Desert Mob 2013
Cover
Ginger and Iyawi Wikilyiri
Husband and wife story 2012
Acrylic on linen 200 x 200 cm
Tjungu Palya, Araluen Art Collection
Purchased from Desert Mob 2012.

Image this page
Kana Puta women’s trip 2010
Photo courtesy Papunya Tula Artists

Layout and editing
Nathan King
Exhibitions Officer, Araluen Arts Centre

Graphic design
Kelsey Rodda
Publicity and Promotions Manager, Araluen Arts Centre

Map
redDirt graphics

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Desert Mob 2013
Araluen Arts Centre
Larapinta Drive, Alice Springs
PO Box 3521, Alice Springs NT 0871
T 08 8951 1120 F 08 8953 0259
E araluen@nt.gov.au W www.araluenartscentre.nt.gov.au

Further information on art centres in Central Australia
Desart
Reg Harris Lane, Alice Springs NT 0870
T 08 8953 4736 F 08 8953 4517
E mail@desart.com.au W www.desart.com.au

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www.desertmob.nt.gov.au

Culture First. Supporting Aboriginal Art Centres of Central Australia

Northern Territory Government
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Minister’s Foreword

In 2013, the Desert Mob exhibition will be presented for its 23rd consecutive year. Starting in 1991, Desert Mob has evolved into one of Australia’s major arts events, and is a vehicle through which visitors can gain a unique insight into the lives and cultures of Aboriginal artists living across an area covering one million square kilometres of our spectacular outback country. The annual Desert Mob exhibition is an initiative of the Araluen Arts Centre, with the Desert Mob Symposium and the Desert Mob MarketPlace events presented in partnership with Desart Inc.

Desert Mob is a cross-border initiative, supporting Aboriginal art centres in the Northern Territory, as well as those located in South Australia and Western Australia, recognising that our Territory borders do not always encompass the familial and cultural relationships of Aboriginal people in the region.

The Desert Mob exhibition is incomparable, being the only national event of its kind in Australia representing Aboriginal artists in Central Australia, but also because it is the only major exhibition in Australia where the participating art centres select the works exhibited in the exhibition.

The Desert Mob Symposium puts the artists at the forefront, with Aboriginal art centres and individual artists presenting stories about current practice and artistic innovations in their communities and their art centres. This event provides us with the opportunity to share their inspirations, realisations and ongoing innovations in technique and use of materials which together radiate vibrant expressions of culture and place. The Desert Mob Marketplace creates a unique interaction between buyers, artists and art centre staff and the opportunity to buy high quality artworks in a bustling market style environment.

Desert Mob is a key tourism drawcard for Central Australia. Desert Mob attracts visitors from a national audience and aims to build on this to engage international collectors through its online presence. Visitation to the Desert Mob exhibition and its associated events, the Symposium and MarketPlace, creates significant opportunities to promote tourism in Central Australia. Desert Mob is a special treat, a real cultural highlight for locals and tourists alike. It is another great reason to spend more time in the Territory.

I hope you enjoy the celebrations of this significant Central Australian event and take advantage of the opportunity to engage with Aboriginal artists and their vibrant culture in such a unique part of the world.

Hon Matthew (Matt) Conlan MLA
Minister for Arts and Museums

Image: Johnny Yungut’s country, Wilkinkarra (Lake Mackay), photo Matthew Frost, courtesy Papunya Tula Artists
Message from Desart

Desert Mob continues to be an extraordinary annual showcase of Aboriginal art from the vast desert regions of Central Australia. Now in its twenty-third year running, the Desert Mob exhibition maintains its place as one of Australia’s most significant arts events.

Desart is proud to celebrate Desert Mob: a representation of contemporary works created at our member art centres who represent approximately 3000 artists, from sixteen distinct language groups spread across the Central desert region of Australia. As community-based enterprises, owned and managed by Aboriginal people, art centres provide economic, social and cultural benefits for communities. They are vibrant spaces where culture is kept strong, passed on between old and young and places where Aboriginal people have the opportunity to share our arts and culture with the world.

We are honoured and thrilled to be a part of this unique opportunity to explore, reflect and experience the rich essence of Central Australian Aboriginal cultures. Artists continue to push the boundaries and create innovative works which build on strong cultural traditions and lived experiences – both threads resonating in the works presented. Desert Mob 2013; as in past events has provided the platform for both established and emerging Aboriginal artists from the region to assert their social, cultural and political identities.

I congratulate the artists for the exciting works included in Desert Mob 2013 and acknowledge the commitment and dedication of the Art Centre management, artworkers and staff. I also recognise the strength of the partnership between Araluen Art Centre and the Desart member art and craft centres; a partnership which has been nurtured and grown over the past 23 years.

Philip Watkins
CEO Desart

Image: Marlene Rubuntja, photo courtesy Yarrenyty Arltere Artists
Sia Cox and Margaret Boko, photo courtesy Tangentyere Artists
Hector Tjupuru Burton, photo courtesy Tjala Arts
Rona Rubuntja
Woman collecting ngurlpa (bush tobacco) 2012
terracotta clay with underglazes 37 x 18 cm diameter
Hermannsburg Potters, Hermannsburg, NT
Rhonda Sharpe
This little alien, looking, searching 2013
soft sculpture 100 x 14 cm
Yarrenyty Artere Artists, Alice Springs, NT
Anna Seven
Story for Cabin Bark 2013
acrylic on linen 90 x 120 cm
Tangentyere Artists, Alice Springs, NT
Judith Inyika Chambers
Tjuni kaputu (helicopter) 2013
raffia and minarri grass 80 x 113 cm
Tjanpi Desert Weavers, Alice Springs, NT
Diane Dawson
Minyma Kutjara 2013
acrylic on canvas 91 x 91cm
Minyma Kutjara Arts Project, Irnunytju, WA
Kukula McDonald
Red tails everywhere 2013
acrylic on canvas 91 x 91cm
Bindi, Alice Springs, NT
Nancy Long
Seed story 2013
acrylic on canvas 76 x 100 cm
Arlpwe Art and Culture Centre, Ali Curung, NT
Nita Ferguson
Salt Pans 2013
acrylic on linen 85 x 138 cm
Tapatjatjaka Art and Craft Centre, Titjikala, NT
Johnny Yungut Tjupurrula
Untitled 2012
acrylic on linen 91 x 46 cm
Papunya Tula Artists, Alice Springs, NT
Beyula Putungka Napanangka
Kalinykalinpapa Tjukurpa 2013
acrylic on canvas 152 x 91cm
Papunya Tjupi Arts, Papunya, NT
Biddy Jurrah/Long Yumgarni
Women’s Dreaming 2013
acrylic on canvas 85 x 50 cm
Warnayaka Art, Lajamanu, NT
Pamela Napumurla Walker
Wulpayi Jukurpa (River Dreaming) 2013
acrylic on Linen 152 x 76 cm
Warlukurlangu Artists, Yuendumu, NT
Alice Nampitjinpa
Tali Tali 2013
acrylic on linen 165 x 45 cm
Ikuntji Artists, Haasts Bluff, NT
Michelle Pula Holmes
My country 2013
acrylic on Linen 183 x 76 cm
Artists of Ampilatwatja, Ampilatwatja, NT
Cedric Ross
Untitled 2013
acrylic on canvas 202.5 x 93.5 cm
Keringke Arts, Santa Teresa, NT
Tjipi Kunmanara Kankapankatja
Mungawinklukakuankuninta- Early morning: going hunting 2012
etching & silkscreen on Hanhemuhle paper 57 x 39 cm
Kaltjiti Arts, Fregon, SA
Jimmy Donegan
Pukara 2013
acrylic on linen 91 x 107 cm
Ninuku Arts, Kalka, SA
Linda Puna
Ngayuku ngura (my home) 2013
etching 24 x 16 cm
Mimili Maku Arts, Mimili, SA
Bradley Tunkin
Kalaya Tjukurpa (Emu Dreaming) 2013
acrylic on canvas 120 x 100 cm
Tjungu Palya, Nyapari, SA
Rupert Jack
Maku, 2013
acrylic on canvas 100 x 180 cm
Ernabella Arts, Ernabella, SA
Barbara Mbitjana Moore
Ngayuku ngura - My country 2013
acrylic on linen 198 x 197 cm
Tjala Arts, Amata, SA
Maisie King
Ngura (country) 2013
acrylic on canvas 101 x 76 cm
Iwantja Arts, Indulkana, SA
Nyarrie Morgan
Kanaji jila 2013
acrylic on linen 122 x 91 cm
Martumili Artists, Newman, WA
Ned Grant
Palpatjata 2013
acrylic on linen 136 x 90 cm
Spinifex Arts Project, Ilkurk, WA
Angilya Mitchell
Titji kutjarra 2013
screen print on paper 59 x 41 cm
Papulankutja Artists, Blackstone, WA
Elizabeth Nyumi
Panwallya 2013
acrylic on linen 150 x 75 cm
Warlayirti Artists, Balgo, WA
Bob Gibson
Patjantja 2013
acrylic on canvas 148 x 179 cm
Tjarliiri Art, Tjukurla, WA
Polly Pauwiya Butler-Jackson
Mobile phone tower 2013
acrylic, plywood and mdf board 62 x 82 x 19 cm light box
Warakuma Artists, Warakuma, WA
Peter Taylor
Mount Conner - Artilla, near the Musgrave Ranges, NT 2013
watercolour on paper 36 x 54 cm
Nguratjuta Ilija Ntjarra Art Centre, Alice Springs, NT
Rolley Mintuma
Kali kutjara 2013
acrylic on Desert Bloodwood 70 x 28 cm / 66 x 25 cm
Maruku Arts, Uluru, NT
Edwin Ward
Tilkamanta #1 2013
Found objects (frying pan and feathers) 19 x 42 cm
Greenbush Art Group, Alice Springs, NT
Image (top): Bush trip to Kuru Yurtu, ladies from Tjukurla, Warakurna, Kiwinkura and Patjarr
Image (bottom): Katjara Butler, Kim Butler, Annie Farmer and Esther Giles with volunteer Kate Christianson
Photos Nyssa Miller, courtesy Tjarlirli Art
Gail Heffeman, Anna Leo and Bernadette Leo, photo Claire Wildish, courtesy Minyma Kutjara Arts Project
Image (top): Betty Conway in the studio, photo courtesy Tangentyere Artists
Image (bottom): Ivy Laidlaw with bush-dyed raffia, photo courtesy Tjanpi Desert Weavers
Alice Springs

Bindi
Greenbush Art Group
Ngurra tjuta Ilja Njjarra
Papunya Tula Artists
Tjukurrpa Artists
Tjanpi Desert Weavers
Yarrenyty Arltere Artists
Mrs Riley and her daughter Anthea Riley, photo courtesy Tjala Arts
Arlpwe Art and Culture Centre
Contact: Ian Grieve - 08 8964 1640
arlpwe@alicurung.com.au
www.australianaboriginalartgallery.com

Artists of Ampilatwatja
Contact: Caroline Hunter - 0437 426 549
artists@ampilatwatja.com
www.ampilatwatja.com

Bindi
Contact: Sandra Brown - 08 8952 7277
info@bindiart.com
www.bindiart.com

Emabella Arts
Contact: Ruth McMillan/Julian Green - 08 8956 2954
arts@emabellaarts.com.au
www.emabellaarts.com.au

Greenbush Art Group
Contact: Sue McDonnell - 08 8951 8971
susan.mcdonnell@nt.gov.au

Hemmannsburg Potters
Contact: Manager - 08 8956 7414
art@hemmannsburgpotters.com.au
www.hemmannsburgpotters.com.au

Ikuntji Artists
Contact: Chrishona Schmidt - 08 8956 8783
fineart@ikuntji.com.au
www.ikuntji.com.au

Iwantja Arts and Crafts
Contact: Helen Johnson - 08 8670 7722
info@iwantjaarts.com.au
www.iwantjaarts.com.au

Katiji Arts and Crafts
Contact: Beverly Peacock - 08 8956 7720
info@katijiarts.com.au
www.katijiarts.com.au

Keringke Arts
Contact: Alan Tyley - 08 8956 0956
gallery@keringkearts.com.au
www.keringkearts.com.au

Martumili Artists
Contact: Gabrielle Sullivan - 08 9175 8000
martumili@eastpilbara.wa.gov.au
www.martumili.com.au

Manuku Arts
Contact: Clive Scollay - 08 8956 2153
punu@manuku.com.au
www.manuku.com.au

Mimili Maku Arts
Contact: Hannah Grace - 08 8956 2984
info@mimilimaku.com
www.mimilimaku.com

Minyma Kutjarra Arts Project
Contact: Claire Wildish - 08 8954 7051
minyma.kutjarra@gmail.com
www.minyma.kutjarra@blogspot.com.au

Ngurratjula Ilja Nijarra Art Centre
Contact: Iris Bendor - 08 8951 8748
irisb@ngur.com.au
www.nguart.com.au

Ninuku Arts
Contact: Matt Goff - 08 8954 8054
manager@ninukarts.com.au
www.ninukarts.com.au

Papulankutja Artists
Contact: Jane Avery - 08 8956 7586
artists.papulankutja@bigpond.com
www.papulankutja.com.au

Papunya Tjupi Artists
Contact: Kasumi Ejiri/Simon Taylor - 08 8964 7141
art@papunyatjupi.com.au
www.papunyatjupi.com.au

Papunya Tula Artists
Contact: Paul Sweeney - 08 8952 4731
art@papunyatula.com.au
www.papunyatula.com.au

Spinifex Arts Project
Contact: Amanda Dent - 08 8341 5714
arts@spinifex.org.au
www.spinifex.org

Tangentyere Artists
Contact: Lied Rockchild - 08 8951 4242
lries.rockchild@tangentyere.org.au
www.tangentyereartists.org.au

Tapatjatjaka Art and Craft Centre
Contact: Jane Easton - 08 8956 0788
art@tapatjatjakaarts.com.au
www.tapatjatjaka.com.au

Tjala Arts
Contact: Skye O’Meara - 08 8956 2899
info@tjalaarts.com.au
www.tjalaarts.com.au

Tjampi Desert Weavers
Contact: Michelle Young - 08 8958 2377
tjampi@npyw.com.au
www.tjampi.com.au

Tjaritji Art
Contact: Nyssa Miller - 08 8956 7777
art@tjaritjiart.com
www.tjaritjiart.com

Tjungu Palya
Contact: Jo Byrne - 08 8956 7111
arts@tjungupalya.org.au

Warakuma Artists
Contact: Edwina Curr - 08 8955 8099
art@warakumaartists.com.au
www.warakumaartists.com.au

Warlayirti Artists
Contact: Tracey Grigg - 08 9168 8960
admin@balgoart.org.au
www.balgoart.org.au

Wantjukurlangu Artists
Contact: Cecilia Alfonso - 08 8956 4133
info@warlu.com
www.warlu.com

Wamayaka Artists
Contact: Louise Erglis - 08 8975 0808
info@wamayaka.com
www.wamayaka.com

Yamunya Ardhe Artists
Contact: Sophie Wallace - 08 8952 7207
sophie.wallace@tangentyere.org.au
Brenton Ken, photo courtesy Tjala Arts