art', The Canberra Times, October 2007.
- 2010 Tjukurpa Pulkatjara - The Power of the Law' exhibition catalogue, Ananguku Arts Wakefield Press, pg 30,31
- 2010 Nunn, Louise. 'Bush artists take 'world by storm'. The Advertiser, March 8th, 2010.
- 2010 Cumpston, Nici with Patton, Barry. 'Desert Country' exhibition catalogue. Art Gallery of South Australia. 2010 pg 9, 162,163
- 2010 Nicholls, Christine Dr. 'Australian Contemporary Indigenous Art Now' exhibition catalogue. Vivien Anderson Gallery Melbourne and Chiaroscuro Contermary Art, Santa Fe, USA. 2010