



Esther Giles

1946

Esther Giles grew up in the desert living the traditional nomadic lifestyle. After the death of her father, her family moved to the then newly established government settlement of Papunya. Esther has since returned to live in her country with family members. Like Tjawina Porter, Esther was known for her skills as a traditional basket weaver before becoming recognised for her exceptional painting skills. Her artworks represent the traditional homelands associated with her people's ancestral heritage. Her works are detailed in symbolism. The iconography depicts sand dunes known as "tali" and rock escarpments known as "puli", as well as waterholes and food sources. Her designs are often used in body art during traditional ceremonies.

The artworks depict the physical markings that the ancient ancestors have provided to give evidence of their activities during the time of creation. In the years that Esther has been painting she has gained worldwide recognition, participating in many national and international solo and group exhibitions. Her works are represented in private and public collections in Australia, Europe and the USA.

GROUP EXHIBITIONS:

- 2014 Living Spirit - Marshall Arts
- 2013 Ngaanpurinytjulatju Tirtu Palyalpayi - 'We Always Do It Like This'- Harvey Art Projects USA
- 2013 Desert Mob
- 2013 Aruluen Cultural Centre Alice Springs
- 2013 The Wild Ones - RAFT Artspace
- 2013 Tjarlirli Art: In Profile - Marshall Arts
- 2012 Way Out West - RAFT Artspace
- 2012 Desert Mob
- 2012 Aruluen Cultural Centre Alice Springs
- 2012 Watch Me and Learn - Aboriginal and Pacific Art Sydney
- 2011 Desert Mob
- 2011 Aruluen Cultural Centre Alice Springs

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