

Mabel Juli

Born in 1932, Barlinyin, Springvale Station, The Kimberley, Western Australia.

BIOGRAPHY

Mabel Juli was born in 1932 in Barlinyin, East Kimberley, Western Australia. She began painting in the 1980s, following in the footsteps of Rover Thomas, and alongside celebrated East Kimberley artists, Queenie McKenzie and Madigan Thomas. These are artists who pioneered the use of new colours by mixing ochres and natural pigments (known as Gija palette). Together they have continued to champion the extension and use of the Gija palette to include colours like pink, purple and green. She is currently a senior Gija artist and Law and Culture Woman at the Warmun Art Centre. Passing on her knowledge of both pigments and storytelling of her ancestral site, Juli also worked alongside her brother, Rusty Peters, until his death in 2020.

As a child, Juli would spend time in the wildness under the moon and the stars. She retells these Ngarranggarni creation stories (Moon Dreaming) and Garnkiny doo Wardel (Moon and Star) within her paintings, exploring the ideas of forbidden love, kinship and the origins of mortality. Through this subject, Juli demonstrates the endurance and timelessness of these stories from her own significant ancestral sites, which were passed down to her. Her paintings possess a distinctly minimal and reduced aesthetic.

Juli has exhibited extensively throughout Australia and the United Kingdom and her paintings are part of both public and private collections worldwide.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2018 Mabel Juli Wiringgoon, Short St Gallery, Broome, Western Australia, Australia
- 2016 Garkiny doo Wardel (Moon and Star), Harvey Arts Projects, Idaho, United States
- 2013 Sublime Paintings, Seva Frangos Art, Perth, Australia
- 2010 Garnkiny Ngarranggarni, Seva Frangos Art, Perth, Australia
- 2006 The Great Mabel Juli, Short St Gallery at Mary Place Gallery, Sydney, Australia
- 2006 Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne, Australia
- 2004 Kaliman Gallery, Sydney, Australia

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 Travelling Through Country, JGM Gallery, London, United Kingdom
- 2019 Earthworks, JGM Gallery, London, United Kingdom
- 2019 Stories of Garnkiny Mabel Juli & Rusty Peters, RAFT Artspace, Alice Springs, Northern Territory, Australia
- 2016 Middle Distance, Hanging Valley, Melbourne, Australia
- 2016 Telling Tales: Excursions in Narrative Form, Museum of Contemporary Art Australia, Sydney, Australia
- 2015 Mabel Juli Wiringgoon, Short St Gallery, Broome Western Australia, Australia
- 2015 Recent paintings by senior Gija artists from Western Australia, Nancy Sever Gallery, Canberra, Australia
- 2014 Gija Contemporary Art from Warmun, Aboriginal & Pacific Art, Sydney, Australia
- 2014 Garnkiny: Constellations of Meaning, RMIT Gallery, Melbourne, Australia
- 2012 Earth: Ochre Painting from Warmun, Tim Melville Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand
- 2011 Desert Country, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide, Australia
- 2009 Sharing Difference on Common Ground: Kimberley Aboriginal Artists, Holmes à Court Gallery, Perth, Australia
- 2006 Patrick Mung Mung and Mabel Juli, Gabrielle Pizzi Gallery, Melbourne, Australia
- 2003 True Stories, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia

RESIDENCIES / ART PRIZES / PUBLIC ART

COLLECTIONS

Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide, Australia
National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia
Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia
Artbank, Sydney; Berndt Museum, University of Western Australia, Perth, Australia
Chartwell Collection, Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki, New Zealand
Edward Memorial Hospital Collection, Perth, Australia
Murdoch University Art Collection, Perth, Australia
Parliament of Western Australia Art Collection, Perth, Australia
Edith Cowan University Art Collection, Perth, Australia
Kerry Stokes Collections, Perth, Australia
Wesfarmers Collection, Perth, Australia
The Tate Modern

