

# **Nellie Coulthard**

c. 1947, Oodnadatta, Wintinna Homestead Cattle Station, Australia

## **BIOGRAPHY:**

Nellie Coulthard was born in desert bush land near Oodnadatta, on the remote property of the Wintinna Homestead Cattle Station. Her father worked as a shepherd for a local station, Nellie and her family traveled constantly and slept outdoors supporting her father and caring for the sheep. Nellie has two brothers and two sisters, and has lived at the Indulkana community since she was a young lady.

As there was no established housing for Indigenous people in the 1950's, Nellie and her family lived in a hand built wiltja made from found materials such as sheets of tin and dried logs and branches, close to the stationmasters home. When she was still quite young, Nellie took on a job at the Granite Downes Cattle Station in the stationmasters home. She worked with the stationmaster's wife and other Anangu ladies washing dishes and cleaning the house in exchange for rations and tobacco for her father. Nellie married a young stockman who was also working at the Granite Downes Cattle Station, and together they came to Indulkana with their two young children.

Nellie is a minyma pampa (respected senior woman) amongst both adults and children at Indulkana; many children regularly visit her while she paints at the art centre on their school lunch breaks. Ever since her early days of working at the Indulkana preschool and then as a teacher at the newly established family centre, Nellie has always had a compassion for ongoing improvements in children's education and opportunities available to them.

Nellie has been making paintings at the Iwantja Art Centre for many years. Her work often speaks to memories and stories of the country she recalls as a young girl, they reference her childhood experiences of living in the country. An accomplished textile maker, Nellie's structural pieces are created with extreme skill and finesse, she enjoys making unique baskets and abstract forms with tjanpi grasses and coloured wools.

As a talented singer and one of the founding members of the Indulkana church choir, Nellie is constantly involved in outreach and community development programs. Nellie participates in leading the Indulkana church choir each Sunday. While painting at the art centre, Nellie likes to listen to gospel recordings sung in language from other communities across the APY Lands.

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#### **GROUP EXHIBITIONS:**

- 2020 MERRY-GO-ROUND, JGM Gallery, London, UK
- 2019 Wilurara Ananyi : Goin' Out West, Short St Gallery, Broome WA
- 2019 Wynne Prize, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 2019 Tjilpi + Pampa Senior Iwantja Artists, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne
- 2018 Nganana Kuranyukutu Ma-Palyani For Our Future Generations, APY Gallery, Sydney
- 2018 Finalist, Wynne Prize, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney
- 2018 Art of the APY Art Centre Collective, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne
- 2018 Kungka Kunpu (Strong Women), Koskela, Sydney
- 2018 Ngura Kunpu (Strong Country), Short St Gallery, Broome, WA
- 2018 Desert Mob, Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs
- 2018 Rising Stars, outstation Gallery, Darwin
- 2017 Salon des Refusés, Charles Darwin University, Darwin
- 2017 Many Hands Paintings from Iwantja, Short St Gallery, Broome, WA
- 2017 Artists of the APY Lands, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne, VIC
- 2016 Our Mob, Adelaide Festival Centre, Adelaide, SA
- 2016 APY Exhibition, Woolloongabba Art Gallery, Queensland
- 2016 Ngura: Country, Short St Gallery, Broome, WA
- 2016 Iwantja Artists, Harvey Art Projects, Idaho USA
- 2016 SALT, McCulloch and McCulloch, Melbourne
- 2015 Iwantja Arts, Mr Kitly, Melbourne
- 2015 SALT, McCulloch and McCulloch, Melbourne
- 2015 Indigenous Literacy Exhibition, McCulloch and McCulloch, Sydney
- 2015 Nganampa Ngura, Ngananmpa Tjukurpa (Our Land, Our Stories) Artitja Fine Art, Perth
- 2015 TARNANTHI Art Fair, Tandanya, Adelaide
- 2015 Our Mob, Adelaide Festival Centre, Adelaide
- 2015 Desert Colour, Talapi Gallery, Alice Springs
- 2015 Spring Salon, McCulloch and McCulloch, Shoreham
- 2015 Artitja Fine Arts, Fremantle Western Australia
- 2015 In the Wild, Talapi Gallery, Alice Springs
- 2014 Indigenous Literacy Exhibition, McCulloch and McCulloch, Sydney
- 2014 Artitja Fine Art, Western Australia
- 2014 Japingka Gallery, Perth Western Australia
- 2014 Tjungu Festival, Yulara, Uluru
- 2014 Autumn Salon, McCulloch and McCulloch, Shoreham VIC
- 2014 Right Now with Viscopy, Boomalli, Sydney
- 2014 Pukulpa Pots, Mr Kitly, Brunswick, VIC
- 2014 Celebrating Ten, Artitja Fine Art, Fremantle WA
- 2014 Ngali Kitikiti ni, Pop Up Gallery, The Rocks Sydney
- 2013 Better World Arts, Adelaide
- 2013 Desert Mob, Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs
- 2012 Talapi Gallery, Alice Springs 2011 Mossenson Gallery, Perth

## **COLLECTIONS:**

Queensland Art Gallery , Australia Gallery of Modern Art (QAGOMA) Brisbane, Australia

