



# Puna Yanima

Born circa 1955, De Rose Hill Station, Australia

## BIOGRAPHY

Puna Yanima was born in the bush, close to DeRose Hill Station in the far north of South Australia. Her father was Norman Yanima and his country was Piltati, near Nyapari, on the APY Lands. Her mother was Lucy Yanima and she was born in Indulkana. Puna spent her first years living off the land and travelling between communities with her parents and her four siblings. She grew up speaking Yankunytjatjara, and eventually moved to Indulkana as a young girl. Once Puna started a family on her own, she moved to Mimili with her partner and four children.

Puna continues to be one of the senior cultural leaders of Mimili Community. She is passionate about sharing her knowledge of inma (ceremonial song and dance) and culture with the next generation. Puna was introduced to the storylines of Antara as a young woman, and has since continued to integrate this knowledge into her life, passionately caring for kapi tjukula (rock holes), apu (rocks) and murpu (mountains). She often goes on bush trips and camps out for several days with her family. Puna Yanima started connecting her deep knowledge of country with the practice of painting as soon as Mimili Maku Arts was founded. As one of the community leaders, she was instrumental in developing the art centre in its early stages. Today, Puna is best known for the inky, fluid and free artworks, that radiate a sense of play and joyfulness.

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 *Colour Power 22*, JGM Gallery, London, United Kingdom
- 2019 *Caught in the Net*, JGM Gallery, London, United Kingdom
- 2019 *Tjitji malatja tjutaku*, Aboriginal Signature Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
- 2018 *Make Me A Sacrifice*, JGM Gallery, London, United Kingdom
- 2018 *Malatja-malatja*, Aboriginal Signature Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
- 2018 *Desert Mob*, Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs, Australia
- 2018 *Wangka Kutjara, Tjukurpa Kutju* (Two voices, one Tjukurpa), black art projects and Linden New Arts, Melbourne, Australia
- 2018 *Antara*, Harvey Art Projects, Idaho, USA
- 2018 *Uwankarangka Tjungungku Palyantja: Together all is well*, Short Street Gallery, Broome, Australia
- 2017 *Nganampa Manta Lipiwanu*, Aboriginal & Pacific Art, Sydney, Australia
- 2017 *Desert Mob*, Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs, Australia
- 2017 *Salon des Refusés*, Charles Darwin University Art Gallery, Darwin, Australia
- 2017 *Minyma TjutakuTjukurpa* (Women's Stories), Short St Gallery, Broom, Australia
- 2017 *Sharing Country*, Olsen Gruin Gallery, New York, USA
- 2017 *Finalist, Hazelhurst Art on Paper*, Hazelhurst Regional Gallery, GyMEA, Australia
- 2017 *Malatja-malatja Tjutaku Kulu: For the Future Generations*, Outstation Gallery, Darwin, Australia
- 2016 *Nganampa Kililpil: Our Stars*, Hazelhurst Regional Gallery, GyMEA, Australia
- 2016 *Desert Mob*, Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs, Australia
- 2016 *Salon des Refuse*, CDU Art Gallery, Darwin, Australia
- 2016 *Kantilya ngaranytjaku*, Kuranyukutu nyakunytjaku, Outstation Gallery, Darwin, Australia
- 2016 *Tjilpi munu Pampaku Tjukurpa Kunpu Kanyintjaku*, RAFT Artspace, Alice Springs, Australia
- 2015 *Tjukurpa Kunpu – Strong Culture*, Harvey Art Projects, Idaho, USA
- 2015 *Desert Mob*, Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs, Australia
- 2015 *Puttinguru Urukuta - Desert to the Sea*, Short Street Gallery, Broome, Australia
- 2015 *Mimili Maku Arts Ngunytju Kurunpa – Mother Spirit*, Outstation Gallery, Darwin, Australia
- 2014 *Desert Mob*, Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs, Australia
- 2014 *Mimili Maku- Nganampa Wangka* (our voice), Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne, Australia
- 2014 *Uwankara Nganana Mimili Maku Arts*, Outstation Gallery, Darwin, Australia
- 2013 *Pira-Mimi*, Outstation Gallery, Darwin, Australia
- 2012 *Ngura Puti (Bush Home)*, Redot Gallery, Singapore
- 2012 *Desert Mob*, Araluen Gallery, Alice Springs, Australia
- 2012 *Wapar – Yankunytjatjara Dreaming*, Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne, Australia
- 2012 *Mimili Maku Alinytjara*, Outstation Gallery, Darwin, Australia

- 2012 *Tjukurpa Kunpu*, A.P. Bond Gallery, Adelaide, Australia  
2011 *Waltjapiti Mimili Maku exhibition*, RAFT Artspace, Alice Springs, Australia  
2011 *Mimili Maku Mirinpa exhibition*, Chapman Gallery, Canberra, Australia  
2011 *Tjukuritja kunpu kanyitjaku exhibition*, Aboriginal and Pacific Art, Sydney, Australia  
2011 *Mimili Maku Arts*, A.P. Bond Gallery, Adelaide, Australia  
2010 *Mimili Maku*, Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne, Australia  
2010 *Piiny- Piinyapa Tjukurpa Exhibition*, RAFT Artspace, Alice Springs, Australia  
2010 *Desert Mob*, Araleun Gallery, Alice Springs, Australia  
2010 *Recent works APY Lands*, RAFT Gallery, Alice Springs, Australia  
2010 *Mimili Maku recent works*, Bond Aboriginal Art, Adelaide, Australia
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## RESIDENCIES / ART PRIZES / PUBLIC ART

- 2017 Finalist, *Hazelhurst Art on Paper*, Hazelhurst Regional Gallery, Gymea, NSW
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## COLLECTIONS

Artbank, Sydney, Australia  
Private Collections

# JGM GALLERY

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24 Howie Street London SW11 4AF

Phone: +44 (0) 207 228 6027 | Email: [info@jgmgallery.com](mailto:info@jgmgallery.com) | Website: [www.jgmgallery.com](http://www.jgmgallery.com)