

Warlukurlangu Artists Aboriginal Corporation



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Maggie Napaljarri Ross

Born: 01/01/1935
Skin Name: Napaljarri
Country: Yuendumu, Northern Territory
Group: Warlpiri - Anmatyerre



Biography

Maggie Napaljarri Ross was born at Coniston Station in the Northern Territory in the early 1940s. She spent her early years there, before moving to Yuendumu as a child where she attended the mission school. Like her older brother Paddy Japaljarri Stewart, she went on to teach at the Yuendumu School before working as a cleaner at Yuendumu clinic.

Maggie has been painting with Warlukurlangu Artists Aboriginal Art Corporation, an Aboriginal owned and governed art centre located in Yuendumu, since 1987, a few years after the founding of the Art Centre. She has exhibited her art work in Group Exhibitions across Australia, in USA and Singapore. Maggie uses an unrestricted palette to develop a modern interpretation of her traditional culture.

Maggie's traditional country is in and around the Yuendumu area, at sites such as Wakurlpu, Yuendumu, Kakadu (Mt Dennison) and Wariwari (Mt Allan). She is responsible for Jukurrpa relating to Marlu (kangaroos), Janmarda (bush onions), Janganpa (possums), Warlawurru (eagles) and Miinyapa (native fuschia). These Jukurrpa were passed down to her by her father and mother, and relate directly to the land, its features and the plants and animals that inhabit it.

Now widowed, Maggie has four children and "a big mob of grandkids". She enjoys teaching her grandchildren how to hunt for bush tucker such as witchetty grubs, goannas and bush onions. Maggie also looks forward to ceremonies, dancing and singing with the other women.

Medium

Acrylic on canvas/linen

Themes

Marlu (Kangaroo)
Janmarda (Bush Onion)
Janganpa (Possum)
Native Fuschia

Group Exhibitions

March	1988	'Yuendumu: paintings out of the desert.' S.A. Museum, Adelaide
March	1993	'Windows to the Future', Tandanya, Adelaide
February	2004	Jeffrey Moose Gallery, Seattle, Washington, U.S.A.
February	2004	'Little Warlu, Big Stories: Hot Little paintings by Big artists of Yuendumu', Australia's NT & Outback Centre, Sydney
April	2005	'Jukurpa Wiri: Important Dreaming Stories', Araluen Galleries, Alice Springs, NT
July	2005	'Recent Works', Short Street Gallery, Broome, Western Australia
August	2005	'Luminous', Northern Editions, Charles Darwin University, Darwin, NT
September	2006	Warlukurlangu Artists - Recent Works, Mason Gallery, Darwin, NT
September	2006	Warlukurlangu Artists – New Works, Hogarth Gallery, Sydney, NSW
May	2006	Artists of Yuendumu, Australia's Outback Gallery, NT & Outback Centre, Darling Harbour, Sydney, NSW
June	2006	Paintings from the Fire Country, Birrung Gallery, Sydney, NSW
August	2006	Senior Women's Work, Gadfly Gallery, Perth, WA
November	2006	Warlpiri Artists of Yuendumu, Japingka Gallery, WA
February	2007	Opera House Show, Hogarth Gallery, Sydney, NSW
November	2007	Australian Aboriginal Artists from the Central Desert, Jeffrey Moose Gallery, Seattle WA, USA
March	2008	Warlukurlangu Artists, the art of Yuendumu, La Fontaine Centre of Contemporary Art, Bahrain UAE
April	2008	Opening Doors into Colourful Dreamtime, ReDot Gallery, Singapore
April	2008	Warlukurlangu Artists of Yuendumu, The Painted Door, Petaluma CA, USA
November	2008	Yuendumu, Emerging Artists, Better World Arts, Port Adelaide, SA
June	2010	Colours of Yuendumu, Marianne Newman Gallery, NSW
June	2010	Circles in the Sand, Kluge-Ruhe Collection, Virginia USA
July	2010	'We Walk Together as Friends', 6th Shalom Gamarada Ngiyani Yani, Sydney NSW
August	2010	Gecko Gallery Exhibition, Gecko Gallery, Broome, NT