



DEREK JUNGARRAYI THOMPSON

South Australia

Sabbia Gallery represents the premier ceramic artists from Ernabella including Alison Milyika Carroll, Kunmanara Carroll, Elizabeth Dunn, Rupert Jack, Lynette Lewis, Carlene Thompson, Derek Jungarrayi Thompson and Thomas Ilytjari Tjilya.

Established in 1948, Ernabella Arts is Australia's oldest Indigenous art centre. Ernabella Arts is located in Pukatja Community at the eastern end of the Musgrave Ranges in far north-west South Australia. The art centre is known for strong and diverse art making in the mediums of painting, ceramics, tjampi and punu.

In our country, the APY Lands, we have seven art centres. Every day we come to work in the art centre. Ernabella Arts started in 1948 and it's still going. We own our art centre. We paint tjukurpa – dreaming stories. We make strong, beautiful work and it will always be there. Our stories are from a long time ago and they will live in the future with our children. When they grow up they will be working here. They will be the owners of our art centre and will keep our culture strong.

Derek was included in *Yangupala Tjuta Waakarinyi : Many Young People Working* exhibition held at Sabbia Gallery in 2015, this unique exhibition presented new work in ceramics from a select group of award winning and emerging Ernabella artists including Derek Thompson. These exciting new works from the ceramics studio were created on Country in Ernabella Australia and also included ceramics created during his residency in Jingdezhen, China in early 2015. The exhibition was held in conjunction with the 14th Australian Ceramics Triennale in Canberra.

Derek was also selected as part of Tarnanthi 2017 to fulfil residency in Adelaide alongside other remote community men working in ceramics. This resulted in *Clay Bosses* exhibition held at Sabbia Gallery in 2018. His work also toured Australia in the acclaimed Clay Stories touring exhibition.

Derek's artworks often depict Tjukurpa (story) relating to Wanampi (Rainbow Serpent) or hunting stories.