



Watson Corby

1973, Papunya, NT, Australia

BIOGRAPHY:

Watson Corby was born in Papunya in 1973, son of founding Papunya Tula painter David Corby Tjapaltjarri and grandson of Johnny Warangkula Tjupurrula, and he learned to paint by watching them and his mothers.

Watson often paints Kalipinypa Tjukurrpa (Dreaming), which was passed down to him from his Grandfather, and tells of an important rain making ceremony, with the power to create new life and growth upon the land and the resulting storms. He paints this story employing a drip technique onto canvas or linen laid horizontally using a variety of found and homemade paint applicators. The resulting abstract lines and expressive drips of paint create works of depth that draw the viewer in and a style very unique to Watson Corby. Watson occasionally paints the Tjunti Wallaby story, which was passed onto him by his father, telling of the wallaby dreaming place at Tjunti, west of Nyrippi. Watson, who is also the current Chairperson of Papunya Tjupi, has been instrumental in the recent Men's Art and Cultural Revival at Papunya Tjupi Arts, encouraging and leading the younger male cohort of painters in the studio and taking them on country visits.


Finalist of the Macquarie Group Collection Prize (2016), his work is held in the Macquarie Group Collection.

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS:

- 2020 Desert Mob 2020 Exhibition : Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs
- 2020 Ngurrangka palyanu – making from home : Outstation Gallery, Darwin
- 2020 Tjupi Taanu Revisited : RAFT artspace, Alice Springs
- 2020 Rising Stars 2020 : Outstation Darwin
- 2020 Papunya Tjupi Arts 2020 : Honey Ant Gallery, Sydney
- 2020 The Magic of Black & White : Art Kelch, Germany
- 2019 Tjupi Puli : Onsite Gallery, Papunya Tjupi Arts, Papunya NT
- 2019 Kuwarritja – now / newness : Outstation Gallery, Darwin.
- 2019 Nganampa arts, tjungurrinytjaku kutju - Our art, coming together as one - Papunya Mens Art and Cultural Revival Movement : Onsite Gallery, Papunya Tjupi Arts, Papunya, NT
- 2018 Inyani Mantakutu – Light Becomes Sand : Outstation Gallery, Darwin
- 2018 Water, Water, Love : Artitja Fine Art, Freemantle WA
- 2018 Ngayuku: Belonging : Aboriginal and Pacific Art Gallery, Sydney

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- 2018 Papunya Tjupi: New Work : JGM Art, London UK
 - 2018 A Sense of Place 2018 : McCulloch & McCulloch Whistlewood Gallery, Shoreham VIC
 - 2017 Puri: New Shade : Outstation Gallery, Darwin
 - 2017 Papunya Tjupi Arts : The Incinerator, Willoughby, Sydney
 - 2016 The land and its psyche: Macquarie group collection emerging artist prize : Macquarie Group Limited, NSW
 - 2016 Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair : Darwin Convention Centre, Darwin
 - 2016 Malpa Wiru: Good Friends : Signal Point, Goolwa, SA
 - 2015 Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair : Darwin Convention Centre, Darwin
 - 2011 Papunya Tjupi Arts : Tandanya National Aboriginal Cultural Institute, Adelaide

AWARDS, PRIZES AND RESIDENCIES:

- 2016 Macquarie Group Collection Prize, Finalist

COLLECTIONS:

MACQUARIE GROUP COLLECTION

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