

**NYAPALANYATJUN KULIRA?
(Who do we think we are?):
TES May 2013 - July 2014**



LIST OF WORKS:

1. Taparti Bates, *Tjukurrpa Kungkarrangkalpa*, WAC 186 (L), acrylic on 18oz cotton canvas 1278mm x 1895mm

Wanarn is an important place on the dreaming track of the Seven Sisters, the *Kungkarrangkalpa*, as they travelled across many thousands of kilometers in the Western Desert. As their collective path crisscrossed the country they were hotly pursued by the old man *Yula*, who came upon them again and again. Wherever the sisters settled to rest or look for food *Yula* was not far away, observing, waiting for an opportunity to seduce, and many natural features in the landscape bear testimony to all of this for Ngaanyatjarra people.

These panels show *Kungkarrangkalpa* conducting ceremonies at Wanarn, and their travels to different places in the vicinity, all the time observed and pursued by the old magician, *Yula*.

Wanarn is the birthplace of the artist, and she strongly identifies with this Dreaming, believing herself born out of the spirit-presence in the landscape there

2. Taparti Bates, *Rilyi*, **WAC 090 (L)**, acrylic on 18oz cotton canvas 1278mm x 1895mm

In the early days, many ladies came for water at *Rilyi Soak*. The painting shows ladies as well as *karlaya* (emu) coming to drink at the soak. There are many fruit trees and bushes in the area including *kurkapi* (whose fruit is very sweet); *wiluruwirmirra* (small bush with yellow fruit); *kampurrar* (bush tomato); *kulpurrpa* (also with yellow fruit) and *yarrngurli* (bush olive) seen as dark dots in the painting.

Rilyi is the artist's sister's country, who also came often to drink water here.

3. Taparti Bates, *Yinunmaru*, WAC 098 (L), Acrylic on 18oz cotton canvas 1278mm x 1895mm

When the artist's mother, *Mangkala* was pregnant, a boy named *Minali*, came to her in a dream but instead, she later gave birth to a girl. It was the artist herself. _This painting shows the artist as a baby (bottom central figure) in her birthplace *Yinunmaru* with her mother under a shelter. The concentric circles in the centre of the painting is the rockhole at that place where *Warnmala* (Retribution) Men also came for water.

4. Elizabeth Holland, *Tjukurrpa Nyi Nyi Kuli Mitjika*, **WAC 060(L)** 1993, 1275mm x 1875mm
5. Kantingtjangu Ward, *Yiltji*, **WAC 108 (L)** 1994, 1265mm x 940mm
6. **Christine West, *Luotto*. WAC 582 (L), 2010 acrylic on 18oz cotton canvas 1955mm x 2105mm**
7. Elizabeth Holland, *Kungkarrangkalpa Kurrualya*, **WFC 003 (L)**, wool fibre 1955mm x 2105mm
8. **Print upper - WAC 016 (L) Taparti Bates. *Kungkarrangkalpa at Wanarn* 1992 1800mm x 1840mm**

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9. **Print lower Print. WAC 126 (L) Lalla West *Kungkarrangkalpa at Kulyuru* 1994 1835mm X 1890**

"Traveling over the country between Kulyurru and Kurrualya the Sisters observed a very bright Kuniya, a Carpet Snake, flying over their heads. The Sisters followed the Carpet Snake across the country but each time they came close to it, the snake would evade them and move on. At length they saw it come to the earth at Kulyurru where they found it had burrowed down into the earth using the hole of a small desert mouse. The Sisters sat down and began to dig after it. Unknown to them the old magician called Nyirru was close at hand, waiting.

Finally the Seven Sisters caught the Carpet snake and they made a fire and cooked it. After they ate it they all collapsed, became blind and began to vomit.

Suddenly the great penis of the old magician, which he had detached by sorcery from his body, drove in with great force in the side of the red gravel ridge at Kulyurru

and formed the small gorge at the site, and having rendered the Sisters helpless and completely undone, was able to fulfill his carnal desire. The Sisters recovered after a few days, escaped from Nyirru and moved on.

In the painting the tracks of the Sisters can be seen approaching Kulyurru, where Nyirru was waiting to spring his trap. Beneath this story is another, more important story sacred and known to women alone."

10. Tjingapa Davies, *Palykutjanya*, 1998 Clear float glass
1800mm x 1000mm panels (x 2)
Palykutja is home to Nginnga (Ice man) Dreaming, a dangerous and bad tempered mythic creation hero. It is also the birth country of the artist.
11. Lalla West, *Kungkarrangkalpa Tjukurpa*, WFC 002 (L), wool fibre
1700mm x 1500mm
13. Elizabeth Holland, *Wati Kutjarra*, **WAC 521 (L)**, 2004, acrylic on 15oz. Cotton canvas
14. Photograph. Gary Proctor, *Storms, Warburton*, 1997
15. (upper) Nora Holland, *Minyma Kutjarra*, **WFC 005 (L)**, 2010 wool fibre,
1380mm x 1600mm
15. (lower) Nora Holland, *Minyma Kutjarra*, **WFC 583 (L)** 2010, acrylic paint on 18oz cotton canvas. 1875mm x 2110mm
16. Lily Simms, *Wanampi Kutjarra in Piyul*, **WAC 131 (L)**, 1994, acrylic on 18oz cotton canvas, 1841mm x 1900mm
17. Tingapa Davies, *Kungkarrangkalpa Kanyamarranya*, WFC 009 (L), 2010, wool fibre
1860mm x 900mm
18. Lorna Jennings, *Pinantji*, WAC 030 (L), 1992, acrylic on 18oz cotton canvas,
1275mm x 935mm
19. Nora Holland, *Minyma Kutjarra #2*, **WFC 012 (L)**, 2009, wool fibre,
1600mm x 1170mm
20. Carol Golding, *Untitled (Kungkarrangkalpa)*, **WAC 586 (L)**, acrylic on unprimed linen, 1780mm x 1160mm

This 7 Sisters dreaming track - called the *Yulanya* - passes to the north of Warburton Ranges and is distinct from the southern track, called the *Nyirrunya*. In both tracks the narrative is typically based around the sisters traveling over the country and being pursued by the old man, *Yula*. The countryside at Wanarn is rich with evidence of this dreaming in the natural features; trees, rockholes, hills and prominent rocky outcrops all testify to the presence of the creation heroes.

21. (upper) Myra Cooke, *Wintjarranya*, **WAC 585 (L)**, 2004, acrylic on unprimed linen, 1750mm x 1150mm

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22. Carol Golding, *Untitled (Kungkarrangkalpa)*, **WAC 588 (L)**, acrylic on unprimed linen, 1810mm x 1200mm

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23. (upper) June Richards, *We Went to the Mission and Used to Paint Differently*. Undated, acrylic on canvas, 305mm x 400mm

24. (lower) Elizabeth Holland, Christine West, Lalla West, *Untitled*, **WAC 530 (L)**, Acrylic on 18oz cotton canvas, 670mm x 630mm

25. Lalla West, *Manguri Kutjarra*, **WFC 015 (L)**, 2010, wool fibre, 1600mm x 920mm

The *Mangurri Kutjarra* are two prominent low flat topped hills to the south of Warburton Ranges which are the Dreamtime hair fibre rings in the landscape created by the *Minyma Kutjarra* (Two Mythic Women/Sisters). Mangurri rings were the means by which Ngaanyatjarra women carried articles on their heads.

26. Lalla West, *Country from the Plane*, **WFC 014 (L)**, 2010, wool fibre, 1400mm x 870mm

This design shows impressions of the artist's mother's country near Lake Baker to the south west of Warburton as viewed from the air. The white lines are little creeks flowing down from the breakaway country.

ROOM TWO

1. Fred Ward, *Tingarri*, Undated, acrylic on 12oz cotton canvas, 2710mm x 1540mm

2. Arthur Robertson & Warburton Arts Project, *Tintjirra*, 1994, clear float glass panels, 2000mm x 1200mm x 10mmT (x 2)

3. Colour photographs. G. Proctor, Warburton Ranges #1 & #2, 2009.