

Angelina NGALE

Born	1947
Language	Eastern Anmatyerre
Area	Ahalpere Country, Utopia, Northern Territory
Country	Arlperre
Region	Utopia Homelands
Medium	Batik on silk/cotton, acrylic on canvas/linen, wood carving
Stories	Body Paint Design, Bush Plum, Women's Dreamtime, Ancestor Stories

Born to Nellie Petyarre at Utopia Station c.1947, Angelina was wife number one to artist and sculptor, Louis Pwerle (c.1935-1999), number two wife is Sarah Morton Kngwarreye all of whom are renowned artists at Arnkewenyerr, a small outstation in the north of the Utopia region. Angelina was involved in the Utopia Women's Batik group in the 1970s and began painting in the late 1980s. Her first works were included in a group exhibition in Sydney 'Utopia Women's Paintings', 1989.

Angelina now lives with her sisters Kathleen and Polly, and extended family at Camel Camp near Three Bores in Utopia, located 240km North East of Alice Springs. As with her sisters, Angelina began producing batiks in the 1980s, and also had skills in producing wooden sculptures, influenced by her late husband, Louis Pwerl, the older brother of Cowboy Louis Pwerl. Angelina was formerly known as Angelina Pwerl (her husband's name) and she is referred to today as Angelina Ngal(e). (Pwerl in Alyawarr language is the equivalent to Ngal(e) in the Anmatyerre language).

Angelina's work can be bold and vibrant with linear work illustrating body paint design, yet they are delicate and subtle when portraying her Bush Plum story from Ahalpere country. Angelina's happy paintings of the Women's Ancestor Dreamtime Stories depict female ancestors painted up for Awelye (Women's Ceremony) in brightly coloured landscapes. .

Collections

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide
Commonwealth Law Courts, Melbourne
Kerry Stokes Collection, Perth
Latrobe University Collection, Melbourne
Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children, Sydney
The Holmes A Court Collection, Perth
The National Museum of Art, Osaka, Japan
Artbank, Sydney
Allen, Allen and Hemsley Collection, Sydney

Finalist

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| 1997 | Finalist. 14th National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award, Museum and Art Galleries of the Northern Territory, Darwin |
| 1997 | Finalist. 28th Alice Prize, Araluen Centre for Arts and Entertainment, Alice Springs |
| 2006 | Finalist. 23rd National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award, (Telstra Award). Museum and Art Galleries of the Northern Territory, Darwin |
| 2008 | Finalist. 2008 Wynne Prize for Landscape painting. Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney |
| 2009 | Finalist. 26th National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award, (Telstra Award). Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin |

Exhibitions

- 1989 Utopia Women's Paintings, the first Works on canvas, Sydney
- 1990 The Last Show, Utopia Art, Sydney Art from Utopia, Orange Regional Gallery, NSW, Second Australian Contemporary Art Fair, Melbourne
- 1991 Long Hot Summer, Utopia Art, Sydney, Men and Dogs, Utopia Art, Sydney
- 1992 Aboriginal Painting, Austral Gallery, St Louis, USA
- 1993 Utopia Women, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney
- 1994 This Land, Utopia Art, Sydney
- 1994 The Oval Board Collection, Bishop Museum, Hawaii; Wadsworth Athenaeum, Connecticut; Tampa Museum of Art, Florida, USA
- 1994 Central Australia Aboriginal and Craft Exhibition, Araluen Centre, Alice Springs
- 1996 Painted People; Sculpture from Utopia, Utopia Art Sydney, Sydney
- 1998 Fifth Australian Contemporary Art Fair, Melbourne
- 1998 Dreamings, Spazio Pitti Arte, Florence, Italy
- 1998 Art Gallery 'Culture Store', Rotterdam, The Netherlands
- 1999 Blue Chip 2: The Collectors' Exhibition Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2001 Spirituality and Australian Aboriginal Art, Madrid and touring regional Spain
- 2002 Indecorous Abstraction: Contemporary Women Painters, Adelaide
- 2004 Explained, A closer look at Aboriginal Art, Utrecht, The Netherlands
- 2004 Melbourne Art Fair 2004, Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne
- 2008 Power of Place, Paintings and Sculpture from the Eastern Desert, Tandanya Aboriginal Cultural Institute, Adelaide
- 2010 Desert Country, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide and touring Korea International Art Fair, COEX Korea Exhibition Centre, Seoul, Korea
- 2011 E(merge): two spiritualities, Space Station Art Space, Beijing and Niagara Galleries, Melbourne

Further reference

- Boulter, M. The Art of Utopia, Craftsman House Press, NSW 1991
- Isaacs, J. 'Bush Gardens' Art & Australia, Vol 35, No 4, 1998, Fine Arts Press, NSW
- Kleinert, S and Neale M. The Oxford Companion to Aboriginal Art and Culture, 2000, Oxford University Press, NSW

Ranking - Most Important Australian Indigenous Artists (both living and deceased)

2011 **Ranked 139/200**