

## Thecla Bernadette Puruntatameri



Date of birth: 1971

Place of birth: Nguuu, Bathurst Island (Wurrumyianga)

Language: Tiwi

Thecla Puruntatameri was born at Nguuu, Bathurst Island (Wurrumyianga) in 1971 and grew up on Melville Island at Garden Point (Pirlangimpi). Her Father's Country is Rangini, Melville Island, NT and her Mother's Country is Wangarruwu, Bathurst Island, NT. Her Dreaming is the Kirilima (Jungle Fowl).

Thecla went to primary school at Pularumpi School and to St Johns College in Darwin for high school. She completed year 10 in 1989 and then came back to Pirlangimpi became an artist at Munupi Art Centre. In 2002 after completing a Certificate II in Arts and Crafts at Batchelor College, Thecla started to work as an assistant teacher at the Pirlangimpi School until she retired from her teaching assistant position in 2017. Since this time Thecla has painted on canvas and on paper with natural ochres.

Thecla participated in print making workshops in Canberra (1998), the Pacific Arts Festival Raratonga, Cook Islands (1992) and cultural exchanges with indigenous artists from Tasmania and Victoria. Thecla's artworks are included in many private collections in Australia and overseas as well as in the collection of the Art Gallery of South Australia.

### Group exhibitions

**2023** Kurrujupunyi - Ochre Colours, Hilton Double Tree, Darwin, NT

**2022** NGININGUWULA KURRUJIPUNI Our Own Tiwi Ochre Colours, Hilton Double Tree, Darwin, NT

**2022** LINE IN PARRALLEL, Artitja Fine Art Gallery, South Fremantle, WA

**2022** Tiwi Creation, Cooee Art, Redfern, NSW

**2022** Alice Spring Art Foundation Prize, Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs, NT

**2021** Earth Magic, AIARTS, Belair, SA

**2021** Earth Magic, Tineriba Art Gallery, Hahndorf, SA

**2021** Tiwi Papers, Tarnanthi Festival 2021, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide, SA

**2021** YIRRINKIRIPWOJA JILAMARA, Hilton Double Tree, Darwin, NT

**2020** Tiwi Islands to Arnhemland: Munupi Maningrinda, Artitja Fine Art Gallery, South Fremantle, WA

# EVERYWHEN ART

## ARTIST CV

**2020** Yalininga, Ngaripantingija, Ngirramini, Aboriginal Signature • Estrangin Gallery, Bruxelles, Belgique

**2018** Nginingawula Awirankiniwaki, Hilton Double Tree, Darwin, NT

**2018** One island one side, Yati Ratuwati Yatuwati, Art Aborigène des Iles TIWI, Aboriginal Signature, Brussels, Belgium

**2016** Point of difference: Desert to sea, Artitja Fine Art at Engine Room, Perth, WA

**2015** Ngawa munupula/Ngawa Kiripapiranjuwi, new paintings from Munupi Art on the Tiwi Islands, Outstation, Darwin, NT

**2014** WE ARE TIWI, Munupi Artists from Melville Island, Artitja Fine Art, Fremantle, WA

**2007** Nga-wuja arungwapi – we are going forward, Tiwi Art Network, Darwin, NT

**2005** Pukupunawu, Bandigan Gallery, Woollahra, NSW

**2005** Munupi Arts Show, Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne, VIC

## Collections

Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide, SA

National Australian Maritime Museum, Sydney, NSW