

Desert Colours 2021

Exquisite Aboriginal Art from Australia's Desert Centre

3 – 21 March 2021

Incinerator Art Space

Colour and Creativity has been springing for decades from Australia's Desert Centre. View masterpieces by leading artists, as well as exceptional new works by the artists of Papunya Tjupi Arts.

Presented by HONEY ANT GALLERY, Aboriginal Art Specialists since 2005.

1.
Mr Barney
Country, 2019
122 x 91cm
\$3,200

About: Mr Barney depicts his desert homeland from an aerial perspective. He carves out sections of the country, using a palette perfectly evocative of the sun bleached desert sandhills.

2.
Alma Webou
untitled, 2005
140.5 x 100.5 cm
\$15,000

About: Alma paints "Pinkalakara". Alma says, "this is my place, I was born here and grew up here, this is my Mother's country". Alma is referring to the Great Sandy Desert in Western Australia.

3.
Minnie Pwerle
Awelye
123 x 98cm
\$15,000

About: "Awelye" are the linear designs that are painted on the arms, chests and thighs of the women in preparation for the dancing. Using coloured ash and clay the women paint each other up for ceremony.

4.
Mary Brown Napanangardi
Women's Ceremony, 2018
112 x 102cm
\$4,900

About: Mary paints features of the landscape from an aerial perspective. Many women are camped here preparing for women's business.

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5.

Doris Bush Nungarrayi
Bush Mangarri Tjuta, 2018
152 x 122 cm
\$5,900

About: Doris has painted a memory from her past in the early days when she was learning from her mother. She talks of her and her mother handling different types of Mangarri (food). Doris speaks of breaking open Pura (bush tomatoes) to eat the flesh and collecting and eating of ilyuru (a sweet natural cotton-candy-like bush food). Doris talks of different tools to do this like wana (digging sticks) and of other parts of the fruitful landscape such as witya (trees).

6.

Emily Andy Napaltjarri
Janmarda 2017
152 x 122 cm
\$4,400

About: Emily depicts Janmarda Tjukurrpa (Onion Dreaming) site of Karrinyarra, which is two hours drive NW of the remote Aboriginal community of Papunya, NT, where there is a large salt lake and sacred spring. At certain times of the year the surrounds become covered with bush onion grass creating a creamy texture across the landscape. The bush onions are gathered and cooked on the coals of the fire. Once cooled they are rubbed between the hands so that the outer shell comes away revealing the lovely sweet small onion underneath.

7.

Watson Corby
Kalipinypa Tjukurrpa, 2020
152 x 91cm
\$2,900

About: The painting tells the story of the rain and hail making ceremony for the site of Kalipinypa. Ancestral forces are invoked to bring on a powerful storm with lightning, thunderclouds and rain sending a deluge to rejuvenate the earth, filling the rock holes, clay pans and creeks and creating new life and growth upon the land.

8.

Tilau Nangala
Mikantji, 2019
152 x 91cm
\$3,500

About: Tilau was a highly respected, senior law woman at Papunya Tjupi Arts. She painted the story of the great Water Dreaming site of Mikantji. Mikantji is west of the remote Aboriginal community of Yuendumu in the NT. The painting tells how the women perform ceremonies celebrating the creation of the Mikantji site by the storm ancestors.

9.

Connie Brown
Yala Yala Tjukurrpa 2020
152 x 91 cm
\$2,900

About: Connie has painted her Grandfather's Kapi Tjukurrpa, from Yala Yala outstation near Kinotre, NT. The work represents a waterhole from this area. Connie speaks of how when she was a child she would dance and watch her Grandfather paint. After her Grandfather passed away, she began to paint his story, influenced by his style of painting.

The lines represent the rain clouds, raining on the land, allowing for many Pituri to grow from the water (represented by the white dots). Pituri is a type of wild desert tobacco. The plant produces a white flower which Connie paints. In Central Australia the leaves from this plant are used for chewing.

"When it rains, I climb up the big rock to the top, and I'm happy"

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10.

Puuni Brown Nungarrayi

Kapi Tjukurrpa, 2020

152 x 91 cm

\$2,700

About: This painting tells a Kapi Tjukurrpa (water dreaming) story. Water dreaming sites are important for the regeneration of nature. The water makes the country green and brings a lot of 'bush tucker' foods for the people and the animals. The heavy rain usually comes in the summer time. When the lightening can be seen at a distance, the elders will start singing to the lightening, encouraging it to bring more rain to replenish the land. In her paintings, Puuni depicts lightening, rainbows, puddles and bush flowers.

In this painting the central shapes are waterholes. The lines represent the elements of a storm - wind, rain, thunderclouds and lightning. The patterns represent rain and water flowing from the waterholes and flooding the usually dry creek beds.

11.

Kathleen Kngale

Bush Plum Country, 2008

120 x 90 cm

\$11,500

About: Kathleen and her sister Polly share responsibility as keepers of cultural knowledge for their country Arlparra, 250kms NE of Alice Springs. Kathleen uses thousands of coloured dots to denote the flora and sacred sites of the Bush Plum.

12.

Bill Whiskey Tjapaltjarri

Rockholes near the Olgas, 2008

183 x 90cm

\$ price on application

About: Bill Whiskey was born in the 1920s near the Olgas. He became a "big business" man in his community and was a traditional healer. He started painting late in life, but quickly rose to stardom with his shows selling out. He painted the story of a white cockatoo that got into a fight with a crow. The crow was trying to steal meat from the cockatoo. They fought, and many of the cockatoo's feathers were spilt on to the earth, forming a beautiful expanse of white rocks in Bill's country. The white dots represent the feathers, the roundels are the rockholes, and the red, blue & orange dots represent wildflowers.

13.

Lilly Kelly Napangardi

Sandhills, 2006

180 x 90 cm

\$6,400

About: Lilly paints her country and the beautiful patterns formed in the sandhills. She is a highly collectable artist, who has the ability to capture movement of the sand with her fine dot work.

14.

Minnie Pwerle

Awelye, 2006

180 x 60cm

\$14,900

About: "Awelye" are the linear designs that are painted on the arms, chests and thighs of the women in preparation for the dancing. Using coloured ash and clay the women paint each other up for ceremony.

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15.

Ningura Napurrula

***Wirrulnga*, 2006**

153 x 91cm

\$ price on application

About: Ningura is no stranger to high profile exposure. In 2003 her painting was used on an Australian postage stamp, and her works are housed in major collection all over the world. In this painting she depicts mythological events of her female ancestors, the sacred sites they passed and the bush tucker they collected. The circles represent the rockholes, the arcs represent the rock outcrops near the site, the lines coming from the rockholes represent water, and the U shapes are the women who camped at the site.

16.

Yuyuya Namptijinpa

untitled

61 x 31cm

\$795

About: This painting shows designs associated with the rockhole site Umari, situated in sandhill country.

17.

Jacqueline Nakamarra

untitled

61 x 31cm

\$795

About: This painting shows designs associated with the creation of Lupulnga, a rockhole south of the community of Kintore.

18.

Payu Napaltjarri

untitled

61 x 31cm

\$795

About: This painting depicts designs associated with Marrapinti, a rockhole site in W.A.

19.

Morris Gibson Tjapaltjarri

untitled

61 x 31cm

\$795

About: In mythological times a large group of Tingari Men camped at this site digging for water in a soakage.

20.

Lorna Brown Napanangka

***Women's Ceremony at Warren Creek*, 2013**

90 x 60cm

\$1,500

About: Lorna has painted a complex aerial depiction of her Grandfather's country, Warren Creek. It shows journey lines and campsites used in ancestral times.

21.

Linda Anderson Jonggarda

***Tjukula*, 2017**

122 x 46cm

\$1,250

About: This story has been passed down to Linda by her Grandfather. Tjukula, where her father comes from, is a place near Docker River, a community in the NT near the WA border. In the centre is the waterhole where people come from the surrounding communities to collect water. Sometimes they used to fight each other. The black oval shapes are the shields with the boomerangs that they used to fight with.

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22.

Doris Bush Nungarrayi

***Bush Mangarri Tjuta*, 2020**

122 x 46cm

\$1,900

About: Doris has painted a memory from her past in the early days when she was learning from her mother. She talks of her and her mother handling different types of Mangarri (food). Doris speaks of breaking open Pura (bush tomatoes) to eat the flesh and collecting and eating of ilyuru (a sweet natural cotton-candy-like bush food). Doris talks of different tools to do this like wana (digging sticks) and of other parts of the fruitful landscape such as witya (trees).

23.

Puuni Brown Nungarrayi

***Kapi Tjukurrpa*, 2019**

122 x 46 cm

\$1,200

About: This painting tells a Kapi Tjukurrpa (water dreaming story). Water dreaming sites are important for the regeneration of nature. The water makes the country green and brings a lot of 'bush tucker' foods for the people and the animals. The heavy rain usually comes in the summer time. When the lightening can be seen at a distance, the elders will start singing to the lightening, encouraging it to bring more rain to replenish the land. In her paintings, Puuni depicts lightening, rainbows, puddles and bush flowers.

24.

Mavis Tjugadai

***Mikantji*, 2020**

122 x 46 cm

\$1,200

About: Mavis paints the story of the great Water Dreaming site of Mikantji which she inherited from her mother, a senior law woman. Mikantji is west of the remote Aboriginal community of Yuendumu

in the NT. The painting tells how the women perform ceremonies celebrating the creation of the Mikantji site by the storm ancestors. Mavis has painted kungka (women, represented by U shapes), ngati (waterholes, represented by circles), caru (creeks, represented by the long sinuous lines), puuli (hills, represented by the short curved lines).

25.

Doris Bush Nungarrayi

***Anangu Tjuta & Papa Tjukurrpa* 2020**

91 x 76cm

\$2,200

About: This work is about both a memory Doris has and a Tjukurrpa (dreaming) story, of a place called Nyunmanu. Doris lived here for many years. Her memory is of lots of people living together in a cave. There was a lot of bush tobacco growing in the cave. The children were dancing, and everyone was eating snakes and goannas. Everyone slept heavily and was very content.

The painting also represents a Dingo Dreaming story, about a family of dingoes that rose up into the sky and became stars. However, the ancestral mother Dingo and her pup had gone out hunting and were too tired to rise up, so they turned into a large rock that marks the place of this sacred Dreaming. It is said that if you sleep in this place you will dream of the ancestral dingo puppies.

26.

Maureen Poulson Napangarti

***Kalipinyapa* 2020**

91 x 76cm

\$1,900

About: Maureen paints a water dreaming story that tells of an important rain making ceremony to invoke the elements. It is a powerful storm bringing on the lightning, thunderclouds and rain sending its deluge to rejuvenate the earth, filling rock holes, clay pans and creeks.

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27.

Martha McDonald

Warlukuritji, 2020

91 x 76cm

\$3,000

About: Martha depicts Warlukuritji in her works. It is one of a series of clay pans to the south of Lake MacDonald that were significant for her father, Shorty Lungkata Tjungurrayi. The surrounding dot matrix depicts the tapestry of different types of vegetation across the landscape – waterholes and trees. Martha has been painting for a long time. She witnessed the beginnings of the Papunya Art Movement in the early 1970s, when her father created authoritative works that would go on to be internationally celebrated. While Martha paints his country, she does so in her own way.

28.

Mona Nangala

Tali (Sandhills), 2020

91 x 76cm

\$1,600

About: In this work Mona has depicted Tali (sandhills), Kapi (water), and Mangarri (Bush Tucker) dreaming stories from Papunya and surrounding areas. The sandhills form waves across the desert. The lines represent kapi tjukurrpa (water dreaming) and the dots represent Mangarri Tjuta (all the bush tucker).

Willoughby City Council is gratefully acknowledged for the provision of Incinerator Art Space.

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