

EVERYWHEN ART ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Emily Pwerle



Date of Birth: c.1930s

Language: Anmatyerre/Alyawarr

Emily Pwerle's country is Atnwengerrp and her languages are Anmatyerre and Alyawarr. She was possibly born in the early 1930s (no records exist) and lives in Irrultja, a tiny settlement in Utopia of about 100 people. She has had little exposure to western culture and only picked up a paintbrush for the first time in 2004.

Sister of the late Minnie Pwerle, Emily Pwerle's extended family are all artists: Barbara Weir, Aileen and Betty Mpetyane. She started painting professionally with her sisters Galya and Molly in collaboration with Minnie Pwerle. Pwerle paints 'Awelye Atnwengerrp', meaning women's ceremony, which is depicted by a series of lines and symbols, often criss-crossed patterns that are layered across the canvas with colours that are explosive, colourful and energetic. The patterns represent the designs painted on women's bodies during bush tucker ceremonies in Atnwengerrp.

Selected Solo Exhibitions

2010 Emily Pwerle, Gallery Savah, Sydney

2009 Body Markings, DACOU Gallery, Melbourne

Selected Group Exhibitions

2022 Connection, National Museum of Australia, Canberra

2022 Into the Sunset, Pwerle Aboriginal Art Gallery, Sydney

2022 Colour Pop, Kate Owen Gallery, Sydney

2021 We Choose to Challenge, Coe-ee Fine Art Gallery, Sydney

2021 Body Line, Fireworks Gallery, Brisbane

2020 Blue July, Fireworks Gallery, Brisbane

2019 Landscape Colours, Japingka Gallery, Perth

2019 Spring Collection: Exhibition to celebrate our beautiful Spring Collection, Brenda Colahan Fine Art, Sydney

2018 20/20 Vision: 20 Years 20 Women, Brenda Colahan Fine Art, Sydney

2010 The Pwerle Sisters, DACOU Australia, Melbourne

2010 Tradition to Modernity, Central Art (in conjunction with Tasmania Craft Fair), Tasmania

2009 Group Exhibition, Gallery Savah, Sydney

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2009 Body Markings, DACOU Gallery, Broome, WA
2009 Utopia, Colors of the Desert, Gongpyeong Art Space in conjunction with DACOU, Australian Embassy in Korea & Crossbay Gallery, Seoul
2008 Utopia Collection, Japinka Gallery, Perth
2008 Utopia Discoveries, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne
2008 Group travelling exhibition to major cities in Australia, EWB Elements, presented by Dreamtime Art in conjunction with DACOU Galleries
2008 Walking Together to Aid Aboriginal Health, Shalom Gamarada Aboriginal Art Exhibition, University of NSW, Sydney
2008 Women's Stories, Alison Kelly Gallery, Melbourne
2007 Utopia in New York, Robert Steele Gallery, New York
2007 Treasures of the Spirit - Investing in Aboriginal Art, Tandanya Cultural Institute, Adelaide
2007 Standing on Ceremony, Tandanya Cultural Institute, Adelaide
2007 Permanent exhibition, Dacou Adelaide, Port Adelaide
2007 New Works from Utopia, Space Gallery, Pittsburgh, PA, USA
2007 Group Exhibition, Australian Embassy, Washington, DC
2007 Desert Diversity, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne
2007 APS Bendi Lango Art Exhibition with Rio Tinto, Fireworks Gallery, Brisbane
2007 Annual Group Exhibition 'Shalom', University of NSW, Shalom Department, Sydney
2006/07 Group exhibition, Fireworks Gallery, Brisbane
2006 The Pwerle Sisters, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne
2006 The Pwerle Sisters, ArtMob, Hobart
2006 APS Bendi Lango Art Exhibition, Rio Tinto Offices, Melbourne
2005 Permanent exhibition and collection, Dacou Australia, Rosewater, SA
2005 Group exhibition, Mbantua Gallery, Alice Springs
2005 Group exhibition, Gallery Savah, Sydney

Collections

Pat Corrigan Collection, Sydney
Hank Ebes Collection, Melbourne
Artau Collection
Mbantua Gallery Permanent Collection, Alice Springs
Dacou Australia, Rosewater, SA