
SABBIA GALLERY

609 Elizabeth Street REDFERN NSW 2016 AUSTRALIA . PO Box 1126 STRAWBERRY HILLS NSW 2012
www.sabbiagallery.com gallery@sabbiagallery.com

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

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

Group Exhibitions

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| 2023 | Nganampa Tjukurpa Nganampa Ara: Our Story Our Way, Sabbia Gallery, Sydney, NSW Ernabella Arts : Ceramic Warka Wiru – 20 Years Kutu (20 years Creating Ceramics), Jamfactory, Adelaide, SA |
| 2021 | Ananyi Nyurakutu- Going Home - Artitja Fine Art Gallery, South Fremantle, WA PREVEIW – SC 2021 – Sydney Contemporary at Sabbia Gallery, Sydney |
| 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 tjunguringkula 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 mukuringkula 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

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| 2012 | Putitja: From the Bush - Strathnairn Gallery, Canberra ACT 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

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| 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.