

EVERYWHEN
ART
ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Mabel Wiringoon Juli



Date of Birth: 31/12/1932

Birthplace: Barlinyin - Springvale Station, WA

Language: Gija, Kimberley Kriol

Mabel Juli is one of the most dedicated and iconic of all Warmun artists. Her seniority and status as one of Australia's most revered painters has emerged from a consistent and growing body of work characterised by bold yet simple compositions that are informed by nuanced and detailed stories passed onto Mabel from her family.

She has been featured in over one hundred group shows as well as several solo shows throughout her career; her most recent one being held in the Kimberley artists own region at the Short Street Gallery in Broome (June 2018). She has also been featured eight times as a finalist in the Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Awards (since 1994). Mabel's Garnkiny Ngarranggarni and other dreamings continue to define the Australian Indigenous art canon; a testament to her iconic and striking expression of her Gija culture is yet again celebrated in 2018, when her Garnkiny and Bird artwork are animated in projections for "Badu Gili" on the sails of the Sydney Opera House. The result is a unique cultural setting where two iconic Australian symbols are united in a year-long event honouring and the First Nations culture and art.

Mabel Juli was born at Five Mile, near Moola Boola Station (south of Warmun), and was taken as a baby to Springvale Station, her mother's country. Mabel's 'bush name' is Wiringoon.

She is a strong Law and Culture woman and an important ceremonial singer and dancer. Juli started painting in the 1980s, at the same time as well-known Warmun artists Queenie McKenzie and Madigan Thomas. The women used to watch Rover Thomas paint and one day he said to tell them, 'You try yourself, you might make good painting yourself'. Juli says, 'I started thinking about my country, I give it a try'. Juli is a dedicated, innovative artist who continues to work in natural earth pigments on canvas. She primarily paints the Ngarranggarni (Dreaming) stories of her country Darrajayin which is covered largely by Springvale Station.

Mabel started work on the station as a little girl, and as a young woman moved to Bedford Downs Station and Bow River Station to work. Juli's mother is Mary Peters. Juli is one of seven children - six boys and one girl, Mabel. Well known artist the late Rusty Peters was Mabel Juli's brother.

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Mabel left Springvale Station to be with her promised husband. Together they moved to different cattle stations in the Kimberley, including Bow River and Bedford Downs. Mabel and her husband had six children. He passed away in 1982; Mabel was 42.

ARTIST STATEMENT 2004: 'I started painting when the old girl [Queenie McKenzie] was here - she was the one who taught me to paint. She told me, 'You try that painting', and I started to paint. I was doing that Garnkiny [Moon Dreaming]; that's the painting I started with - because my mother and father told me that Ngarranggarni [Dreamtime] story. I was reminded of all those stories from my mum and dad - like Glingennayn Hill and the Old Woman Singing Out for Her Dog. Those stories come from my country [Springvale]. 'They used to take me out bush when I was a little girl - good size - and they told me all about those Dreamtime stories. And I always remember those stories. I got 'em in my brain.'

ARTIST STATEMENT, 2007: 'I'm feeling pretty good. I like going to exhibitions, going to Sydney, feels good. 'I'm always busy. I finish the work, the painting, and go home. Go to [Warmun Community] council meetings, go to court [as an elder]. I got to make money to get tucker for my grandchildren. I still think about Aunty [Queenie McKenzie, who taught her to paint]. When I do paintings. She tell me about stories.'

ARTIST STATEMENT, 2018: "Ohh, too many years I've been working. When I was young, I was working around the school and my auntie Queenie [Mckenzie] asked me to do painting...I'm the first one to do painting. Other people, they all bin in the station, working you know... I'm getting old now. That's what I do - painting - and my auntie, she learned me for painting. I've never do the [new] Ngarranggarni (Dreaming) yet, only the old one. [The new one] might be next year... yeah."

Solo Exhibitions

2019 July Mabel Juli & Rusty Peters "Stories of Garnkiny" - RAFT Artspace, Alice Springs, NT
2018 July Mabel Juli Solo at Short Street Gallery, Broome
2016 December Garkiny doo Wardel (Moon and star) - Harvey Art Projects, Idaho USA
2013 November Sublime Paintings - Seva Frangos Art, Perth, WA
2010 January Garnkiny Ngarranggarni - Seva Frangos Art, Perth, WA
2006 December The Great Mabel Juli, Short St. Gallery at Mary Place Gallery - Sydney, NSW
2006 January Gabrielle Pizzi Gallery - Melbourne, Vic
2004 January Kaliman Gallery - Sydney, NSW
2002 January Gabrielle Pizzi Gallery - Melbourne, Vic

Group Exhibitions

2023 One Foot on the Ground, One Foot in the Water, Tweed Regional Gallery, Murwillumbah South, NSW
2023 The Summer Collector's Show, Everywhen Artspace, Mornington Peninsula, VIC
2022 Kimberley Ochres, Everywhen Artspace, Mornington Peninsula, VIC
2021 The Summer Collectors Show, Everywhen Artspace, Flinders, Vic
2021 Garn'giny Not Granite, Mabel Juli, Marlene Juli, Atlanta Mercy Unbulgurri – Everywhen Artspace at The Lennox, Melbourne, Vic
2021 February Spirit & Energy, the Lands of Aboriginal Art, Everywhen Artspace/Salt Contemporary, Queenscliff, Vic,
2021 January Summer Collector's Show, Everywhen Artspace, Mornington Peninsula
2020 November One Foot on the Ground, One Foot in the Water - La Trobe Art Institute, Bendigo, Vic
2020 October Whenua Ukaipo/United Nations 75 - Public Trust Hall, Te Whanganui-a-tara Wellington, NZ
2020 October Connected: MCA Collection - Museum of Contemporary Art Australia, Sydney
2020 August 2020 Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards - Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin

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2020 July The Ochre Story - Japingka Aboriginal Art, Fremantle, WA
2020 March Matriarchs 2020 - Paul Johnstone Gallery, Darwin
2021 January Summer Collector's Show, Everywhen Artspace, Mornington Peninsula
2020 January By The Strength Of Their Skin - Second Street Gallery, Charlottesville, USA
2019 December VOID - Bathurst Regional Art Gallery, NSW
2019 November "Connection to Country" Fundraiser exhibition, Form Gallery, Perth WA - Environmental Defenders Office of WA
2019 August Warmun Artists / Whenua - Tim Melville Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand
2019 August 2019 Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards - Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin
2019 July The lover circles his own heart - Museum of Contemporary Art Australia, Sydney
2019 July "Our Land Our Place" NAIDOC Week exhibition by Artitja Fine Art - Government House, Perth
2019 June Material Place: Reconsidering Australian Landscapes - UNSW Galleries, Sydney
2019 June ZZZZZ: Sleep, Somnambulism, Madness - Gertrude Contemporary, Melbourne
2019 March Earthworks - JGM Gallery, London
2019 February Desert River Sea, Art Gallery of Western Australia - A landmark exhibition of Kimberley Aboriginal Art , Art Gallery of WA in February 2019.
2018 November Environs Kimberley Art Auction - Gallows Gallery, WA
2018 November Jooroob "Coming Together" Exhibition - Warmun Art and Jirrawun Artworks curated by Nichola Dare, Aboriginal Contemporary
2018 October Art for Wellbeing, Boab Health Services - Kununurra WA
2018 September Void Exhibition, UTS Art Gallery - Curated by Emily McDaniel.
<http://art.uts.edu.au/index.php/exhibitions/void/>
2018 August Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards 2018 - Finalist
2018 July Badu Gili (Light, Water), Sydney Opera House - A one-year exhibition of Indigenous Art animated and projected on the Sydney Opera House sails.
2018 July Moon Dreaming & Other Stories - Tim Melville Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand
2018 June DREAM TIME MINE - FORM Gallery Perth, curated by Kate Alida Mullen
2018 April GIJA Exhibition, Woolloongabba Art Gallery, Queensland - An exhibition honouring the Warmun artists, and 20 years of the Gija art movement.
2018 March Other People Think, Auckland Art Gallery Toi O Tamaki - Other People Think
2018 March Warmun At Twenty Exhibition - A group exhibition celebrating 20 years of Warmun Art Centre, Nancy Sever Gallery, Canberra
2017 June Spiritual essence of the Earth with Warmun artists - Aboriginal Signature Estrangin gallery • Brussels
2017 May For the Women - Tandanya, Adelaide
2016 November Middle Distance - Hanging Valley
2016 June Telling Tales: excursions in narrative form - Museum of Contemporary Art, Australia
2015 September LIVELY: New Prints from Warmun Arts - Nomad Arts, Darwin NT
2015 February Garnkiny: Constellations of Meaning - Short Street Gallery, Broome, WA
2015 February Recent paintings by senior Gija artists from Western Australia - Nancy Sever Gallery, Canberra, ACT
2014 September Garnkiny: Constellations of Meaning - RMIT Gallery, Melbourne, Vic
2014 March Gija Contemporary Art from Warmun - Aboriginal and Pacific Art, Sydney. NSW
2014 February Warmun Aboriginal Art - Art Images Gallery, Adelaide, SA
2014 February Warmun: Gija Contemporary Art of Western Australia - Harvey Art Projects, USA
2014 February Transitions - Short Street Gallery, Broome, WA
2013 November Jadagen Warnkan Barnden — Changing Climate in Gija Country - Goulburn Regional Gallery, NSW
2013 August Jadagen Warnkan Barnden — Changing Climate in Gija Country - The Cross Art Projects, Sydney, Australia
2013 June Gija Manambarram Jimerrawoon – Gija Senior People Forever - Australian Embassy, Paris, France
2012 December Warrmarn - Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne, VIC
2012 March Earth: Ochre Painting from Warmun - Tim Melville Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand
2011 January (Re) - Currents of Warrambany - Gecko Gallery, Broome, WA

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2011 January Warmun 2011, Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne, VIC -
2011 January My Country and Me - ReDot Gallery, Singapore
2011 January Deeper Water Tim Melville Gallery - Auckland, New Zealand
2010 January Kimberley Aboriginal Artists, Cross Cultural Art Exchange - Darwin, NT
2010 January Desert Country Art Gallery of South Australia - Adelaide, SA and touring nationally
2010 January 27th Telstra NATSIAA - Museum and Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin, NT
2010 January Mabel Juli Garnkiny + Marlene Juli Gurlabal - Seva Frangos Art, Perth, WA
2010 January Surface of Our Dreaming - Paintings by Gija Women - Chapman Gallery, Canberra, ACT
2010 January Warmun - Our Earth Our Story - Art Images Gallery, Norwood, SA
2010 January Putipula Gallery - Noosa, QLD
2010 January No Name Station, Getrude Contemporary - Vic & Iberia Centre, Beijing
2010 January Ochre: Aboriginal Painting from Warmun - Tim Melville Gallery, New Zealand
2008 December Ochre: A Study in Materiality - Short Street Gallery, Broome, WA
2008 December Sharing Difference on Common Ground: Mangkaja, Mowanjum, Waringarri, Warmun - Holmes a Court Gallery, Perth, WA
2008 December First and second generation artists from Waringarri and Warmun - Seva Frangos Gallery, Perth, WA
2008 December Ochre Dreaming: Stories from the East Kimberley - Redot Gallery, Singapore
2008 December Warmun Ochres: Rich Earth - Gadfly Gallery, Perth, WA
2008 December Warnarran Gelengen : Old Times New Times - Hogarth Galleries, Sydney, NSW
2008 December The Best of the Best 2 - Framed Gallery, Darwin, NT
2008 December The Youngest One - Chapman Gallery, Canberra, ACT
2007 December Warmun at Ten: A Decade of Warmun Art - Hogarth Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2007 December Warmun at Ten, Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair - Darwin, NT
2007 December East of East Kimberley: Warmun in Asis - ReDot Gallery, Singapore
2007 December Melbourne Art Fair: Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi - Royal Exhibition Buildings, Melbourne, Vic
2007 December 'Warmun: Ten Years On, Five Artists - Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne, Vic
2007 December A Stint of Prints: New etchings from Warmun Art Centre - Nomad Art Productions, Darwin, NT
2007 December Red Centre, Red Dot: Celebrating Indigenous Australia - Australian High Commission, Singapore
2007 December The Women of Warmun: Ten years on - Gadfly Gallery, Perth, WA
2007 December Traces of Country: Indigenous fine art prints - Gecko Gallery, Broome, WA
2007 December Star Crossed lovers of the Kimberleys - Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne, Vic
2007 December Ten Years of Warmun Ochres - Chapman Gallery, Canberra, ACT
2006 December Ngarrangkarni & Bible Stories - Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne, Vic
2006 December Greetings from Turkey Creek - Mary Place Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2006 December Warda-Wurrarem (all kinds of stars) - Raft Artspace, Darwin, NT
2006 December Warmun Snapshot, Aboriginal Art Fair - Darwin, NT
2006 December Warmun Artists in New York - Ralph Pucci Gallery, New York, USA
2006 January Patrick Mung Mung & Mabel Juli - Gabrielle Pizzi Gallery, Melbourne, Vic
2006 January Bungle Bungles - Short St. Gallery, Broome, WA
2006 January Warmun Arts - Hogarth Galleries, Sydney, NSW
2006 January Warmun Art Centre Presents - Mary Place Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2005 January New Work from Warmun - Gadfly Gallery, Perth, WA
2005 January Gija: Across the Border - Raft Artspace, Darwin, NT
2005 January Best of Warmun - Gadfly Gallery, Perth, WA
2005 January Waterhole Country - Short St. Gallery, Broome, WA
2005 January Waterhole 11, GrantPirrie in conjunction with Raft Artspace - Sydney, NSW
2005 January Warmun Womens Show - Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne, Vic
2004 January Die inneren & die äußeren Dinge - Stadtgalerie Bamberg, Germany
2004 January Short St. Gallery - Broome, WA
2003 January Ochre works by Six Warmun Women - Gallery Gondwana, Alice Springs, NT
2003 January Masters Exhibition, Gallery Gondwana - Alice Springs, NT

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2003 January East Kimberley Easter Show - Short St. Gallery, Broome, WA
2003 January Recent Works in Ochre by Warmun - Framed Gallery, Darwin, NT
2003 January True Stories: Art of the East Kimberley, Yiribana Gallery - Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney, NSW
2003 January The World luxury cruise ship: Indigenous art exhibition in conjunction with Thornquest Gallery -
2003 January The Moon Show - Short St. Gallery with ArtHouse Gallery, Sydney, NSW
2002 January Flinders University Art Museum - Adelaide, SA
2002 January Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi - Melbourne, Vic
2002 January Easter Show, Bett Gallery - Hobart, Tas
2002 January Coomalie Culture Centre - Batchelor, NT
2002 January Die Kraft & das Licht - Neuer Kunstverein Aschaffenburg, Germany
2002 January Tandanya, Women of the East Kimberley - Adelaide, SA
2002 January Thornquest Gallery - Gold Coast, Qld
2002 January Span Gallery - Melbourne, Vic
2002 January Kult(o)urnacht, Aboriginal Art Galerie Baehr - Speyer, Germany
2002 January Love Your Work - Fremantle Arts Centre, Perth, WA
2001 January Fireworks Gallery - Brisbane, Qld
2001 January Das Verborgene im Sichtbaren (the Unseen in Scene) - Stadtische Galerie Wolfsburg, Germany
2001 January Beyond Wings, Flinders University Art Museum - Adelaide, SA
2001 January Short on Size, Short St. Gallery - Broome, WA
2001 January Past Modern, Short Street Gallery - Sydney, NSW
2001 January Ochre Show, Short St. Gallery - Broome, WA
2000 January Gallerie Australis - Adelaide, SA
2000 January Hogarth Galleries - Sydney, NSW
2000 January BlickDicht: An- und Einblicke Zeitgenossische - Adelhausermuseum, Freiburg, Germany
2000 January Ben Grady Gallery - Canberra, ACT
2000 January Bett Gallery - Hobart, Tas
2000 January Kunst der Aborigines - Leverkusen & Dormagen, Germany
2000 January Telstra NATSIAA Exhibition - Darwin, NT
2000 January Traumpfade, Zeitgenossische Malerei australischer - Aborigines Stadtische Galerie, Traunstein, Germany
2000 January State of My Country - Hogarth Galleries, Sydney, NSW
2000 January Limited Edition Prints - Chrysalis Publishing, Melbourne, Vic
2000 January Melbourne Art Fair - Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi & Chrysalis Publishing, Melbourne, Vic
1999 January Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi - Melbourne, Vic
1999 January Hale School Annual Art Exhibition - Perth, WA
1999 January Desert Designs - Japingka Gallery, Fremantle, WA
1999 January East Kimberley Art Awards - Kununurra, WA
1999 January Karen Brown Gallery - Darwin, NT
1999 January Spirits from an Empty Land - Riverside Studios, London, UK
1999 January Hogarth Galleries - Sydney, NSW
1999 January Japingka Gallery - Perth, WA
1995 January Paintings by Warmun Women - Australian Girls Own Gallery
1994 January Australian Heritage Commission National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award Exhibition - Old Parliament House, Canberra, ACT
1994 January Maintaining Family Tradition, International Year of the Family Conference - Adelaide Festival Centre, SA
1994 January The 11th National Aboriginal Art Award Exhibition - Museum & Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin, NT

Bibliography

2010 'No-Name Station', Gertrude Gallery, Warmun Art Centre, Iberia Gallery Beijing
2011 'Digging for Ochre with Mabel Juli' ABC Open on-line project

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2001 'From Digging Sticks to Writing Sticks: Stories of Kija Women', Veronica Ryan, Lamb Print, Perth, WA

2011 'I am an artist, I come from the Bush' ABC Open online project

1999 'Ngalangangpum Jarrakpu Purrurn: Mother and Child', Margaret Stewart, Magabala Books, Broome, WA

Collections

ART GALLERY OF NEW SOUTH WALES, SYDNEY, NSW

ART GALLERY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA, SA

ARTBANK

AUKLAND ART GALLERY, TOI O TAMAKI, NEW ZEALAND

BERNDT MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN

AUSTRALIA, PERTH, WA

BROADMEADOWS HEALTH SERVICE COLLECTION, MELBOURNE, VIC

CHARTWELL COLLECTION, AUCKLAND ART GALLERY TOI O TAMAKI

COSMOLOGY GALLERY, GRAVITY DISCOVERY CENTRE, PERTH, WA

EDITH COWAN UNIVERSITY ART COLLECTION, PERTH, WA

FOUNDATION BURKHARDT- FELDER ARTS ET CULTURE, SWITZERLAND

FTB GROUP COLLECTION

HARLAND COLLECTION, NSW

HARVEY WAGNER COLLECTION, USA

KAPLAN COLLECTION, USA

KERRY STOKES COLLECTION

KING EDWARD MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, PERTH, WA

MURDOCH UNIVERSITY ART COLLECTION, WA

MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART, NSW

NATIONAL AUSTRALIA BANK

NATIONAL GALLERY OF AUSTRALIA, CANBERRA, ACT

NATIONAL GALLERY OF VICTORIA, IAN POTTER CENTRE, MELBOURNE, VIC

NORTHERN TERRITORY UNIVERSITY COLLECTION, NT

PARLIAMENT HOUSE ART COLLECTION, CANBERRA, ACT

PARLIAMENTARY ART COLLECTION, ABORIGINAL PEOPLES ROOM, PARLIAMENT HOUSE, PERTH, WA

PHILLIP HARDING COLLECTION, QLD

PRIVATE COLLECTIONS, AUSTRALIA, ASIA, EUROPE, NORTH AMERICA

QUEENSLAND ART GALLERY, QLD

UNIVERSITY OF LIEGE, BELGIUM

WESFARMERS COLLECTION, WA

Commissions

2020 Collaborate2020, Wesfarmers Arts

Awards

2020 37th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award Finalist

2019 36th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award Finalist

2018 35th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award Finalist

2015 32nd Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award Finalist

2013 Under the Sun: The Kate Challis RAKA Award for Visual Arts

2010 27th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award Finalist

2001 18th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award Finalist

2000 17th Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award Finalist

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1994 11th National Aboriginal Art Award Exhibition, Museum & Art Gallery of the Northern Territory Finalist
1994 Australian Heritage Commission Art Award Finalist

Themes

Darrajayin (Springvale Station) country

Events post-white settlement

Garn'giny Ngarranggarni (Moon Dreaming)

Jowigin (Billimack)

Moola Boola

Traditional Ngarranggarni (Dreaming) stories such as Marranyji & Jiyirriny

Yaranga, Chinamans Garden