

Art, words and photos from
Central Australian Aboriginal Art Centres

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THE DESART RADAR



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of Central Australia



Iltja Ntjarra Many Hands – Sydney Biennale 2020

Iltja Ntjarra Many Hands are currently showing in the Sydney Biennale with another show alongside the Biennale at CrossArt Gallery.

Participating artists in the Biennale are: Kathleen France, Noreen Hudson, Reinhold Inkamala, Clara Inkamala, Dellina Inkamala,

Kathy Inkamala, Vanessa Inkamala, Janie Karpa, Gloria Pannka, Hubert Pareroultja, Ivy Pareroultja, Mervyn Rubuntja, Hillary Wirri.

The works in this exhibition speak to the lack of housing for Aboriginal people in the Northern Territory. From Albert Namatjira, who despite his success as a celebrated artist could not get authorities to assist him and his family's housing situation, a humpy in the Morris Soak camp in Mparntwe, to his relatives today living in overcrowded town camps.

Mervyn Rubuntja says the aim of the Biennale show is “to introduce people in urban environments to the beautiful landscape of the Northern Territory. At the same time, we want to raise awareness about the issues we are facing. We feel that there is a lack of consultation with traditional owners. If the authorities would listen to us, they would support us with housing issues for example, rather than investing in mining on our country, which we strongly object to. The works we present at the Biennale of Sydney are to let people know about our country and our lives.”

Image: Vanessa Inkamala, *Homeless on my homeland*, 2018/19 (acrylic and marker pen on nylon stripe bags) Photo: Alex Robinson.



Warlayirti Artist, Pauline Sunfly Nangala's successful showcase at Tarnanthi Festival of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art

It's been 10 years since Pauline Sunfly Nangala has had a solo show and what more prestigious event to show case new works, as a featured artist, than at Tarnanthi Festival at the Art Gallery of South Australia (AGSA) late last year. Pauline paints both her parents' country, expertly combining the wild colour of Bai Bai Napangarti (dec) and the bold block lines of Sunfly Tjampitjin (dec). Over the past decade Pauline's painting has matured into dynamic reimaginings of ancient *Tjukurrpa* (creation stories). Her graphic patterns and vivid blocks of colour defies assumptions around Western Desert painting and conventional representations of the desert landscape. Her work is daringly contemporary yet firmly grounded in tradition. AGSA acquired four of Nangala's works and another two are now part of the Ashworth Collection.

Image: Pauline Sunfly Nangala standing next to *Wilinkarra*, 150cm x 75cm acrylic on canvas. Acquired by AGSA.

Men's Photography Workshop

During Desert Mob week in September 2019 Desert ran a photography skills development workshop for male art workers. Men travelled from Arlpwe Art & Culture Centre (Ali Curung), Papunya Tjupi Arts (Papunya) and Kaltukatjara Arts (Kaltukatjara – Docker River) to join two art workers at their home art centre Yarrenyty Arltere in Alice Springs. Talented photographer- facilitators Glenn Iseger-Pilkington and Dave Laslett delivered the week-long program and introduced the art workers to the potential of photography and as an important way of sharing stories. The workshop focused on understanding cameras, lighting (available & artificial), fine art photography, photographing people, exhibitions and events. Cornelius Ebatarinja's enthusiasm is clear in the short film about the project *Desert Art Worker Photography Program 2019* available to view on Vimeo. <https://vimeo.com/366659061>



Image: (From left) Cornelius Ebatarinja (Yarrenyty Arltere art worker) and Dennis Brown (Kaltukatjara Art art worker) receiving instruction from Dave Laslett during a fashion photo shoot at Yarrenyty Arltere featuring the textiles made at the Yarrenyty Arltere art centre.



Desart Art Worker Program

The curatorial workshop installing the 2019 Desart Photography Prize was once again a great success and lots of fun. Three female art workers learned curatorial skills such as creating a narrative with the work, how to design and install an exhibition, create wall texts and so on from the experienced ex local Alice Springs curator Hannah Presley. The 2019 Desart Photography Prize winner was Cornelius Ebaratinja from Yarrenyty Arltere Artists with his beautiful image *Because they are always here*.

Image: (From left) 2019 Photography Prize judge Brenda L. Croft; Doreen Bennett, Kaltukatjara Art art worker; Gina Smith, Desart admin officer; Sharon Butcher, Papunya Tjupi art worker; photography prize curatorial workshop facilitator, Hannah Presley (NGV) and previous photography prize curatorial facilitator Coby Edgar (AGNSW). Photo: Penny Watson, Desart.



Tjarlirli crew travel to Revealed in a work of art

Congratulations to Carol Giles of Kaltukatjara, her work *Minyma Tjukurla* was chosen as the hero

shot for the Fremantle Arts' Revealed Market Place promotions. The Revealed Emerging Artists Exhibition will include works by Tjarlirli artists: Sally Butler, Nola Bennett, Myra Giles, Martha Protty, Jillian Giles and Adam Butler.

Image: (Left to right) Dennis Brown (art worker Kaltukatjara Art), Doreen Bennett (art worker Kaltukatjara Art), Henry Farmer (Director and art worker Kaltukatjara Art), Julianne Farmer (Chairperson and art worker Kaltukatjara Art) and Myra Giles (art worker Tjarlirli Art). Image courtesy Tjarlirli Art.



Keringke Arts Centre upgrades

The Keringke Arts Centre in Santa Teresa was recently successful in an

NT Government Arts Trail Grant – Round 4. The grant funding will be used to revitalise and improve the functionality and accessibility of the art studio and gallery, with an outdoor seating space for artists and visitors.

Art Centre Manager Bryce Hartnett said: *This funding is going to assist the Keringke Art Centre create a gallery and studio that provides access to all, with the addition of a wheelchair ramp and handrail, and allows for more artist and visitor interaction with a multipurpose space enabling the centre to cater for future art workshops for visitors.*

Keringke Art Centre is 85 km south-east of Alice Springs on the community of Santa Teresa and visitors are welcome at the gallery which is open Monday to Thursday from 9am to 4pm. No permit is required to enter the community.

The 2019 Desert Photography Prize winner was Cornelius Ebatarinja from Yarrenyty Arltere Artists with his beautiful image *Because they are always here.*



Key Dates

1 – 2 April	SAM Training Revealed, Fremantle
2 April	Revealed Exhibition launch, Fremantle Arts Centre
6 April	Creative Partnerships Australia Fundamentals of Fundraising, Mecure, Alice Springs
7 – 8 April	Desart Art Centre Conference, Double Tree Hilton, Alice Springs
7 April	Kwatye atnyeme, kwatye urewe, All the rain failing, all the water flowing Exhibition opening 5pm Tangentyere Artists
9 – 12 June	Barkly Artist Camp Tennant Creek
10 July	Desart Photography Prize entry deadline
8-10 August	Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair
10 September	Desert Mob Exhibition Opening, Araluen Arts Centre
11 September	Desert Mob Symposium
12 September	Desert Mob Marketplace

Email blasts for Desart members

Keep up to date with industry news, grants, art prizes and competition opportunities. Email programofficer@desart.com.au if you're missing out on our grant and competition email blasts.

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