



## Derek Jungarrayi Thompson

<b>Birth Date</b>	23/12/1976
<b>Birth Place</b>	Papunya
<b>Language</b>	Pitjantjatjara
<b>Community</b>	Pukatja : SA
<b>Region</b>	Pukatja Community, APY Lands
<b>Mother's Country</b>	Luritja country
<b>Father's Country</b>	Pukatja Community, APY Lands
<b>Dreaming</b>	Wanampi (Watersnake)

### Biography

Derek Jungarrayi Thompson is the maternal grandson of Papunya Tula Artist, Makinti Napanangka.

He first came to work at Ernabella Arts over April 2011, during the first men-only ceramic workshop. Everyone was surprised by Derek's first drawings on clay and he explained that he draws 'all the time, at home.'

Derek is also an avid hunter. The translation of his drawings of the Pukatja landscape and animal life onto ceramics is quite unique and has received instant interest from collectors and curators.

In 2012 Derek was selected to be a finalist in the Gold Coast International Ceramic art Award. He also undertook a residency at the Ceramic Workshop of the Australian National University, where he did pottery and printmaking. In 2013 Thompson's work 'Ngintaka Kutjara' was highly commended in the Muswellbrook Art Prize and acquired by Muswellbrook Regional Gallery. Since then his collaborative works with Ngunyjtjima Carroll have been selected for the NATSIAAs (National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards), the Sunshine Coast Art Prize and the City of Hobart Art Prize. Ngunyjtjima throws tall pots, which Derek draws on, using the sgraffito technique.

Derek and Tjimpuna Williams were awarded a New Work grant by the Australia Council for the Arts and in May 2013 undertook a big pot workshop in Jingdezhen, China. This work was exhibited in March 2014 at Sydney's prestigious Sabbia Gallery. In 2015 he is exhibited with Sabbia Gallery in Sydney and Canberra, as part of the Australian Ceramics Triennale.

He has been a key-contributing artist in Ernabella's annual Watiku (men's) ceramic exhibition at Raft artspace, Alice Springs. In 2016 he was included in the Sabbia 'Ceramics Masters' exhibition. From 2017 his work is touring regional Australia as part of the major exhibition 'Clay Stories: Indigenous ceramics from remote Australia'. He also presented new work alongside Pepai Jangala Carroll at the Art Gallery of South Australia in Tarnanthi | Festival of contemporary Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art.

In 2017 Derek's work was exhibited at Harvey Arts in the USA in *Nyuyuntjaku - Keeping the fire alive | New paintings and ceramics by the artists of Ernabella Arts* and in 2018 his work was exhibited several times, including in *Something Blue* at the Sabbia Gallery in

Sydney.

Derek also undertook a ceramics residency at JamFactory, Adelaide alongside three other Indigenous male potters.

In 2019 Derek attended a ceramic residency at ANU. This brought together artists from Ernabella Arts, Erub Arts on the Torres Strait Islands, Hermannsburg Potters from the Northern Territory and Girringun Art Centre in Queensland and provided a unique opportunity for these artists to learn from each other. The work created during this residency was then shown at an exhibition at Nishi Gallery in Canberra titled *Berder. Gaba. Urrknga. Wantja*.

#### Group Exhibitions

- 2021** Ernabella Arts Group Exhibition - Outstation, Darwin, NT
- 2021** Ananyi Nyurakutu- Going Home - Artitja Fine Art Gallery, South Fremantle, WA
- 2020** Tarnarhi Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art: Open Hands - Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide, SA
- 2020** Salon de Refuse - Charles Darwin University Gallery
- 2020** Nganampa Tjukurpa Ananyi Wilurara (Our Stories Going West) - Short Street Gallery, Broome, WA
- 2020** Manngu (nest) - SDR Gallery at Paul Johnston Gallery, Darwin, NT
- 2019** Ernabella Arts: Small Ceramics - Aboriginal Contemporary, Sydney, NSW
- 2019** Stoneware from the Desert - Salon Project Space, Parap, NT
- 2019** Desert Mob 2019 - Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs, NT
- 2019** Desert Colour featuring Ernabella ceramics - Talapi Gallery, Alice Springs, NT
- 2019** Uwankara Tjungu (all in) - APY Collective Gallery, Adelaide, SA
- 2019** Anangu uwankara tjunguringkula pukulpa nyinama | Anangu happily sitting and working together - Short Street Gallery, Broome, WA
- 2018** Sydney Contemporary - Sabbia Gallery at Carriageworks
- 2018** Weapons for the Soldier - Hazlehurst Regional Gallery
- 2018** WILD: Flora and fauna in Australian Art - Hawkesbury Regional Gallery, NSW
- 2018** Something Blue - Sabbia Gallery
- 2017** Nyuyuntjaku - Keeping the fire alive | New paintings and ceramics by the artists of Ernabella Arts - Harvey Arts, USA
- 2017** In These Hands: Mara Nyangangka - Sturt Gallery, Mittagong NSW
- 2017** Mark and Memory - TARNANTHI: Festival of contemporary of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide SA
- 2017** Little Creatures - Big Country - Talapi Gallery, Alice Springs, NT
- 2017** Clay Stories: Indigenous ceramics from remote Australia - Sabbia Gallery, Sydney NSW
- 2016** Nganampa Kililpil: Our Stars - Hazelhurst Regional Gallery & Arts Centre
- 2016** Inheritance - Salt Contemporary, Queenscliff, VIC
- 2016** Paluru tjukurpa pulka kanyilpai: He keeps our stories safe - raft Artspace, Alice Springs NT
- 2016** Abundance - The Australian landscape in ceramics - Sabbia Gallery, Sydney
- 2015** Wati tjuta-ku Tjukurpa kunpu ngaranyi – All the men have strong stories, always there - raft Artspace, Alice Springs NT
- 2015** Kuruntu mukuringkula kulira palyantja (Stories straight from the heart) - Short Street Gallery, Broome
- 2015** Yangupala Tjuta Waakarinyi (Many Young People Working) - Sabbia Gallery, Paddington NSW
- 2014** Ngura Kutjupa, Tjukurpa Kutju (Different Country, Same Story) - ReDot Fine Art Gallery, Singapore
- 2014** Fragrant Lands – Exhibition of Chinese and Australian Indigenous Art - Shanghai Urban Planning Exhibition Centre, Shanghai China

## Group Exhibitions

- 2014** Tjulpirpa wiya - Clay! - raft Artspace, Alice Springs NT
- 2014** Fragrant Lands – Exhibition of Chinese and Australian Indigenous Art - Tandanya, Adelaide SA
- 2014** Right Now. In support of Artist Resale Royalty - Boomalli Gallery, Leichardt NSW
- 2014** Tjungu Warkarintja: Fifteen Years - Sabbia Gallery, Paddington NSW
- 2013** Derek Thompson and Ngunytjima Carroll - Nomad Gallery, Darwin NT
- 2013** Sunshine Coast Art Prize 2013 - Noosa Regional Gallery, Sunshine Coast QLD
- 2013** Ernabella Men, New Ceramics - raft Artspace, Alice Springs NT
- 2013** Ochres and Barks: Contemporary Indigenous Art of the Land - Salt Contemporary Art, Queenscliff VIC
- 2013** A Study of the Figurative in Desert Painting - Short St Gallery, Broome WA
- 2013** Putitja: From the Bush - Strathnairn Arts, Canberra ACT
- 2013** Dickie Minyintiri, Pantjiti Lionel, Derek Thompson - Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne VIC
- 2013** 42nd Muswellbrook Art Prize - Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre, Muswellbrook NSW
- 2013** City of Hobart Art Prize - Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart TAS
- 2013** Desert Mob 2013 - Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs NT
- 2013** NATSIAAs - Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin WA
- 2013** Putitja: From Spinifex Country - Aboriginal and Pacific Art Gallery, Sydney NSW
- 2012** Desert Mob 2012 - Araluen Arts Centre, Alice Springs NT
- 2012** Gold Coast International Ceramic Art Award - Gold Coast City Gallery, Surfers Paradise QLD
- 2012** Wanampi, Ngintaka and other epic stories - Talapi Gallery, Alice Springs NT
- 2012** Desert Colours - Talapi Gallery, Alice Springs NT
- 2012** Uwankara Kurunpa Kutju-Tjara - Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne VIC
- 2012** Kapi Ukalinganyi - Aboriginal and Pacific Art Gallery, Sydney NSW
- 2012** Ngayuku Ngura, Ngayuku Tjukurpa - South Australian Museum, Adelaide SA

## Group Exhibitions

**2011** We know our land, we keep our land - raft Artspace, Alice Springs NT

### Themes

Anumara (Caterpillar)

hunting

putitja (bush) and mai putitja (bush food)

tjulpu (birds)

Wanampi

Wati Ngintaka (Lizard Man)

### Mediums

Ceramics

## Collections

Muswellbrook Regional Art Gallery, NSW, 2013

Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin NT, 2013

The ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences Artworks and Antiquities Collection, Canberra ACT, 2014

National Museum of Australia, Canberra ACT, 2014

Queensland Art Gallery / Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane, QLD, 2014

Powerhouse Museum, Sydney, NSW, 2014

University of Wollongong, NSW, 2014

PARLIAMENT HOUSE COLLECTION, CANBERRA

## Bibliography

- 2011** Lee, J. Watiku Workshop. Minyma Wiya! The Journal of Australian Ceramics, November 2011, p 69 - 71
- 2014** DeBoos, J. From Ernabella to Jingdezhen, Craft Arts International, No 90, 2014, p.38-42
- 2014** McKenzie, H. Ernabella in Jingdezhen, Ceramics Monthly, January 2014, p. 18-22
- 2014** OCallaghan, G. Tjungu Warkarintja (working together) in Jingdezhen, The Journal of Australian Ceramics, April 2014, p 26 - 31
- 2014** OCallaghan, G. Tjungu (together): Derek Thompson and Tjimpuna Williams in China, Artlink Indigenous: Background, Vol 34, No. 2, 2014 page 71-72.
- 2016** Thompson, D with Thompson, A. Working potter 2016, Ceramics Monthly, June 2016, 42-45

## Awards

- 2019** Artist in Resident, Australian National University School of Art and Design Ceramic Workshop
- 2013** Highly Commended, 42nd Muswellbrook Art Prize
- 2013** New Work Grant, ATSIAB, Australia Council for the Arts
- 2013** Highly Commended, NATSIAA Telstra Awards, Museum and Art Gallery Northern Territory, Darwin

## ***Ernabella Arts Incorporated***

*Ernabella Arts Inc. is a community based artists' association located on the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Lands in the north-west of South Australia. The centre began in 1948, and was incorporated in 1974, firstly as Ernabella and Fregon Arts Inc. and then in 1975 as Ernabella Arts Incorporated.*

### ***Mission Statement***

*Ernabella Arts nyangangka minyma pampa munu wati tjilpi, kungkawara munu yangupala tjuta warkarinyi nganampa arts-pangka nganana mukuringkula wangkaringi nganampa warka pulkaringkula kunpuringkula community nganampa wiru titutjura ngaranytjaku.*

*Ernabella Arts is a place where many women and men elders and young women and men practice and develop our art, in order to sustain, support and promote our cultural heritage, and to improve the lifestyle of our community's members*