

WITJITI GEORGE

CV

Witjiti George is an Indigenous Australian artist who started painting in 2007. He is a senior traditional elder, and holder of extensive cultural knowledge, which is represented in his works through his depiction of land and country.

Born: Granite Downs, South Australia, 1938

Lives: Kaljiti, Fregon

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS:

- 2017 *Sharing Country*, Olsen Gruin Gallery, New York
- 2017 *Artists of the APY Lands*, Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne
- 2016 *Nganamp Kililpi: Our Stars*, Hazelhurst Regional Gallery, Sydney
- 2016 *Desert Mob Show*, Araluen Galleries, Alice Springs
- 2016 *Telstra Art Award Exhibition*, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin
- 2016 *KILILPI-TILI PULKA IRNYAN: Bright Shining Stars*, Paul Johnstone Gallery, Darwin
- 2015 *Malpa munu waltja tjuta. Ngura tjuta – nguru - Family and Friends All Over The Lands*, Tandanya National Aboriginal Cultural Institute, Adelaide
- 2015 *St Ignatius College Art Show*, Adelaide
- 2010 *Desert Mob Show*, Araluen Art Galleries, Alice Springs
- 2010 *Painters of Fregon*, RAFT Art Space, Alice Springs
- 2009 *Desert Mob Show*, Araluen Art Galleries, Alice Springs
- 2007/2008 *Tjulpuntjulpunpa: Vistas of Wildflowers by Kaltjiti Artists*, Festival Centre Adelaide

AWARDS:

- 2016 Nominee, Telstra Art Award

COLLECTIONS:

Art Gallery Of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia

Artbank, Sydney, Australia

WITJITI GEORGE

Witjiti is a senior traditional elder from Mulga Bore Homeland on the Anangu Pitjantjatjara/ Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands, South East of Uluru. Witjiti was born in 1938 at Lambina/Granite Downs (cattle station) in the far north of South Australia. His mother's country is Piltati in the Mann Ranges where the Wanampi Tjukurpa is located and his father came from Coffin Hill (Sacred men's country) south of Kaljiti.

As a small boy, Witjiti went to school at Oodnadatta before his family travelled east towards Ernabella and the railway line. They moved subsequently as there was a drought and they had little access to water and food. When Fregon, a remote community in the APY Lands was established in 1961, Witjiti began cattle work and settled there. Tjangili, his wife, came from Mt Ebeneza to Ernabella and they were married in an old traditional custom. They have three children together.

Witjiti started painting in 2007 at the Kaltjiti Aboriginal Arts Centre in the remote community of Fregon in the APY lands. He is the director of Kaljiti Arts and of the APY Art Centre Collective where Anangu artists work and come together from across the APY lands. Together the artists celebrate culture and pass on the knowledge and stories that have come to them from their ancestors.

Witjiti's paintings depict a relationship to the land and country. He holds extensive cultural knowledge and authority within the region and is very involved in the community collaboratively and artistically. Witjiti's work has been exhibited throughout Australia and his works remain in collections such as the Art Gallery Of New South Wales.