

Mbantua Gallery

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ARTIST'S PROFILE



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Artist	Angelina Ngale
Born	1947
Language Group	Anmatyerre
Country	Ahalpere, Utopia Region N E of Alice Springs
Medium	Acrylic on canvas and linen, Wood Carving, Batik
Subject(s)	<i>Atham-areny</i> Story, <i>Anwekety</i> (Conkerberry or Bush Plum), <i>Awelye</i> (Women's Ceremony and Body Paint Designs)

Born to Nellie Petyarre in the arid desert area of Utopia Station in 1947, Angelina Ngale has become an Australian renowned aboriginal artist, with her work held in collections nationally and internationally. Initially Angelina began in the medium of batik when this begun in the late 1970's at Utopia. When acrylics swept the Utopia region about a decade later, Angelina made the swift transition and has continued using this medium like other Utopia artists.

Becoming well known for her fine dot representations of the *Anwekety* (conkerberry, also known as conkleberry and bush plum), Angelina quickly became a household name amongst Australian Indigenous galleries. Like most other women, Angelina can paint the women's ceremonial body paint designs (*Awelye*) which she does so with bold and colourful feel, though she paints much less of this. Angelina also enjoys painting another subject, the story of *Atham-areny*. *Atham-areny* are small creatures that live where there is no fire. On a trip home to Utopia in January 2003 with Mbantua's field team, Angelina showed us the site of the *Atham-areny* story and agreed to paint this story for us. Angelina returned with her first two *Atham-areny* paintings later that month, both of which are now held in the Mbantua Gallery Permanent Collection. Her *Atham-areny* paintings depict the

women prepared to sing and dance with witch doctors to draw sickness out of those touched by the atham-areny creatures.

On a personal level, Angelina was wife number one to artist and sculptor Louis Pwerle (1935 – 1999) though never bore children.

Please visit our gallery or www.mbantua.com.au to see any new works by Angelina.

COLLECTIONS

Commonwealth Law Courts, *Melbourne*
Holmes á Court Collection, *Perth*
La Trobe University Collection, *Melbourne*
Mbantua Gallery Permanent Collection, *Alice Springs*
National Gallery, *Victoria*
National Gallery of Australia, Canberra Art Bank, *Sydney*.
The National Museum of Art, *Osaka, Japan*

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2001 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
1999 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

1989 Utopia Women's Paintings, the first works on canvas, *Sydney*
1989 Twelve Men and an Echidna, Utopia Art, 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 Utopia, Utopia Art, Sydney
 Men and Dogs, Utopia Art, Sydney
1992 Bubbles, Baubles & Beads, Utopia Art, Sydney
1992 Aboriginal Painting, Austral Gallery, St Louis, USA
1992 Little Friends, Utopia Art, Sydney
1993 Utopia Women, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney
1993 Camp Scenes, Utopia Art Sydney, Sydney
1993 Utopia Sculpture, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
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
 Fifth Australian Contemporary Art Fair, Melbourne

- 1997 14th National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin
28th Alice Prize, Araluen Centre for Arts and Entertainment, Alice Springs
- 1998 *Dreamings*, Spazio Pitti Arte, Florence, *Italy*
- 1998 Mbantua Gallery, Alice Springs, N.T
- 1998 Art Gallery 'Culture Store', Rotterdam, *The Netherlands*
- 1998 Sixth Australian Contemporary Art Fair, Melbourne
- 1999 Blue Chip 11: The Collectors' Exhibition Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2000 Not the done thing! Niagara Galleries, Sydney
- 2001 Spirituality and Australian Aboriginal Art, Madrid and touring regional Spain
- 2001 Mbantua Gallery, Alice Springs, N.T
- Sept-Oct 2002 Mbantua Gallery USA exhibitions: Art and Soul Gallery, Nashville, TN; 'The Cove Gallery' Portland, OR; Urban Wine Works, Portland, OR; Mary's Woods, Portland, OR
- Sept 2003 Mbantua Gallery USA exhibitions: New City Merchants, Knoxville, TN; Art and Soul Gallery, Nashville, TN; 'The Cove Gallery' Portland, OR; Mary's Woods, Portland, OR
- Oct 2003 *Contemporary Aboriginal Art Event*, Umpqua Bank in conjunction with Mbantua Gallery, Portland, Oregon USA
- Oct 2003 *Art from the Dreamtime*, Portland Art Museum, Portland OR USA
- Feb 2004 'Last of the 20th Century', Mbantua Gallery, Alice Springs
- Aug-Sep 2004 Mbantua Gallery USA exhibition; Nashville, Tennessee
- May-June 2005 '*Small Wonders*' (A collection of 1'x1' and 1'x1½' paintings), Mbantua Gallery, Alice Springs, N.T
- 2004-2006 *Evolution of Utopia*, Mbantua Gallery Cultural Museum, Alice Springs
- December 2006 Camp Scenes and Utopia Life, Mbantua Gallery, Alice Springs
- May-Jun 2008 *Emily and Her Legacy*, Hillside Gallery, Tokyo with Coo-ee Art Sydney in conjunction with the opening of the landmark retrospective exhibition *Utopia – the Genius of Emily Kngwarreye* at the National Art Centre, Tokyo, Japan

AWARDS

- 2006 Finalist – The 23rd Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award (NATSIAA)
- 2010 Finalist – The 27th Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award (NATSIAA)

FURTHER REFERENCES

- Boulter, M. *The Art of Utopia*, Craftsman House Press, 1991, NSW
- 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