

## ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

### Athena Nangala Granites



Date of birth: 1994

Place of birth: Alice Springs

Language: Warlpiri

Athena Nangala Granites has lived most of her life at Yuendumu, a remote Aboriginal community approximately 240k northwest of Alice Springs. She comes from a long line of artists. Her mother is Geraldine Napandardi Granites and her grandmother was the late Alma Nungarrayi Granites - whose depictions of the Seven Sisters story made her one of the most famous artists of Warlukurlangu Artists of Yuendumu.

She is the daughter of Geraldine Napangardi Granites and the granddaughter of Alma Nungarrayi Granites, well-known artists who paint with Warlukurlangu Artists. She is also the great granddaughter of Paddy Japaljarri Sims (Deceased) one of the founding artists of Warlukurlangu Artists.

"I learnt to paint by watching my mother, my sisters and my grandmother paint."

After Athena finished her schooling, she worked in the office at Mt Theo, a program that provides comprehensive training in youth development and leadership. She married Sebastian Jupurrurla Wilson and they have one son, "little Henry Peterson Wilson".

Athena has been painting with Warlukurlangu Artists Corporation, an Aboriginal owned and governed art centre located in Yuendumu, since 2010.

She paints Jukurrpa from her father's side (Ngapa Jukurrpa – Water Dreaming) and her mother's side (Ngalyipi Jukurrpa – Snake Vine Dreaming and Yanjirlpirri Jukurrpa –Seven Sisters Dreaming), stories which relate directly to her land, its features and the plants and animals that inhabit it.

Athena uses an unrestricted palette to develop a modern interpretation of her traditional culture. When Athena is not painting and when the rain comes, and it is cooler she likes to go hunting with her family for Honey Ants, Bush Banana, Goanna and Kangaroo.

Athena's works are exhibited in a number of leading galleries and have become highly sought after.

#### Solo Exhibitions

2021 Across the Night | Stories of the Stars, Kate Owen Gallery, Sydney

2019 Athena's Seven Sisters - A celestial display of the Seven Sisters Dreaming by Athena Nangala Granites, Art Mob, Hobart

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### Group Exhibitions

2022 Connection, National Museum of Australia, Canberra  
2022 Tanami Today, Art Mob, Hobart  
2022 Top 20 2022, Art Mob, Hobart  
2022 Out Bush: Warlu 2022, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne  
2021 Winter Salon, Everywhen Art, Flinders, VIC  
2021 Across the Top 2021, Art Mob, Hobart  
2021 The Seven Sisters and the Night Sky, Art Mob, Hobart  
2021 Top 20 2021, Art Mob, Hobart  
2020 Always Was, Always Will Be, Everywhen Art, Flinders, VIC  
2020 Murdie Leads the Pack, Art Mob, Hobart  
2020 Wildlife!, Everywhen Art, Flinders, VIC  
2020 Top 20 Exhibition, Art Mob, Hobart  
2020 Warlukurlangu Artists: New Works from Community, Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne  
2019 Colours of my Country, Everywhen Art, Flinders, VIC  
2019 Seven Sisters, Kate Owen Gallery, Sydney  
2019 The Children of the Warlpiri, Art Mob, Hobart  
2019 Infinite - An Exploration of Deep Time and Space, Hearth Galleries, Healesville  
2019 Women in Colour, Coee Gallery, Sydney  
2019 International Women's Day, Kate Owen Gallery, Sydney  
2019 Fire Country - Warlukurlangu Artists, Japingka Gallery, Fremantle, WA  
2018 My Country, Salt, Queenscliff, VIC  
2018 Land and Sky - Warlpiri Artists, Japingka Gallery, Fremantle, WA  
2018 Desert Mob, Araluen Centre, Alice Springs  
2015 Yuendumu Jukurrpa, Woolloongabba Art Gallery, Woolloongabba