

LENA NYADBI

Born c.1936, Walmanjilukum, Western Australia

For many years Lena Nyadbi watched and learned from several of the well known Warmun artists, such as Paddy Jaminji, before starting to paint full time in 1998. The subject of her work is the Ngarrangkarni (Dreaming) from her and her family's country. Jimbala country is her father's country. It is sharp, stony land. The stones were traditionally used for Jimbala (Spearheads), which were then attached to Karlumburi (Spears). This is the source for Lena's Jimbala works.

Lena has gained a reputation as an original and powerful painter. Her work has been acquired for many important public collections throughout Australia and featured in the prestigious Adelaide Biennial exhibition *Beyond the Pale* in 2000.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2007 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
2005 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
2000 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2009 *Recent Acquisitions from the Deakin University Art Collection*, Deakin University Art Gallery, Melbourne
2003 *Blood on the Spinifex*, Ian Potter Museum of Art, Melbourne
2000 *Lena Nyadbi and Eubena Nampitjin*, Tineriba Gallery, Adelaide
 Beyond the Pale: Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide
 Bett Gallery, Hobart
 Chrysalis Publishing, Melbourne
 Commonwealth Institute, London
 Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Award Exhibition, Darwin
1999 Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, Melbourne
 Karen Brown Gallery, Darwin
 Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Award Exhibition, Darwin
 Japingka Gallery, Fremantle
 Hogarth Galleries, Sydney
 Short Street Gallery, Broome

COMMISSIONS

2005 Design for the Musée du Quai Branly, Paris, France

COLLECTIONS

Artbank, Sydney
Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide
Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth
Kerry Stokes Collection, Perth
Latrobe University, Victoria
Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin
National Australia Bank, Melbourne
National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
Western Mining Corporation Collection, Perth
Private collections

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Claire Armstrong (ed.), *Australian Indigenous Art Commission: Musée du Quai Branly*, Art and Australia, 2006

Susan Hartley, 'The diversity of practice: Art in the Warmun community', *Artlink*, Vol 20 No.1, 2000

Jonathon Kimberly, 'Lena Nyadbi', *Beyond the Pale: Contemporary Indigenous Art*, Adelaide Biennial 2000, AGSA