

# Papunya Tula: 50 years 1971-2021

27 February – 4 April 2021

The settlement of Papunya is, 240km north-west of Alice Springs was established in 1959 as an administrative centre by the government for the Aboriginal people who had moved in from the desert. Settlements such as Papunya were established by successive Australian governments under the controversial policy of assimilation.

Papunya's residents were mainly of the Luritja and Pintupi language groups, but its residents also included people from the Anmatyerr, Warlpiri and Kukatja groups.

Some of the Pintupi men had very limited contact with Europeans as their traditional country lay hundreds of kilometres west of Papunya in the Gibson Desert, where they had lived as hunter-gatherers until the 1960s. For many Pintupi, Papunya was their first experience of life in a European settlement.

The Papunya Tula Art Movement began in 1971 when a school teacher, Geoffrey Bardon, encouraged some of the men to paint a blank school wall. The Papunya Tula painting style derives directly from the artists' knowledge of traditional body and sand painting associated with ceremony. To portray these dreamtime creation stories for the public has required the removal of sacred symbols and the careful monitoring of ancestral design

When a small group of men began painting at Papunya in 1971, no one could have imagined the significance it would have over the next five decades. This transformative moment was the start of a school of painting that has endured and thrives today, in the process changing the face of art in Australia forever.

Papunya Tula Artists started the contemporary indigenous art movement across Australia; it motivated the formation of Arts Centres across the desert and beyond; it supported urban indigenous artists as they began to explore new ideas and themes. Papunya Tula art is now an integral part of Australia's cultural heritage.

Guest curator Christopher Hodges, artist and Director, Utopia Art, Sydney has compiled a definitive exhibition from leading private collections. "The Papunya painters revealed to the world the depth of their stories and visual prowess in 1971. From the start, every artist painted with confidence in their own individual style. The works in this exhibition capture the emotional power of the art of the central desert, and is a tribute to the artists who led the way and the community of painters that has grown from their example. Their contribution has been critically important to Australian culture." Hodges is an authority on the Papunya Tula Artist having represented them since 1988.

Supported by:

utopia art sydney



**Papunya Tula**  
**Artists Pty Ltd**

**OLD MICK TJAKAMARRA**

(c.1910-1996)

Untitled n.d.

acrylic on linen

Private collection

**UTA UTA TJANGALA**

(c.1926-90)

Minyirawarru 1988

synthetic polymer paint on linen

90 x 181cm

Private Collection

**CLIFFORD POSSUM TJAPALJARRI**

(c.1932-2002)

*Ngarlu Love Story* n.d

acrylic on canvas

Private collection

**ANATJARI TJAMPITJINPA**

(1927-99)

Untitled (*6 circles*) n.d

acrylic on linen 122 x 91 cm

Private collection

**TWO BOB TJUNGURRAYI**

(c.1940-2000)

Untitled n.d

synthetic polymer paint on linen

164 x 48cm

Private collection

**BILLY STOCKMAN TJAPALTJARRI**

(c.1927)

Untitled 1971

acrylic on board 62 x 65 cm

Private collection

**TIM LEURA TJAPALTJARRI**

(c.1929-84)

*Coolamon* n.d

ochres on carved wood

Private collection

**UTA UTA TJANGALA**

(c.1926-90)

*Women's Ceremonial Travelling*

*Dreaming* 1971

synthetic polymer paint on

composition board 54.5 x 35 cm

Laverty Collection

**CHARLIE WARTUMA (TARARU)**

**TJUNGURRAYI**

(c.1925-99)

*Special Yam Dreaming (Fear)*

1971

synthetic polymer paint on

plywood 61x 20.5cm

Laverty Collection

**SHORTY LUNGKATA**

**TJUNGURRAYI**

(c.1920-87)

*Kangaroo Travelling Spirit*

*Dreaming* 1972

synthetic polymer and natural

earth on composition board 58.5

x 57 cm

Laverty Collection

**JOHNNY WARANGKULA**

**TJUPURRULA**

(c.1918-2001)

*Water dreaming with rain and*

*lightning* 1972

synthetic polymer paint on

composition board 60 x 50 cm

Laverty Collection

**FREDDY WEST TJAKAMARRA**

(c.1942-94)

Untitled (*Men's ceremony – Wati*

*Cujarra*) 1972

synthetic polymer paint on board

Private collection

**OLD TUTUMA TJAPANGATI**

(c.1909-1987)

Untitled 1972

synthetic polymer and ochre on

board

73 x 47.5 cm

Private collection

**MICK NAMARARI TJAPALTJARRI**

(1926-98)

*Kangaroos sleeping in the rocks*

1972

synthetic polymer paint on board

57.5 x 54.5 cm

Private collection

**JOHNNY WARANGKULA**

**TJUPURRULA**

(c.1918-2001)

Untitled 1974

acrylic on board

Private Collection

**MICK NAMARARI TJAPALTJARRI**

(1926-98)

*Owl dreaming* 1974

synthetic polymer on board 60 x

46cm

Private collection

**KAAPA TJAMPITJINPA**

(c.1926-1989)

*Goanna Dreaming, Mt Wedge*

1974

acrylic on canvas board 30.5 x

40.6 cm

Private collection

**CHARLIE EGALIE TJAPALTJARRI**

(c.1935-2002)

Untitled 1976

acrylic on canvas board 40.5 x

20cm

Private collection

**SHORTY LUNGKATA**

**TJUNGURRAYI**

(1920-87)

Untitled 1980

acrylic on linen 164 x 48cm

Private collection

**CHARLIE WARTUMA (TARARU)**

**TJUNGURRAYI**

(c.1925-99)

Untitled 1981

acrylic on canvas on board

Private collection

**PINTA PINTA TJAPANANGKA**

(c.1928-99)

Untitled 1983

synthetic polymer on linen

Private collection

**MICK NAMARARI TJAPALTJARRI**

(1926-98)

Untitled 1983

wooden boomerang, paint

Private collection

**NOLAN TJAPANGATI**

(c.1939)

Untitled c.1987

acrylic on linen 183 x 122 cm

Private collection

**JOSEPH JURRA TJAPALTJARRI**

(c.1952)

Untitled 1988

acrylic on linen 183 x 153 cm

Private collection

**MICHAEL JAGAMARRA NELSON**

(1949-2020)

Untitled 1988

acrylic on canvas 96 x 67.5cm

Private collection

**RONNIE TJAMPITJINPA**

(c.1942)

Untitled 1989

acrylic on linen 152 x 180cm

Collection of Edmund and Diana

Hasche

**CHARLIE WARTUMA (TARARU)****TJUNGURRAYI**

(c.1925-99)

Untitled 1990

acrylic on linen 122 x 46 cm

Private Collection

**MAXIE TJAMPITJINPA**

(c.1945-1997)

Untitled 1993

acrylic on linen, 2 panels

each 123 x 62cm, overall 123 x 186cm

Private collection

**RONNIE TJAMPITJINPA**

(c.1942)

Untitled 1996

woodcut print

courtesy Utopia Art Sydney

**RONNIE TJAMPITJINPA**

(c.1942)

Untitled 1993

woodcut print

courtesy Utopia Art Sydney

**TURKEY TOLSON TJUPURRULA**

(c.1942-2001)

Untitled 1995

woodcut print (from suite of 3)

edition of 20 38 x 54cm

courtesy of Utopia Art Sydney

**RONNIE TJAMPITJINPA**

(c.1942)

*Echidna Story* 1996

woodcut print, edition of 30

30 x 22.5cm

courtesy Utopia Art Sydney

**YALA YALA GIBBS TJUNGURRAYI**

(c.1928-1999)

Untitled 1997

acrylic on linen 153 x 122cm

Private collection

**YALA YALA GIBBS TJUNGURRAYI**

(c.1928-1999)

Untitled 1997

acrylic on paper

Private collection

**MICK NAMARARI TJAPALTJARRI**

(1926-98)

Untitled 1997

acrylic on linen 183 x 153cm

Private collection

**TURKEY TOLSON TJUPURRULA**

(c.1942-2001)

Untitled 1998

acrylic on linen 183 x 153cm

Private collection

**KANYA TJAPANGATI**

(c.1951-2006)

Untitled 1999

acrylic on linen 168 x 46cm

Private collection

**TURKEY TOLSON TJUPURRULA**

(c.1942-2001)

*Red Stripe* 1999

woodcut print, edition of 30

30 x 22.5cm

Courtesy of Utopia Art Sydney

**MAKINTI NAPANANGKA**

(c.1930-2011)

Untitled (Rockhole site of

Lupulnga) 2001

acrylic on linen 183 x 153 cm

Collection of Edmund and Diana

Hasche

**TURKEY TOLSON TJUPURRULA**

(c.1942-2001)

Untitled (*Straightening of the spears*) 2001

woodcut print 70 x 140cm

courtesy Utopia Art Sydney

**TJUNKIYA NAPALTJARRI**

(c.1928-2009)

Untitled 2003

acrylic on linen 122 x 107cm

Private collection

**LORNA NAPANANGKA**

(b. 1961)

Untitled 2003

acrylic on linen

Private collection

**DOREEN REID NAKAMARRA**

(c.1955-2009)

Untitled 2007

acrylic on linen

Private collection

**NINGURA NAPURRULA**

(c.1938-2013)

*Untitled* 2008

acrylic on linen

Collection of Edmund and Diana

Hasche

**JOSEPH JURRA TJAPALTJARRI**

(c.1952)

Untitled 1990

etching 55 x 45 cm

courtesy of Utopia Art Sydney

**PATRICK TJUNGURRAYI**

(c 1935 – 2018)

Untitled 2009

etching, edition of 40

courtesy of Utopia Art Sydney

**NAATA NUNGURRAYI**

(c.1932)

Untitled 2009

Etching

courtesy of Utopia Art Sydney

**WINTJIYA NAPALTJARRI**

(c.1933-2014)

Untitled 2009

etching

**WARLIMPIRRNGA TJAPALTJARRI**

(c.1959)

Untitled 2009

etching

courtesy Utopia Art Sydney

**RAY JAMES TJANGALA**  
(c.1958)  
Untitled 2010  
acrylic on linen 244 x 183cm  
Collection of the artist, courtesy  
of Utopia Art Sydney

**NAATA NUNGURRAYI**  
(c.1932)  
Untitled 2011  
acrylic on linen 183 x 153cm  
Private collection

**GEORGE TJUNGURRAYI**  
(c.1943)  
Untitled 2015  
acrylic on linen  
Private collection

**MANTUA NANGALA**  
(c.1959)  
Untitled 2015  
acrylic on linen  
Private collection

**YUKULTJI NAPANGATI**  
(c.1971)  
Untitled 2016  
acrylic on linen  
Private collection

**YUKULTJI NAPANGATI**  
(c.1971)  
Untitled 2017  
acrylic on linen  
Private collection

**MARY NAPANGATI**  
(c.1955)  
Untitled 2020  
acrylic on linen 46 x 38cm  
courtesy of Utopia Art Sydney

**AUBREY TJANGALA**  
(b.1970)  
Untitled 2021  
acrylic on linen 46 x 38cm  
Private collection

**NYILYARI TJAPANGATI**  
(c.1965)  
Untitled 2021  
acrylic on linen 46 x 38cm  
Private collection

**MARY NAPANGATI**  
(c.1955)  
Untitled 2021  
acrylic on linen 153 x 183cm  
collection of the artist

**MARY NAPANGATI**  
(c.1955)  
Untitled 2021  
acrylic on linen 46 x 38cm  
courtesy of Utopia Art Sydney

**Wall of square canvas**  
acrylic on linen 61 x 55cm  
Private collection

1. **NYILYARI TJAPANGATI** 1999  
Wilkinkarra
2. **RICHARD YUKENBARRI**  
**TJAKAMARRA** 2012 Kinyu
3. **RONNIE TJAMPITJINPA** 2000  
Mantja
4. **KENNY WILLIAMS**  
**TJAMPITJINPA** 2004  
Karrilwarra
5. **GEORGE TJUNGURRAYI**  
1997 Murmanya
6. **BENNY TJAPALTJARRI** 2000  
Pinpirrnga
7. **MATTHEW WEST**  
**TJUPURRULA** 2005 Ngarru
8. **PEGLEG TJAMPITJINPA** 1998  
Tarkulnga
9. **AARON KINGSLEY**  
**TJAPALTJARRI** 2008Tingari
10. **YALA YALA GIBBS**  
**TJUNGURRAYI** 1998  
Itaramapunya
11. **JOEY WEST TJUPURRULA**  
2008 Palipalinyja
12. **BARNEY CAMPBELL**  
**Tjakamarra** 1999  
Muntantjanya
13. **JEFFREY ZIMRAN TJANGALA**  
2010 Pinari
14. **MONICA NAPALTJARRI** 2009  
Yunala
15. **YALTI NAPANGATI** 2002  
Ngaminya
16. **RAYMOND TJAPALTJARRI**  
2009 Kurra
17. **CHARLIE WALLABI**  
**TJUNGURRAYI** 2009 Nyinmi
18. **PADDY LEWIS**  
**TJAPANANGKA** 2002  
Wilkinkarra
19. **HILARY TJAPALTJARRI** 2014  
Pirruwaltja
20. **LONG JACK PHILLIPUS**  
**TJAKAMARRA** 2010  
Wilkinkarra
21. **MATTHEW TJAPANGATI**  
2008 Malparingya

22. **CHARLIE TJAPANGATI** 1999  
Tjinparitjarra
23. **MITCHELL GIBSON**  
**TJAPALTJARRI** 2006 Mukula
24. **PATRICK TJUNGURRAYI**  
2002 Palipali
25. **LINDSAY CORBY**  
**TJAPALTJARRI** 1998 Tjunti
26. **MURPHY TJUPURRULA**  
2006 Yuwalki
27. **ANDREW TOLSON**  
**TJAKAMARRA** 2006  
Illyingaugau
28. **JOHNNY YUNGUT**  
**TJUPURRULA** 2013  
Wilkinkarra
29. **TIMMY PAYUNGKA**  
**TJAPANGATI** 1996  
Wilkinkarra
30. **EDITH NAMPITJINPA** 2010  
Umari2006 Mukula
31. **WARLIMPIRRNGA**  
**TJAPALTJARRI** 2005  
Marawa
32. **WILLY TJUNGURRAYI** 1999  
Kaarkuratintja
33. **RAY JAMES TJANGALA** 1999  
Minyina
34. **DINI CAMPBELL**  
**TJAMPITJINPA** 1999 Kirritji
35. **BOBBY WEST TJUPURRULA**  
2005 Palipalinyja
36. **MARTIN TJAMPITJINPA**  
2003 Umari
37. **RAYMOND MAXWELL**  
**TJAMPITJINPA** 2002  
**TJUKULA**
38. **GEORGE WARD**  
**TJUNGURRAYI** 2004  
Kaarkuratintja
39. **MICHAEL NELSON**  
**TJAKAMARRA** 2003 Pilkilli
40. **JOSEPH JURRA**  
**TJAPALTJARRI** 2002 Tjammu  
Tjammu
41. **ANATJARI TJAMPITJINPA**  
1995 Irrututu
42. **JOHN WEST TJUPURRULA**  
2018 Palipalinyja
43. **PINTA PINTA TJAPANANGKA**  
1998 Tutjalpa
44. **KAWAYI NAMPITJINPA** 2004  
Pinpirrnga
45. **LORNA BROWN**  
**NAPANANGKA** 2005 Warren  
Creek
46. **WALANGKURA REID**  
**NAPURRULA** 2002 Dale  
Creek

47. **BRENDA NAPALTJARRI** 2004  
Mitukatyjirri
48. **KIM NAPURRULA** 2006  
Marrapinti
49. **YINARUPA NANGALA** 2005  
Umari
50. **NYURAPAYIA NAMPITJINPA**  
2002 Yumarra
51. **PIRRMANGKA**  
**NAPANANGKA** 2000  
Tjintjinjin
52. **NARRABRI NAKAMARRA**  
2004 Lallanga
53. **KAYI KAYI NAMPITJINPA**  
2004 Marrapinti
54. **INYUWA NAMPITJINPA**  
1998 **PUKUNYA**
55. **ELIZABETH MARKS**  
**NAKAMARRA** 2009  
Kalipinya
56. **YUYUYA NAMPITJINPA** 2001  
Watanuma
57. **FLORRIE WATSON**  
**NAPANGATI** 2006
58. **EILEEN NAPALTJARRI** 2009  
Tjiturrulpa
59. **NANYUMA NAPANGATI**  
2002 Marapinti
60. **DOREEN REID**  
**NAKAMARRA** 2007 Yunala
61. **WINTJIYA NAPALTJARRI**  
1999 Watanuma
62. **NANCY NUNGURRAYI** 1998  
Tjulantjnaya
63. **PANTJIYA NUNGURRAYI**  
2001 Kungjayunti
64. **WALANGKURA**  
**NAPANANGKA** 2002 Lupul
65. **JOAN NAMPITJINPA** 2004  
Ngamalu
66. **WINNIE NAKAMARRA** 2011  
Lupulgna
67. **TATALI NANGALA** 1996  
Tjunpanya
68. **MARLENE NAMPITJINPA**  
2016 Karrilwarra
69. **NGOIA NAPALTJARRI** 2011  
Ilitjunya
70. **KATARRA BUTLER**  
**NAPALTJARRI** 2017 Tjukula
71. **YUKULTJI NAPANGATI** 2001  
Marrapinti
72. **WALANGKURA**  
**NAPANANGKA** 2003  
Tjintjintjin
73. **RUBILEE NAPURRULA** 2008  
Yuwalki
74. **LUCY LOOMOO**  
**NUNGURAYI** 2014 Walpurru
75. **NINGURA NAPURRULA**  
2001 Warilutjanya