



Jukuja Dolly Snell

c. 1933 - 2015, Kurtal, The Great Sandy Desert, Australia

BIOGRAPHY:

Jukuja Dolly Snell was one of the artists that shaped the Aboriginal Art boom in the 1990's. She featured in significant group shows such as the National Gallery of Victoria's groundbreaking *Images of Power* in 1993. Her vibrant palette is masterfully layered with delicate detail and soft shapes that celebrate the iconic beauty of her country. Snell received the ultimate acknowledgement of her achievements when she was awarded the esteemed overall prize at the Telstra Art Awards in 2015. Kurtal is a jila (waterhole) associated with rainmaking, southwest of Lake Gregory in Western Australia.

Snell's work was first shown in 1991 in Karrayili at Tandanya, Adelaide. She was part of the group of artists who painted the giant canvas Ngurrara II in 1997. Her first solo show was in Darwin in 2014 at the Outstation Gallery. Snell featured in the 2015 documentary Putuparri and the Rainmakers, which was directed by Nicole Ma. In it, her grandson Tom narrates the struggles of the people of the area to have their claim to their ancestral lands constituted.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS:

- 2015 Kurtal Dolly Snell, Suzanne O'Connell Gallery, Queensland, Australia
- 2014 Kurtal, Jukuja Dolly Snell, Outstation Gallery, Darwin, NT, Australia

GROUP EXHIBITIONS:

- 2020 Reflection, JGM Gallery, London, UK
- 2017 Art of Aeons-Colours from the Western and Central Desserts, JGM Gallery, London, UK
- 2015 Fremantle Art Centre Print Award, Freemantle Art Centre, Australia
- 2014 Everybody's Prints, Nomad Art, Darwin, Australia
- 2013 Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award, Darwin, Australia
- 2012 Dolly and Spider, Seva Frangos Gallery, Perth, Australia
- 2012 Mangkaja Arts 21 Year Anniversary, Wirrinyiya ngaragngarag birra ngamoo ngamoo Tandanya, Adelaide, Australia
- 2012 Papers, Short Street Gallery, Broome, Australia
- 2011 Couples Show, Suzanne O'Connell Gallery, Brisbane, Australia
- 2011 Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair, Darwin, Australia

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- 2009 Mangkaja Artists 60x60, Randell Lane Fine Art, Australia
- 2009 26th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award, Museum and Art Gallery Northern Territory, Australia
- 2009 Sharing Difference on Common Ground and Kimberley Aboriginal Artists, Holmes a Court Gallery, Perth, Australia
- 2009 Senior Artists from Fitzroy Crossing, Suzanne O'Connell Gallery, Brisbane, Australia
- 2009 Sitting Down with Jukuja & Wakartu, RAFT Artspace, Darwin, Australia
- 2009 Mangkaja Survey Show, Short Street Gallery, Broome, Australia
- 2008 Women On Country, Suzanne O'Connell Gallery, Brisbane, Australia
- 2008 Waterholes and Bush Tucker, Bridget McDonnell Hampton Gallery, VIC, Australia
- 2008 Marnintu Maparnana [Women Painting], ReDot Gallery, Singapore
- 2008 Divas of The Desert, Gallery Gondwana, Sydney, NSW, Australia
- 2007 X Marks the Spot, Wooloongabba Art Gallery, Brisbane, Australia
- 2007 Palya Art in Melbourne, The Barn, Melbourne, Australia
- 2007 Women Artists of Fitzroy Crossing, Raft Artspace, Darwin, Australia
- 2007 Jila, Jilji and Miyi – Mangkaja Arts, Cool-Art Gallery, Coolum Beach, QLD, Australia
- 2007 New Legend, KALACC and William Mora Galleries, Australia
- 2006 Purnta [promised marriage], Raft Artspace, Darwin, Australia
- 2006 Big Country, Gallery Gondwana, Alice Springs, NT, Australia
- 2006 Mangkaja Group Show, Boutwell Draper Gallery, Sydney, Australia
- 2005 Jiljijanka Marnin [Women from the Sandhills], Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne, Australia
- 2005 Too Much Good Work, Raft Artspace, Darwin, Australia
- 2005 Surprise; Cory & Friends, ReDot Gallery, Singapore
- 2005 True Colours - Recent works from Fitzroy Crossing, Queensland College of Art Gallery and Griffon University, QLD, Australia
- 2004 Broken Promises, Short St Gallery, Broome, WA, Australia
- 2004 Ngurrara Canvas, Perth Concert Hall, Perth International Arts Festival, Australia
- 2003 Water and Food, Cullity Gallery, University of Western Australia, Australia
- 2003 Fitzroy Fusion, Raft Artspace, Darwin, Australia
- 2002 Recent works from Mangkaja Arts, Short St Gallery, Broome, WA, Australia
- 2001 Mangkaja Arts 10 Years On 10 Year Anniversary Exhibition, Tandanya, National Aboriginal Cultural Institute, Adelaide, Australia
- 2001 Ngurrara Canvas, , National Gallery of Australia, Australia
- 2001 Past modern, Australia Square, Short St Gallery, Sydney, Australia
- 2001 Fitzroy Women, Short St Gallery, Broome, WA, Australia
- 2000 Short on Size, Short St Gallery, Broome, WA, Australia
- 2000 Past modern, Australia Square, Short St Gallery, Broome, WA, Australia
- 1999 Ngurrara, Japingka Gallery, Fremantle, WA, Australia
- 1996 Heritage Commission Art Award, Old Parliament House, Canberra, ACT, Australia
- 1996 Broken Promises, Tandanya National Aboriginal Cultural Institute, Adelaide, SA, Australia
- 1996 Mangkaja Group Exhibition, Hogarth Gallery, Sydney, Australia
- 1996 13th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award, Museum and Art Gallery Northern Territory, Australia
- 1995 Group Exhibition, Australian Perspectives Gallery, Brisbane, Australia
- 1995 12th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award, Museum and Art Gallery Northern Territory, Australia
- 1994 Ngajakura Ngurrara Mainyarti [This Is My Country], Artplace, Perth, Australia
- 1993 Images of Power, National Gallery of Victoria, Australia

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- 1993 Mangkaja Women, Fremantle Arts Centre, Perth, Australia
- 1993 10th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award, Museum and Art Gallery Northern Territory, Australia
- 1992 9th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award, Museum and Art Gallery Northern Territory, Australia
- 1991 Karrayili, Tandanya National Aboriginal Cultural Institute, Adelaide, Australia

RESIDENCIES / ART PRIZES / PUBLIC ART:

- 2015 Telstra Art Award – Overall Winner. Museum of the Northern Territory, Darwin, Australia
- 2012 Fitzroy Crossing Police Station, WA, Australia
- 2010 Fitzroy Crossing Swimming Pool, WA, Australia
- 2009 Fitzroy Crossing High School, WA, Australia
- 2007 Fitzroy Crossing Hospital, WA, Australia

COLLECTIONS:

- Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia
- National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, Australia
- National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia
- Artbank, Sydney, Australia
- Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Collection, Canberra, Australia
- Canberra Holmes a Court Collection, Australia
- Edith Cowan University, Perth, Australia
- Flinders University Art Museum, Adelaide, Australia
- Northern Territory University, NT, Australia
- Museum and Art Gallery of Northern Territory, Darwin, Australia
- Kennesaw State University, Atlanta, Georgia, USA
- HBL Collection, Melbourne, Australia
- Harriett and Richard England Collection

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

- 2009 Kimberley Aboriginal Artists, Sharing Difference on Common Ground
- 2009 Deutscher and Hackett, 25 March 2009, Important Aboriginal Art
- 2007 Kimberley Aboriginal Law and Culture Centre (KALACC), Stories & Dances from Saltwater, Desert, River & Range Country
- 2007 Aboriginal Law & Culture Corporation
- 2006 Kimberley Aboriginal Law and Cultural Centre (KALACC), NEW LEGEND: A Story of Law and Culture and the Fight for Self-Determination in the Kimberley
- 2005 Exhibition Catalogue: ReDot Gallery, Singapore, Surprise; Cory and Friends
- 2004 National Gallery of Victoria, Colour Power: Aboriginal art post 1984
- 2003 New Yorker Magazine, 28/08/2003, The Painted Desert: The Fate of an Aboriginal Masterpiece
- 2003 Exhibition Catalogue: Cullity Gallery UWA Perth/Mangkaja Arts Resource Agency - Martuwarra and Jila [River and Desert]

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- 2002 Video documentary/ABC Television, Kurtal Snake Spirit
- 2002 Exhibition Catalogue, Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art / Marrawarra and Jila entry / Ngurrara Canvas 1 entry
- 2001 Kent Town, S. Aust. Wakefield Press in association with the National Aboriginal Cultural Institute - Tandanya, Kaltja Now: Indigenous Arts Australia
- 2000 Oxford University Press & ANU, Oxford Companion to Aboriginal Art and Culture / Ngurrara Entry
- 2000 IATSIIS Canberra, Karrayili: The History of Karrayili Adult Education Centre
- 1998 Video Documentary/SBS Television, Jila Painted Waters of the Great Sandy Desert
- 1994 Exhibition Catalogue Artplace WA, Ngajakura Ngurrara Minyarti [This Is My Country]
- 1993 Exhibition catalogue, Fremantle Art Centre, Mangkaja Women
- 1993 National Gallery of Victoria, Images of Power: Aboriginal Art of the Kimberley
- 1991 Art Gallery of New South Wales, Aboriginal Womens Exhibition catalogue
- 1991 Exhibition catalogue, Tandanya Aboriginal Cultural Institute, Adelaide, Karrayili: Ten Years On

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