



# Short St. Gallery

## Debbie Napaljarri Brown

**Born** 1985  
**Language Group** Warlpiri  
**Region** Nyirripi, NT



### Biography

Debbie Napaljarri Brown was born in Nyirripi, a remote Aboriginal community 400km north-west of Alice Springs in the Northern Territory of Australia. She grew up in Nyirripi, and did most of her schooling there, although she spent several years boarding at Yirra College in Alice Springs. When she returned to Nyirripi she worked at the store as well as helping to care for old people. In 2010, Debbie moved to Yuendumu, 160km east of Nyirripi, with her husband and son Jarvis to be closer to her husband's family. She works for the Women's Centre, cooking lunches for the kids at school. Debbie has been painting with Warlukurlangu Artists Aboriginal Corporation, an Aboriginal owned and governed art centre located in Yuendumu, since 2006. Her Grandmother, Margaret Napangardi Brown, also an artist with the art centre, taught her to paint. Her Grandfather is the renowned Pintupi artist Pegleg Tjampitjinpa who was born c.1920 and grew up in the vicinity of Wilkinkarra, living a traditional life. Debbie would watch her grandmother and grandfather paint and listen to her Grandmother's Jukurpa or Dreaming stories. In her paintings, Debbie paints her father's Jukurpa, Dreamings which relate directly to her land, its features, plants and animals. These stories were passed down to her by her Grandmother and her mother and their parents before them for millennia.

### Group Exhibitions

2013                      Parcours des Mondes, Arts d'Australie - Stéphane Jacob, Paris  
2010                      "30 under 30", Mossenson Gallery, Melbourne, VIC  
2008                      Dreamings Past & Present, Nexus Gallery, Adelaide SA