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# SABBIA GALLERY

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609 Elizabeth Street REDFERN NSW 2016 AUSTRALIA . PO Box 1126 STRAWBERRY HILLS NSW 2012  
[www.sabbiagallery.com](http://www.sabbiagallery.com) [gallery@sabbiagallery.com](mailto:gallery@sabbiagallery.com)

## DEREK JUNGARRAYI THOMPSON

Birth Date	23/12/1976
Birth Place	Papunya
Language	Pitjantjatjara
Community	Pukatja : SA
Region	Pukatja Community, APY Lands
Mother's Country	Luritja country
Father's Country	Pukatja Community, APY Lands
Dreaming	Wanampi (Watersnake)

### Themes

Anumara (Caterpillar)  
hunting  
putitja (bush) and mai putitja (bush food)  
tjulpu (birds)  
Wanampi  
Wati Ngintaka (Lizard Man)

Derek Jungarrayi Thompson is the maternal grandson of Papunya Tula Artist, Makinti Napanangka. He first came to work at Ernabella Arts over April 2011, during the first men only ceramic workshop. Everyone was surprised by Derek's drawing on clay and he explained that he draws 'all the time, at home.' Derek is also an avid hunter. The translation of his drawings of the Pukatja landscape and animal life onto ceramics is quite unique and has received instant interest from collectors and curators.

In 2012 Derek was selected to be a finalist in the Gold Coast International Ceramic art Award. He also undertook a residency at the Ceramic Workshop of the Australian National University, where he did pottery and printmaking. In 2013 Thompson's work 'Ngintaka Kutjara' was highly commended in the Muswellbrook Art Prize and acquired by Muswellbrook Regional Gallery. Since then his collaborative works with Ngunytjima Carroll have been selected for the NATSIAAs (National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards), the Sunshine Coast Art Prize and the City of Hobart Art Prize. Ngunytjima throws tall pots which Derek draws on, using the sgraffito technique.

Thompson and Tjimpuna Williams were awarded a New Work grant by the Australia Council for the Arts and in May 2013 undertook a big pot workshop in Jingdezhen, China. This work was exhibited in March 2014 at Sydney's prestigious Sabbia Gallery.

In 2015 he is exhibited with Sabbia Gallery in Sydney and Canberra, as part of the Australian Ceramics Triennale. He has been a key contributing artist in Ernabella's annual Watiku (men's) ceramic exhibition at Raft artspace, Alice Springs. In 2016 he was included in the Sabbia 'Ceramics Masters' exhibition. From 2017 his work is touring regional Australia as part of the major exhibition 'Clay Stories: Indigenous ceramics from remote Australia'. He also presented new work alongside Pepai Jangala Carroll at the Art Gallery of South Australia in Tarnanthi | Festival of contemporary Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art.

In 2017 Derek's work was exhibited at Harvey Arts in the USA in Nyuyuntjaku - Keeping the fire alive | New paintings and ceramics by the artists of Ernabella Arts and in 2018 his work was exhibited several times, including in Something Blue at the Sabbia Gallery in Sydney.

Derek also undertook a ceramics residency at JamFactory, Adelaide alongside three other Indigenous male potters.

## Group Exhibitions

2019 Stoneware from the Desert - Salon Project Space, Parap, NT  
2019 Desert Mob 2019 - Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs, NT  
2019 Desert Colour featuring Ernabella ceramics - Talapi Gallery, Alice Springs, NT  
2019 Uwankara Tjungu (all in) - APY Collective Gallery, Adelaide, SA  
2019 Anangu uwankara tjunguringkula pukulpa nyinama | Anangu happily sitting and working together - Short Street Gallery, Broome, WA  
2018 Sydney Contemporary - Sabbia Gallery at Carriageworks  
2018 Weapons for the Soldier - Hazlehurst Regional Gallery  
2018 WILD: Flora and fauna in Australian Art - Hawkesbury Regional Gallery, NSW  
2018 Something Blue - Sabbia Gallery  
2017 Nyuyuntjaku - Keeping the fire alive | New paintings and ceramics by the artists of Ernabella Arts - Harvey Arts, USA  
2017 In These Hands: Mara Nyangangka - Sturt Gallery, Mittagong NSW  
2017 Mark and Memory -  
TARNANTHI: Festival of contemporary of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide SA  
2017 Little Creatures - Big Country - Talapi Gallery, Alice Springs, NT  
2017 Clay Stories: Indigenous ceramics from remote Australia - Sabbia Gallery, Sydney NSW  
2016 Nganampa Kililpil: Our Stars - Hazelhurst Regional Gallery & Arts Centre  
2016 Inheritance - Salt Contemporary, Queenscliff, VIC  
2016 Paluru tjukurpa pulka kanyilpai: He keeps our stories safe - raft Artspace, Alice Springs NT  
2016 Abundance - The Australian landscape in ceramics - Sabbia Gallery, Sydney  
2015 Wati tjuta-ku Tjukurpa kunpu ngaranyi – All the men have strong stories, always there - raft Artspace, Alice Springs NT  
2015 Kuruntu mukuringkula kulira palyantja (Stories straight from the heart) - Short Street Gallery, Broome  
2015 Yangupala Tjuta Waakarinyi (Many Young People Working) - Sabbia Gallery, Paddington NSW  
2014 Ngura Kutjupa, Tjukurpa Kutju (Different Country, Same Story) - ReDot Fine Art Gallery, Singapore  
2014 Fragrant Lands – Exhibition of Chinese and Australian Indigenous Art - Shanghai Urban Planning Exhibition Centre, Shanghai China  
2014 Tjulpirpa wiya - Clay! - raft Artspace, Alice Springs NT  
2014 Fragrant Lands – Exhibition of Chinese and Australian Indigenous Art - Tandanya, Adelaide SA  
2014 Right Now. In support of Artist Resale Royalty - Boomalli Gallery, Leichardt NSW  
2014 Tjungu Warkarintja: Fifteen Years - Sabbia Gallery, Paddington NSW  
2013 Derek Thompson and Ngunyjtjima Carroll - Nomad Gallery, Darwin NT  
2013 Sunshine Coast Art Prize 2013 - Noosa Regional Gallery, Sunshine Coast QLD  
2013 Ernabella Men, New Ceramics - raft Artspace, Alice Springs NT  
2013 Ochres and Barks: Contemporary Indigenous Art of the Land - Salt Contemporary Art, Queenscliff VIC  
2013 A Study of the Figurative in Desert Painting - Short St Gallery, Broome WA  
2013 Putitja: From the Bush - Strathnairn Arts, Canberra ACT  
2013 Dickie Minyintiri, Pantjiti Lionel, Derek Thompson - Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne VIC  
2013 42nd Muswellbrook Art Prize - Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre, Muswellbrook NSW  
2013 City of Hobart Art Prize - Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart TAS  
2013 Desert Mob 2013 - Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs NT  
2013 NATSIAAs - Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin WA  
2013 Putitja: From Spinifex Country - Aboriginal and Pacific Art Gallery, Sydney NSW  
2012 Desert Mob 2012 - Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs NT  
2012 Gold Coast International Ceramic Art Award - Gold Coast City Gallery, Surfers Paradise QLD  
2012 Wanampi, Ngintaka and other epic stories - Talapi Gallery, Alice Springs NT  
2012 Desert Colours - Talapi Gallery, Alice Springs NT  
2012 Uwankara Kurunpa Kutju-Tjara - Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne VIC  
2012 Kapi Ukalinganyi - Aboriginal and Pacific Art Gallery, Sydney NSW  
2012 Ngayuku Ngura, Ngayuku Tjukurpa - South Australian Museum, Adelaide SA  
2011 We know our land, we keep our land - raft Artspace, Alice Springs NT

## Collections

Muswellbrook Regional Art Gallery, NSW  
Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin NT,  
The ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences Artworks and Antiquities Collection, Canberra ACT  
National Museum of Australia, Canberra ACT  
Queensland Art Gallery / Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane, QLD,  
Powerhouse Museum, Sydney, NSW  
University of Wollongong, NSW

**Bibliography**

- 2011 Lee, J. Watiku Workshop. Minyma Wiya! The Journal of Australian Ceramics, November 2011, p 69 - 71
- 2014 DeBoos, J. From Ernabella to Jingdezhen, Craft Arts International, No 90, 2014, p.38-42
- 2014 McKenzie, H. Ernabella in Jingdezhen, Ceramics Monthly, January 2014, p. 18-22
- 2014 OCallaghan, G. Tjungu Warkarintja (working together) in Jingdezhen, The Journal of Australian Ceramics, April 2014, p 26 - 31
- 2014 OCallaghan, G. Tjungu (together): Derek Thompson and Tjimpuna Williams in China, Artlink Indigenous: Blackground, Vol 34, No. 2, 2014 page 71-72.
- 2016 Thompson, D with Thompson, A. Working potter
- 2016, Ceramics Monthly, June 2016, 42-45

**Awards**

- 2019 Artist in Resident, Australian National University School of Art and Design Ceramic Workshop
- 2013 Highly Commended, 42nd Muswellbrook Art Prize
- 2013 New Work Grant, ATSIAB, Australia Council for the Arts
- 2013 Highly Commended, NATSIAA Telstra Awards, Museum and Art Gallery Northern Territory, Darwin

**Ernabella Arts Incorporated**

Ernabella Arts Inc. is a community based artists' association located on the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Lands in the north-west of South Australia. The centre began in 1948, and was incorporated in 1974, firstly as Ernabella and Fregon Arts Inc. and then in 1975 as Ernabella Arts Incorporated.

**Mission Statement**

Ernabella Arts nyangangka minyma pampa munu wati tjilpi, kungkawara munu yangupala tjuta warkarinyi nganampa arts-pangka nganana mukuringkula wangkaringi nganampa warka pulkaringkula kunpuringkula community nganampa wiru titutjura ngaranytjaku.

Ernabella Arts is a place where many women and men elders and young women and men practice and develop our art, in order to sustain, support and promote our cultural heritage, and to improve the lifestyle of our community's members