nanda\hobbs

NAATA NUNGURRAYI NYURAPAYIA NAMPITJINPA





Photo courtesy: Ken McGregor, 2008

Naata Nungurrayi is one of the last great artists of the Western Desert women's painting movement.

Over the past twenty years, her powerful vision of the country west of Kintore has graced the walls of art galleries and significant collections around the world. Swathes of lines tell of her stories, whilst the overlay dotting delivers a jewel-like quality to the artists aesthetic. We will never know the full meaning of her work—it is after all her Tjukurpa (Dreaming). It is a very deep and personal belief system acknowledged through tribal initiation in the red sandhills and rocky outcrops in the centre of Australia a long time ago. Yet there are enough clues in the canvases large and small, for our modern western eye to embrace the spirit of the land. Consequently, this old woman takes us on a journey to experience the world as she does—through her eyes and through her travels and shared ancestral history. These works were created in 2013 and have not been released previously. Naata has now retired from painting.

Naata Nungurrayi (born 1932) is an Australian Aboriginal artist who was born at the site of Kumil, west of the Pollock Hills in Western Australia. She is from the Pintupi group from Kintore, Northern Territory.

Naata is the sister of George Tjungurrayi and Nancy Nungurrayi, and her son is Kenny Williams Tjampitjinpa—all very well-known artists.

One of her paintings appeared on an Australia Post stamp in a 2003 special edition of Aboriginal art.

Naata Nungurrayi was named among the Top 50 of Australia's Most Collectable Artists in Australian Art Collector, January – March, 2004



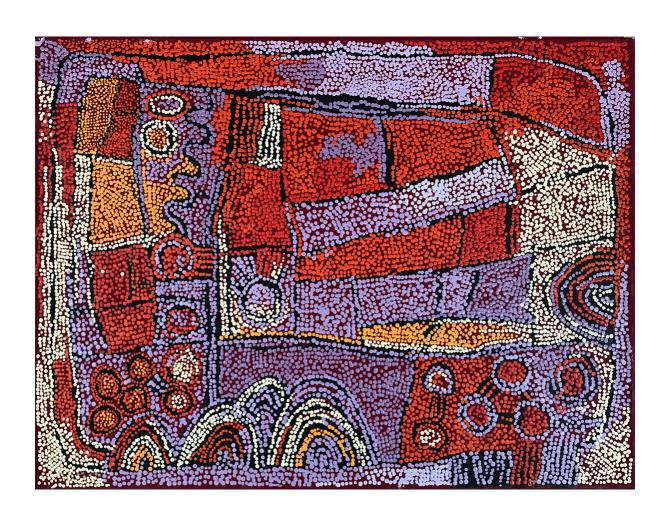
Untitled (NN1KM)

2013 Acryic on linen \ 91x122cm



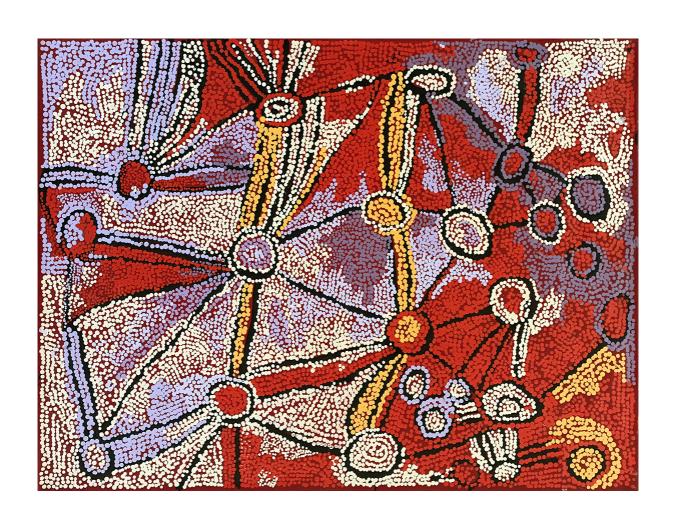
Untitled (NN4KM)

2013 Acryic on linen \ 91x122cm



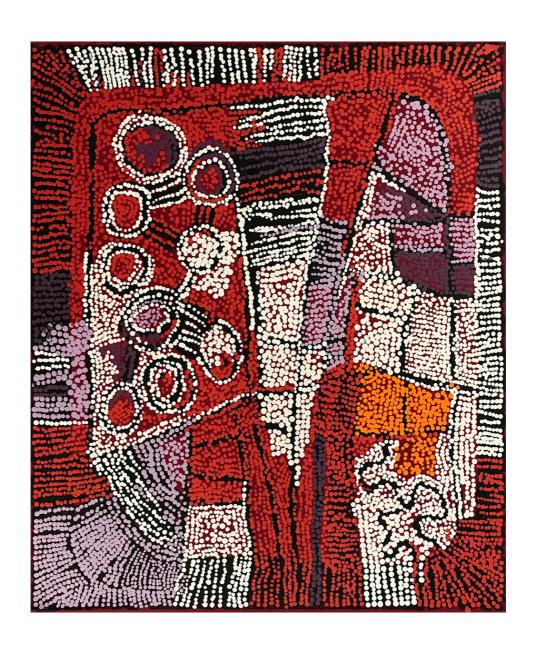
Untitled (NN3KM)

2013 Acrylic on linen \ 91x122cm



Untitled (AENA30-1212KM)

2012 Acryic on linen \ 91x122cm



Untitled (NN5KM)

2013 Acrylic on linen \ 92x77cm



Untitled (NN2KM)

2013 Acrylic on linen \ 62x122cm



Untitled 3

2013 Etching 24.5x20cm (Image size) 56.5x37.5cm(Paper size) 68.5x49cm (Framed size) Edition Size: 30

1935 - 2013



Photo: Ralph Hobbs, 2009

Nyurapayia Nampitjinpa (aka Mrs Bennett) painted her mother's Dreamings, which are connected to sites at Yumarra, Wantjunga and Tjalilli rockholes near Papunya, Pukara, Ngalkinginga and Munkara rockholes. The depictions of the sand-dune country and surrounding rocky outcrops bear a relationship to the designs used for body painting during the inma ceremonial dance. as an artists and law women Mrs Bennett was deeply concerned with women's culture, her designs often depict women's ceremonies and rituals. The gathering of bush tucker such as kampurarrpa (desert raisin) and quandong are also central themes.

Mrs Bennett viewed her work (as with all the great painters of the Western Desert did), with an enormous sense of pride, knowing that through her painting she is keeping her culture alive- and reminding the younger generation of the importance of law and country. For the rest of us, Mrs Bennetts work is a triumph of beauty created in the face of enormous hardship and despite a cultural and geographical divide between her and the city gallery audiences around the world—a divide that she helped bring closer together.



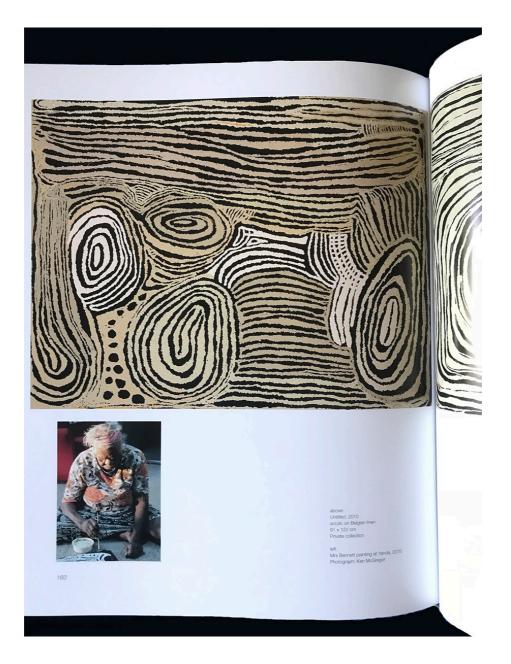
Untitled

2010

Acrylic on Belgiun linen \ 91x122cm

PROVENANCE: Private Collection, Melbourne

Illustrated on p.160 of *The Art of Nyurapayia Nampitjinpa (Mrs Bennett)* by Ken McGregor & Ralph Hobbs, 2014, MacMillan Art Publishing, Melbourne



Untitled

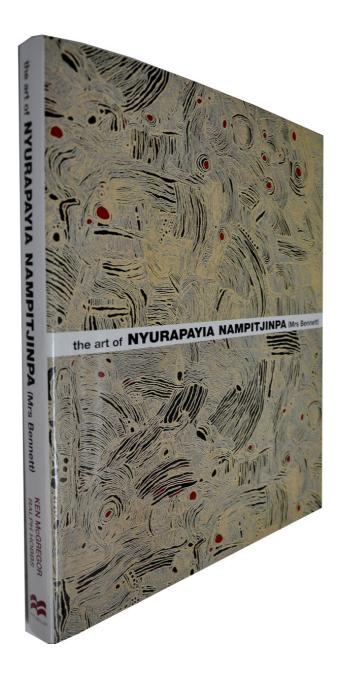
2010

Acrylic on Belgiun linen \ 91x122cm

Illustrated on p.160 of *The Art of Nyurapayia Nampitjinpa (Mrs Bennett)* by Ken McGregor & Ralph Hobbs, 2014, MacMillan Art Publishing, Melbourne

N.B. the image in the book (shown above) is lighter than the painting in real life.

Refer to the image above for a truer representation of colour



The Art of Nyurapayia Nampitjinpa by Ken McGregor & Ralph Hobbs

2014, MacMillan Art Publishing, Melbourne ISBN: 9781921394362 Hardcover—216 pages.