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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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## **Rona Panangka Rubuntja**

**Birth Date:** 11/02/1970

**Language:** Western Arrarnta Auslan

**Skin:** Penangke

**Current Home:** Ntaria : NT

Rona Rubuntja was born in 1970 and is the niece of famous watercolourist and elder Wenten Rubuntja. She joined the Hermannsburg Potters in 1998, and has since established herself as one of the most prominent senior artist of the group, participating in over twenty exhibiting in Australia and internationally, including the highly acclaimed exhibition at the National Gallery of Victoria Our Land is Alive: Hermannsburg Potters for Kids in 2015/2016.

Rubuntja's joyous style is distinctive, humorous and imaginative, and her storytelling ability comes across most strongly in her figurative work. She remains inspired by contemporary life in Ntaria, and her work often includes depictions of cattle and brumbies roaming country, heading out to the outstation in a Toyota, and collecting bush tucker with her extended family.

Rona's work was shortlisted for the Telstra NATSIAA's in 2021 and she her work has also been shortlisted in The Design Files Awards for 2021. Rona Rubuntja's work was selected for the prestigious Shepparton Art Museum Indigenous Ceramic Art Award three times, winning second place in 2008 for her work Palm Valley Muster.

### **Exhibitions:**

1998 The Desert Mob Show, Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs, Northern Territory, Australia

1998 Hermannsburg Potters, National Aboriginal Cultural Centre, Sydney, Australia 1999 All About Art, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

1999 The Desert & The Sea, Raintree Aboriginal Art, Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia 2000 Hermannsburg Potters: Aranda Artists of Central Australia, New Parliament House, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory, Australia

2000 Hermannsburg Pots, Helen Maxwell Gallery, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory, Australia

2000 The Desert Mob Show, Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs, Northern Territory, Australia

2000 All About Art, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

2000 Hermannsburg Potters, Brisbane City Gallery, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

2000 Hermannsburg Potters, Redback Gallery, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

### **Biography:**

2000 Out of the Desert, DESART Gallery, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia

2000 Art from the Central Desert, Hogarth Galleries, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia  
2001 Pmara Nunakana Larkama – Our Sparkling Country, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia  
2001 Nunaka Pmara Inthorra – Our Beautiful Country, DESART Gallery, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia  
2001 All About Art, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia  
2001 Pots, Prints and Paintings, Indigenart, Perth, Western Australia, Australia  
2002 Nanah Etatch Nunaka – This is Our Life, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia  
2002 Pmara Nunakana – Our Country, Indigenart, Perth, Western Australia, Australia  
2002 Pmara Nunaka, Bundaberg Regional Gallery, Queensland, Australia  
2003 Hermanssburg Potters in Paint, Thornquest Gallery, Southport, Queensland, Australia  
2003 Namatjira Country, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia  
2004 Arnanjapera Nanaka Our World, Bandigan Art Gallery, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia  
2004 Desert Mob Show, Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs, Northern Territory, Australia  
2004 All Fired Up, Woolloongabba Art Gallery, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia  
2005 Arna Wurtja Kwartja Laya – From the Desert to the Sea, Gadfly Gallery, Perth, Western Australia  
2005 Aranda Landscapes 2005, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia  
2005 Hermanssburg Pottery, Paintings Exhibition, Bandigan Art Gallery, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia  
2005 Desert Mob Show, Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs, Northern Territory, Australia  
2005 Arrkutja Wurra, Woolloongabba Art Gallery, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia  
2006 Pmara Nurnaka Etata – Our Land is Alive, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia  
2006 Iltja nurnaka Urrkaapuma-From Our Hands, Woolloongabba Art Gallery, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia  
2006 Hermanssburg Potters 2006, Bandigan Art Gallery, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia  
2006 Galerie Rosenhauer, Goetingen, Germany  
2006 Senior Women of the Central Desert, Gadfly Gallery, Perth, Western Australia, Australia  
2006 Desert Mob Show, Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs, Northern Territory, Australia  
2007 The Women’s Show, Vivien Anderson Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia  
2007 Classic Ceramics and Oil Paintings, Bandigan Art Gallery, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia  
2007 Desert Mob Show, Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs, Northern Territory, Australia  
2007 Indigenous Ceramics, SoFa Chicago, Illinois, USA  
2008 Nanah Etatha Nuka – This is our Life, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia  
2009 Iltja Nunaka Orkapurna Ntari – Hand-made from Hermanssburg, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia  
2010 Themes of the Central Desert: New ceramics by the Hermanssburg Potters, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria,  
2011 Desert Mob 2011, Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs, Northern Territory, Australia  
2011 Hermanssburg Potters 2011. Stories from Clay, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia  
2012 Desert Mob Show, Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs, Northern Territory, Australia  
2012 Hermanssburg Potters 2012. All Things Clay, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia  
2013 The Hermanssburg Potters – New Hand-built Pots & Sculpture, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia  
2014 Indigenous Ceramic Art Award, Shepparton Art Museum, Shepparton, Victoria, Australia  
2014 Hermanssburg Potters – New Marks, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia  
2015 Our Land is Alive – Hermanssburg Potters for Kids, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

2016 Provenance Does Matter - The Collectors' Exhibition, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia  
2016 Pmara – Country, Home, Map, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia  
2016 Provenance Does Matter – Living with Contemporary Art II, Alcaston Gallery at Gallery 369, Bendigo, Victoria, Australia  
2016 Desert Mob, Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs, Northern Territory, Australia  
2016 Ltharta, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia  
2017 Clay Stories, Sabbia Gallery, Paddington, New South Wales. Australia  
2017 Time and Tide, Alcaston Gallery, Victoria. Australia  
2017 Desert Mob, Alice Springs, Northern Territory. Australia.  
2017 Irna :Trees, Alcaston Gallery, Paddington, New South Wales. Australia.  
2017 Clay Stories, Seppeltsfield, South Australia. Australia.  
2018 Clay Stories, (two year travelling exhibition) Araluen Arts Centre. Northern territory. Australia  
2018 'Lurpa- Seasons' Beqa Gallery, Hobart Tasmania, Australia  
2018 Desert Mob, Araluen Alice Springs , Northern Territory, Australia  
2018 Tarnanthi, Adelaide, South Australia  
2018 Ramaramaka 'Generation Big Pot Project Alcaston Gallery, Fitzroy, Melbourne, Australia  
2019 Pmare Nuka- Our Country' Turner Galleries, Perth, Western Australia  
2019 Hermnannsburg Potters, Bett Gallery, Hobart Tasmania, Australia  
2019 Desert Mob, Araluen, Alice Springs, Northern Territory, Australia  
2019 Looking Back Moving Forward' Alcaston Gallery, Fitzroy, Australia  
2019 Christmas Exhibition Tangentgyere Artists, Alice Springs, Northern Territory, Australia

**Awards:**

2008 First Runner-Up, Indigenous Ceramic Art Award, Shepparton Art Museum, Shepparton, Victoria, Australia  
2011 Shortlisted, Indigenous Ceramic Art Award, Shepparton Art Museum, Shepparton, Victoria, Australia  
2014 Shortlisted, Indigenous Ceramic Art Award, Shepparton Art Museum, Shepparton, Victoria, Australia  
Collections:  
Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs, Northern Territory,  
Australia Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide, South Australia,  
Australia Ballarat Fine Art Gallery, Ballarat, Victoria,  
Australia Beverly Hills Library, Beverly Hills, California, United States of America  
Flinders University Art Museum, Adelaide, South Australia,  
Australia Parliament House Collection, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory,  
Australia Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia  
National Gallery of  
Australia, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory,  
Australia National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Victoria,  
Australia National Portrait Gallery, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory,  
Australia Powerhouse Museum, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia  
Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia  
Queensland University of Technology Art Museum, Brisbane, Queensland,  
Australia Shepparton Art Museum, Shepparton, Victoria,  
Australia University of New South Wales Art Collection, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia  
Gallery of New South Wales Collection, Sydney, Australia

**Publications:**

2000 Isaacs, Jennifer, Potters: Aranda Artists of Central Australia, Craftsman House

2006 The Jukurpa Diary, IAD Press, Alice Springs, Northern Territory, Australia  
 2007 Hermannsburg Life – Over Seventeen Years of Contemporary Art Exploration, Artisan Gallery, Queensland  
 2013 Whinnet, Ellen., ‘Tiger Lady: The making of a Richmond President’, Herald Sun, 12 October, pp. 37-39.  
 2015 Butler, Elisha., ‘Make – Hermannsburg Potters’, NGV Gallery Magazine, pp. 48-52.  
 2015 Davidson, Helen., ‘Aussie Rules and Aboriginal art: meet the Hermannsburg potters at work’, The Guardian  
 2015 Sibenaler, David., ‘Art of AFL’, The Herald Sun, 9 June, p. 8.  
 2016 Flanagan, Martin., ‘Possibilities – in black and white’, The Age, 5 March, p. 51.  
 2016 Stern, Melissa., ‘Aboriginal Women in Australia Celebrate Their Football Heroes with Pottery’, Hyperallergic:  
 Sensitive to Art and its Discontents

### **Collections:**

- . Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs, Australia
- . Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide, Australia
- . Ballarat Fine Art Gallery, Ballarat, Australia
- . Beverly Hills Library, Beverly Hills, California, United States of America
- . Flinders University Art Museum, Adelaide, Australia
- . Parliament House Collection, Canberra, Australia
- . Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin, Australia
- . National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, Australia
- . National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia
- . National Portrait Gallery, Canberra, Australia
- . Powerhouse Museum, Sydney, Australia
- . Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane, Australia
- . Queensland Institute of Technology, Queensland, Australia
- . Shepparton Art Museum, Shepparton, Australia
- . The University of New South Wales Art Collection, Sydney, Australia
- . Wollongong Art Gallery, Wollongong, Australia

### **Bibliography:**

2016 Flanagan, M, Three days that made their mark, The Age, March 4.  
 2016 Stern, M, Aboriginal Women in Australia Celebrate their Football Heroes with Pottery, Hyperallergic: Sensitive to Art and its Discontents, Online publication.  
 2015 Butler, E, Make: Hermannsburg Potters, NGV Gallery Magazine, National Gallery of Victoria, July/August 2015, pp.48-52.  
 2015 Davidson, H, Aussie Rules and Aboriginal Art: meet the Hermannsburg Potters at work, The Guardian, September 7.  
 2015 Marshall, K, Pottery exhibition tells story of town in clay, The Age, September 13.  
 2015 Scanlon, J, Indigenous AFL moments in time brought to life in clay, The Huffington Post, October 1.  
 2015 Sibenaler, D, Art of AFL, The Herald Sun, June 9, Page 8.  
 2013 Nicholls, C, Mission Accomplished: the Hermannsburg Potters, in Australian and New Zealand Journal of Art, Vol.13, No.1, pp.126-145.  
 2013 Whinnet, E, Tiger Lady: The Making of a Richmond President, Herald Sun, 12 October, pp.37-39.  
 2007 Tee, E and Bernard, T, Hermannsburg Life - Over Seventeen Years of Contemporary Art Exploration, Artisan Gallery, Queensland.

2006 The Jukurrpa Diary, IAD Press, Alice Springs, Northern Territory.

2000 Issacs, J, The Hermannsburg Potters: Aranda Artists of Central Australia, Craftsman House, Sydney.

**Commissions:**

2015 Our Land is Alive: Hermannsburg Potters for Kids, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia

2009 Potters' Portrait Pot, National Portrait Gallery, Canberra, Australia

**Awards:**

2021 Finalist, Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Awards, Darwin, Australia

2021 Shortlisted, The Design Files + Laminex Design Awards, Handcrafted Category, Australia

2014 Shortlisted, Indigenous Ceramic Art Award, Shepparton Art Museum, Shepparton, Australia

2011 Shortlisted, Indigenous Ceramic Art Award, Shepparton Art Museum, Shepparton, Australia

2008 Second Prize, Indigenous Ceramic Art Award, Shepparton Art Museum, Shepparton, Australia

**Solo Exhibitions:**

2022 Down the Road from Ntaria, Sabbia Gallery, Sydney

**Group Exhibitions:**

2021 Hermannsburg Potters: Yia Ngkarrama (Telling Stories) presented by JamFactory

2021 Telstra NATSIA Awards Exhibition

2021 Pmara Nurnaka, Yia Nurnaka: Our Country, Our Stories

2020 Tarnanthi Art Fair, 2020

2020 Sentient Portraits - Archie Plus

2020 THE HERMANNSBURG POTTERS: Pmara nurnaka imanka, Pmara nurnaka lyaarta - Country, then and now

2020 Lineage & Legacy

2020 Joy

2020 Desert Mob 2020

2019 Christmas Exhibition

2019 PMARA NURNAKA. URRKNGA NURNAKA. NURNA LHAMA PMARA MARRA INTHURRA  
NURNAKANHA ARTITJIKA

2019 Alcaston 30th Anniversary working with Hermannsburg Potters

2018 Desert Mob 2018

2018 Lurpa - Seasons

2017 CLAY STORIES

2017 Clay Stories Touring Exhibition

2017 Desert Mob 2017

2017 Desert Mob Show 2017

2017 Irna: Trees

2017 CLAY STORIES

2017 Hermannsburg and Pukatja Potters

2016 LATHARTA

2016 Desert Mob

2016 Pmara: Country, Home, Map

2016 Provenance Does Matter: The Collectors Exhibition

2015 Our Land is Alive

2015 Desert Mob

2015 2 Seasons, Group show NT based Artists

2014 New Marks  
2014 Desert Mob