

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

- 2010 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2007 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2005 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2000 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
Kintolai Gallery, Adelaide

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2009 Holmes a Court Gallery, Perth
Seva Frangos Art, Perth
Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Award Exhibition, Darwin
Recent Acquisitions from the Deakin University Art Collection, Deakin
University Art Gallery, Melbourne
- 2007 Raft Artspace, Darwin
Mary Place Gallery, Sydney
- 2006 *Landmarks*, Ian Potter Centre, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
Mary Place Gallery, Sydney
National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, USA
- 2005 Raft Artspace, Darwin
- 2003 *Blood on the Spinifex*, Ian Potter Museum of Art, Melbourne
True Stories: Art of the East Kimberley, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 2002 Flinders University Art Museum, Adelaide
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- 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
This Earth for Us: Australia Dreaming, 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 New South Wales, Sydney
Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide
Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth
Candy Bennett Collection, Adelaide
Clemenger Collection, Sydney
Kaplan Collection, USA
Kerry Stokes Collection, Perth
Latrobe University Collection, Victoria
Murdoch University Art & Poster Collection, Western Australia
Musée du Quai Branly, Paris, France
Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin
National Australia Bank, Melbourne
National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
Notre Dame University Collection, Western Australia
Ron Whyte Collection, New South Wales
Strachan Collection, 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