
The Koskela logo consists of a stylized white 'K' icon followed by the word 'koskela' in a lowercase, sans-serif font. The background is a landscape photograph of a grassy plain with red rock hills under a clear sky with a full moon.

koskela

'Pukulpa', A study in joy

Koskela Gallery presents

A series of works by Marlene Connelly,
Rosalind Yibardi and Elsie Edimintja

@koskela_ | @tjarlirliart

27 June – 6 August 2023

#FirstNationsArt #AboriginalArt #AustralianArt #NorthernTerritoryArt

'Pukulpa', A study in joy

Koskela gallery is proud to introduce our latest exhibition, Pukulpa, produced in partnership with Kaltukatjara Art Centre, an artists' collective in the Pitjantjatjara lands of the Northern Territory.

Pukulpa means 'joyful'. It's a celebration of the colours and stories of the Kungka Kutjara Tjukurrpa: the Two Sisters Songline.

The exhibition features works from three of the Northern Territory's most talented female artists – Marlene Connelly, Rosalind Yibardi and Elsie Edimintja –

all of whom have been painting at Kaltukatjara since the centre opened in 2016.

The canvases are a mix of delicate brushwork and punu (dots applied with wooden sticks), picked out in vibrant swirls of ochre, orange, purple and sky blue. "We're happy to make paintings at the home of the Two Sisters. I'm thinking about that Dreaming and painting that story," Rosalind Yibardi said.



ROSALIND YIBARDI

Rosalind Yibardi is a senior artist and previous director of Tjarlirli and Kaltukatjara Art. She is also a member of both the NPY Women's Council and the acclaimed Central Australian Aboriginal Women's Choir.

Rosalind was born near Puta Puta, around 90 kilometres east of Kaltukatjara (Docker River). She has lived and travelled throughout the Western Desert region. As a young girl, she lived in Putarti, before travelling through the ranges on a camel-drawn cart to Tempe Downs. At the age of seven, she moved from Tempe Downs to Areyonga, walking there with her family. Rosalind moved to Kaltukatjara with her three children, to live closer to her birthplace.

Rosalind worked at community schools in both Areyonga and Kaltukatjara, and fondly remembers taking the children on excursions to the cities down south and out on country. She has also visited Germany to sing with the Central Australian Aboriginal Women's Choir and has many fond memories from this trip. Rosalind is a highly respected elder in the Kaltukatjara community and is an almost-daily presence in the art centre. Her kindness, good humour, rich knowledge and artistic prowess make her an essential member of Tjarlirli and Kaltukatjara Art.



“

Ngayalu kulini tjukurpa muna kuliya
wangkatjunanyi.

—

I'm thinking about that Dreaming and
painting that story.

”





ART-22-1008
Kaltukatjara Rockholes
by Rosalind Yibardi
Acrylic on canvas / Timber frame
91.4 cm H x 121.9 cm W
\$3,100.00



ART-23-231KA
Kaltukatjara Rockholes
by Rosalind Yibardi
Acrylic on canvas / Timber frame
91.4 cm H x 121.9 cm W
\$2,800.00



ART-23-169KA
Kaltukatjara Rockholes
by Rosalind Yibardi
Acrylic on canvas / Timber frame
91.4 cm W x 121.9 cm W
\$3,100.00



ART-23-236KA
Kaltukatjara Rockholes
by Rosalind Yibardi
Acrylic on canvas / Timber frame
76.2 cm H x 101.5 cm W
\$2,350.00

MARLENE CONNELLY

Marlene Connelly is an exciting artist from Kaltukatjara (Docker River). She was born in Tennant Creek. Her mother Bonnie Connelly moved to Kaltukatjara from Ebenezer with Marlene when she was 11 or 12. Her father is Yunkuntjatjara and she has family in Port Augusta. She has lived in Kaltukatjara since she was 12. She married Mr Smith from Warakurna and they lived together in Kaltukatjara and grew up Roxanne. Mr Smith has sadly passed away, however Marlene has found love with her current partner, Sunny Farmer.

Marlene paints important ladies tjukurpa (dreaming) of the Kaltukatjara area about the traveling of two sisters (minyma kutjara) through the ranges. This area is significant to the ladies of the Western Desert and is a meeting place for law and culture – senior women passing on their knowledge to the young women. Her unique style is reminiscent of celestial bodies, characterised by fields of coloured punu (doing) and filled with meandering lines, circular motifs and beautiful, changing patterns. Marlene has participated in the Revealed Exhibition in Fremantle, and is a previous director of Tjarlirli and Kaltukatjara Art. In 2021, Marlene represented Kaltukatjara art with a residency at the Gallery of Central Australia in Yulara, an experience which she thoroughly enjoyed.



“

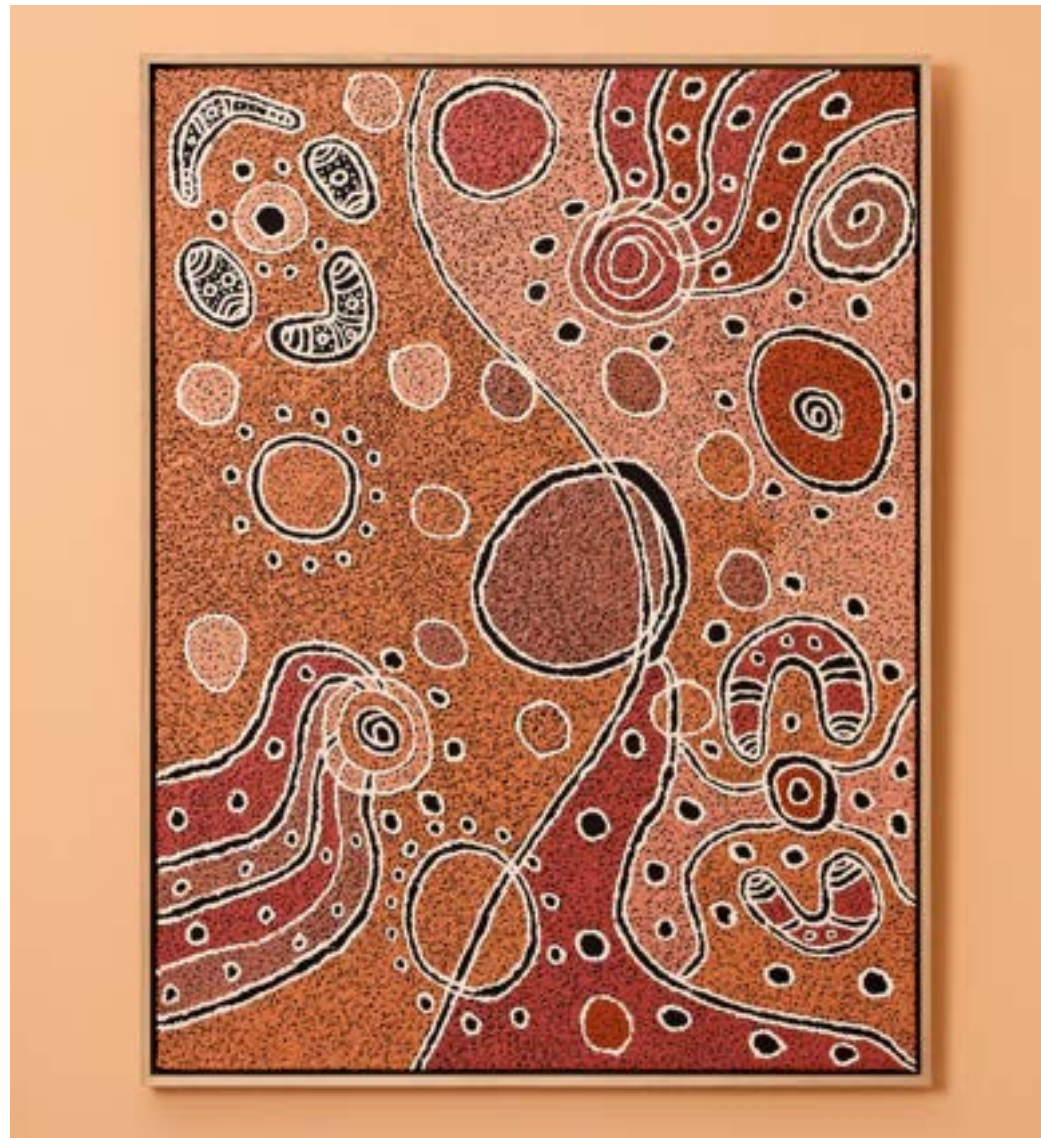
Ngayalu kulira palyani mununa pukultu
palyani painting. Palya.

—

I'm listening and making and I'm happy
when I'm making canvas. Thank you.

”





ART-22-1110KA
Minyma Kutjara
by Marlene Connelly
Acrylic on canvas / Timber frame
76.2 cm H x 101.5 cm W
\$2,200.00



ART-22-892KA
Minyma Kutjara
by Marlene Connelly
Acrylic on canvas / Timber frame
76.2 cm H x 101.5 cm W
\$2,200.00



ART-23-172KA
Minyma Kutjara
by Marlene Connelly
Acrylic on canvas / Timber frame
91.4 cm H x 121.9 cm W
\$3,100.00

ELSIE EDIMINTJA

Elsie Edimintja is an established artist who was born at Areyonga (Utju), but now lives in Kaltukatjara (Docker River). Elsie paints important Tjukurpa (Dreaming stories) from around the Docker River area, with a particular focus on the Kungka Kutjara (Two Sisters) songline which passes through the mountains close to Kaltukatjara. Her family's country is Tjunti, where the explorer Lasseter was abandoned by his camels and lived for several months being fed and cared for by local Anangu. Elsie also paints dreaming stories relating to the Tjunti area. Elsie is one of five children who all paint with Kaltukatjara Art.

Elsie's canvases are characterised by harmonious colour work and intricate layers of detail; it can take her several weeks to complete large canvases as she works carefully to create areas of varied texture and tone. In 2021, Elsie participated in the Artists in Residency program at the Gallery of Central Australia, an experience which she found enjoyable and helpful in developing her practice.



“

Nyinara pukulpangko palyani
kungka kutjarraku ngurangka.

—

We're happy to make paintings at the
home of the Two Sisters.

”





ART-23-168KA
Kungka Kutjara
by Elsie Edimintja
Acrylic on canvas / Timber frame
191.4 cm H x 119.9 cm W
\$2,950.00



ART-22-1209KA
Tjitjiku Kuru
by Elsie Edimintja
Acrylic on canvas / Timber frame
176.2 cm W x 101.5cm H
\$2,200.00

Thank you

Follow your heart.
Trust your judgement.
Do it with joy.

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