



# Short St. Gallery



## Tanya Brady

**Born** 1980  
**Language** Pitjantjatjara  
**Region** APY Lands

Tanya Brady is a committed artist and community leader working at Tjala Arts, and is known for her vibrant colour palettes and energetic mark-making. Tanya learned to paint from her mother, Freda Brady, as well as her aunties, the highly regarded Ken Sisters from Tjala Arts.

Tanya, like her mother Freda Brady most frequently paints the seven sisters story. This is a Tjukurpa Story (Creation Story) about the constellations of Pleiades and Orion. The sisters are the constellaton of Pleiades and the other star Orion is said to be Nyiru or Nyirunya (described as a lusty or bad man). Nyiru is forever chasing the sisters known as the Kunkarunkara women as it is said he wants to marry the eldest sister. The seven sisters travel again and again from the sky to the earth to escape Nyiru's unwanted attentions. They turn into their human form to escape from the persistent Nyiru, but he always finds them and they flee back to the sky. As Nyiru is chasing the sisters he tries to catch them by using magic to turn into the most tempting kumpurarra (bush tomatoes) for the sisters to eat and the most beautiful Ili (fig) tree for them to camp under. However, the sisters are too clever for Nyiru and outwit him as they are knowledgeable about his magic. They go hungry and run through the night rather than be caught by Nyiru.

Every now and again one of the women fall victim to his ways. It is said that he eventually captures the youngest sister, but with the help of the oldest sister, she escapes back to her sisters who are waiting for her. Eventually the sisters fly back into the sky to escape Nyiru, reforming the constellation. (In some cases the artist will secretly depict sexual elements as Nyiru is really only after one thing -sex).

## Group Exhibitions

2022 Aboriginal Signature Estrangin Gallery, Brussels - Minyma Wiru: The Lovely



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- Ladies of Tjala
- 2022 APYACC Gallery, Sydney - Walka Wiru: Beautiful Drawing New works by Mary Pan and paintings by early career Tjala artists
  - 2021 Carriageworks, Sydney - Sydney Contemporary
  - 2021 APY Gallery, Adelaide - Ngura Pulka-Epic Country
  - 2021 APY Art Centre Collective Gallery, Sydney - Ngura Palyannyangka Wiru Ngaranytjaku - Healing Country
  - 2021 Yamma Ganu Gallery, NSW - Minyma Tjuta - Many Women from Tjala Arts
  - 2021 Aboriginal Signature, Estrangin Gallery - INSIDE-APY Lands
  - 2021 Outstation Gallery, Broome - Warka Tjunga-Working Together
  - 2018 ARTKELCH @ Museum Fünf Kontinente, München, Germany - Don't forget to sing!
  - 2017 Talapi, Alice Springs - Bold and the Beautiful
  - 2017 ARTKELCH, Freiburg, Germany - Standpunkte! 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)

## Publications

- 2014 Ngurmtakura Wangki – Amy's Story Annette Puruta Kogolo and Marminjiya Joy Nuggett with Sandy Toussaint UniPrint, The University of Western Australia
- 2004 National Gallery of Victoria Colour Power: Aboriginal art post 1984
- 2003 Exhibition Catalogue: Cullity Gallery UWA Perth/ Mangkaja Arts Resource Agency Martuwarra and Jila [River and Desert
- 2002 Exhibition Catalogue Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art Marrawarra and Jila entry / Ngurrara Canvas 1 entry
- 2001 Kaltja Now National Aboriginal Cultural Institute – Tandanya Painting Up Big, The Ngurrara Canvas
- 2000 IATSI Canberra Karrayili: The History of Karrayili Adult Education Centre
- 1996 Karrayili Adult Education Centre and Mangkaja Arts exhibition catalogue Minyarti Wangki NgaJukura Ngurrarajangka [This is the word from my country]
- 1995 Mangkaja Arts Resource Agency Mangkaja: Old Mangkaja, New Prints
- 1994 Exhibition catalogue Ngajakurra Ngurrara Minyarti [This Is My Country]