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# SABBIA GALLERY

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609 Elizabeth Street REDFERN NSW 2016 AUSTRALIA . PO Box 1126 STRAWBERRY HILLS NSW 2012  
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## CARLENE THOMPSON

**Born** 1950, Pukatja Community, APY Lands

**Language** Pitjantjatjara, Yankunytjatjara

**Region** Black Hill No. 2

**Mother's Country** Dalhousie, Northern Territory

**Father's Country** Kanpi Community, APY Lands

**Dreaming** Kayala

**Community** Pukatja: SA

### Themes

Kipara munu Kalaya Tjukurpa (The story of Emu and Bush Turkey)

Tjulpu (Birds)

Tjulpu Mankulpa (The story of Eagle, Cocky, Crow)

### Biography

Carlene is a senior artist and senior woman in the Ernabella community. At various times she has sat on the board of the Ernabella Art Centre and was the Chair for several years.

Carlene was born Carlene De Rose, in Finke in 1950. She met her husband, Kunmanara (Kawaki) Thompson OAM, at De Rose Hill, and they were married there. Her late husband was a highly regarded senior Pitjantjatjara man who was a major figure in the Land Rights Movement. Carlene and her husband had one son, and five daughters, three of whom also work at the art centre.

Carlene started painting at the art centre in 2007 and quickly developed a very individual style. In 2009 Carlene began to concentrate on ceramics. Her work is contemporary while being based on Country and the creation being of her family's country, the kalaya (emu). Carlene is a very hard worker and often continues to paint at the art centre long after other artists have left.

Carlene's art has been shown in many exhibitions both nationally and internationally. It has also been acquired for the Goulburn Regional Art Gallery collection and the Queensland Art Gallery Collection. Carlene has thrice been a finalist in the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award.

In 2019 Carlene had her first solo show Kalaya Ngura- Emu Country at Alcaston Gallery (VIC), with a second solo exhibition at Sabbia Gallery, Sydney in 2021.

She is a strong participant in women's ceremony and is passing this knowledge down to her daughters.

### Solo Exhibitions

2021 Kalaya Tjukurpa - Emu Story, Sabbia Gallery, Redfern NSW  
2019 Kalaya Ngura - Emu Country, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne VIC

### Group Exhibitions

2021 Ananyi Nyurakutu- Going Home - Artitja Fine Art Gallery, South Fremantle, WA  
2020 Smart Art - ARTKELCH, Freiburg, Germany  
Tarnarhi Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art: Open Hands - Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide  
Manggu (nest) - SDR Gallery at Paul Johnston Gallery, Darwin, NT  
Nganampa Tjukurpa Ananyi Wilurara (Our Stories Going West) - Short Street Gallery, Broome, WA  
Ernabella Arts: About place - Artitja Fine Art, South Fremantle  
Nganampa Tjukurpa Ananyi Kakarara (Our Stories Going East) - Aboriginal Contemporary, Sydney, NSW  
Flying Colours - Talapi Gallery, Alice Springs, NT

- 2019 Together we tell our stories: Indigenous Glass, Ceramics, Fibre + Canvas - Sabbia Gallery, Sydney, NSW  
 Before Time Began: Contemporary Aboriginal Art - Collaborative artwork. Fondation Opale, Lens, Switzerland  
 Wanapari - in a line, following one another - JamFactory Craft and Design Centre, Adelaide, VIC  
 Desert Mob 2019 - Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs, NT  
 Desert Colour featuring Ernabella ceramics - Talapi Gallery, Alice Springs, NT  
 An Idea Needing to be Made: Contemporary Ceramics - Heide Museum of Modern Art, Bulleen, VIC  
 About Country - Talapi Gallery, Alice Springs, NT  
 Anangu uwankara tjungurungkula pukulpa nyinama | Anangu happily sitting and working together - Short Street Gallery, Broome, WA  
 Berder. Gaba. Urrknga. Wantja. - Nishi Gallery, Canberra ACT  
 National Treasures - The Vivian, Big Omaha, New Zealand  
 DRAWINGS Ceramic Masters - Sabbia Gallery, Sydney, NSW
- 2019 Drawings, Sabbia Gallery, Paddington NSW  
 Together we tell our Stories, Sabbia Gallery, Redfern NSW  
 Clay Stories (Touring), Sabbia Gallery, Paddington NSW
- 2018 Family - Signal Point Regional Gallery, Goolwa, SA  
 Beth Inkamala and Carlene Thompson - Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne, VIC  
 Bold and the Beautiful - Talapi Gallery, Alice Springs, NT  
 Clay Stories (Touring), Sabbia Gallery, Paddington NSW
- 2017 Clay Stories, Sabbia Gallery, Paddington NSW  
 Nyuyuntjaku - Keeping the fire alive | New paintings & ceramics from Ernabella Arts - Harvey Arts, USA  
 In These Hands: Mara Nyangangka - Sturt Gallery, Mittagong NSW  
 Desert Mob 2017 - Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs NT  
 Spirited - Kurunitja - Short Street Gallery, Broome, WA  
 Our Country in Clay - Nomad Art, Darwin NT  
 Soft light - Talapi Gallery, Alice Springs NT  
 Inuntjii – Regeneration - Aboriginal Signature, Estrangin gallery, Bruxelles, BELGIUM  
 Little Creatures - Big Country - Talapi Gallery, Alice Springs, NT  
 Relative Colours - Aboriginal Contemporary, Sydney, NSW  
 Artists of the APY Lands: 2017 - Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne VIC
- 2016 Nganampa Kililpil: Our Stars - Hazelhurst Regional Gallery & Arts Centre  
 Inheritance - Salt Contemporary, Queenscliff, VIC  
 Point of difference - Desert to the Sea - Artitja Fine Art, Fremantle, WA  
 Tradition and Innovation - Parcours des Mondes, Paris, France  
 Desert Colour - Talapi Gallery, Alice Springs NT  
 Pukatjalanguru kungka tjuta kunpu warkarinytja | Ernabella women: strong work, together - Sabbia Gallery  
 Art from the APY Lands - Woolloongabba Art Gallery, Brisbane, QLD  
 Beauty and the Beasts - Talapi Gallery, Alice Springs, NT
- 2015 Tjukurpa Kunpu / Strong Culture: HOLIDAY SHOW 2015-2016 - Harvey Art Projects, USA  
 Bush Christmas - Talapi Gallery, Alice Springs, NT  
 Desert Mob - Araluen Arts Centre  
 Bold and the Beautiful - Talapi, Alice Springs  
 Paysages Aborigènes incarnés de l'APY land (Incarnated Aboriginal landscape from the APY lands) - Aboriginal Signature, Brussels  
 Kuruntu mukurungkula kulira palyantja (Stories straight from the heart) - Short Street Gallery, Broome  
 In the Wild - Talapi Gallery, Alice Springs  
 Tjulpu (Bird) show - Talapi, Alice Springs NT
- 2014 APY Survey Show - Raft ArtSpace  
 Desert Mob 2014 - Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs NT  
 Pilanypa - Harvey Art Projects, Idaho USA  
 Bold and the Beautiful - Talapi, Alice Springs  
 Eastern APY Lands: ArtKelch - Touring Freiburg, Munich, Hamburg and Bodensee, Germany  
 Tjungu Warkarintja: Fifteen Years - Sabbia Gallery, Paddington NSW
- 2013 Tjukurpa Nganampa Kunpu Kanyintjaku (Keeping Our Stories Strong) - Harvey Art Projects, Idaho USA  
 A Study of the Figurative in Desert Painting - Short St Gallery, Broome WA  
 Nyingga (The Cold Time of the Year) - Harvey Art Projects, Idaho USA  
 String Theory, Focus on Contemporary Australian Art - MCA, Sydney NSW  
 From Spinifex Country - Aboriginal and Pacific Art Gallery, Sydney NSW  
 Desert Mob 2013 - Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs NT  
 Putitja: From the Bush - Strathnairn Gallery, Canberra ACT
- 2012 Ngayuku Ngura, Ngayuku Tjukurpa - SA Museum, Adelaide SA  
 Tjukurpa Mulapa - Redot Fine Art Gallery, Singapore

	Ngapartji Ngapartji - Chapman Gallery, Canberra ACT
2011	Ngura Kutju, Tjukurpa Pulkatjara (One small community, many important stories) - Short St Gallery, Broome WA Ngura kutjara - wangka mantanguru - Strathnairn Gallery, Canberra ACT Ernabella Undiscovered - Tunbridge Gallery, Margaret River WA We Know our Land, We Keep our Land - raft Artspace, Alice Springs NT Desert Mob - Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs NT
2010	27th Gold Coast International Ceramic Art Award - Gold Coast City Art Gallery, Surfers Paradise Ngura Nganampa (Our Country) - Outstation Gallery, Darwin NT Alice Springs Beanie Festival - Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs NT Ara irititja munu ara kuwaritja Ernabella-la - Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne VIC Desert Mob - Araluen Center, Alice Springs, NT
2008	Nganampa warka wiru: Our work is beautiful - Cudgegong Gallery, Gulgong, NSW
2007	Ernabella – A Collection of New Works - Australia Dreaming Art, Melbourne, VIC

#### **Awards and Grants**

2019	National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award, Finalist Australia Council for the Arts: Art Projects for individuals recipient
2018	Quick Response Grant Country Arts SA: Contact, Connection and Conversation National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award, Finalist Quick Response Grant Country Arts SA: Contact, Connection and Conversation National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award, Finalist
2016	National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award, Finalist

#### **Collections**

Goulburn Regional Art Gallery, 2016  
Queensland Art gallery, Brisbane QLD  
Private Ceramics Collections Overseas & Locally

#### **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.