



Vivian Pingkayi Thompson

Birth Year 1978
Language Group Pitjantjatjara
Region APY Lands

Vivian was born in 1978 in Alice Springs and has lived in Ernabella since then. She is the current deputy chair of the Ernabella Council. She attended school at Kenmore Park and moved to Adelaide for high school, attending Wiltja School in Woodville.

Her father, Kunmanara (Kawaki) Thompson, was a highly regarded senior Pitjantjatjara man, who was very important in the Land Rights Movement. Her mother, Carlene, is on the board of NPY women's council and a senior member of the art centre and she has two sisters, Marissa and Anne, both of whom are talented ceramic artists.

Vivian is the mother of three children, and she is also a grandmother.

Vivian first started creating artwork while in school, and she also learnt the traditional way of milpatjunany (telling stories in the sand).

Vivian has been painting since 2004 and began working with ceramics in 2009. That year she was part of the Remote Communities Ceramic Project and did a residency at ANU's Ceramic Workshop. Vivian's ceramics have been exhibited all over Australia.

In 2009 her work was acquired by the National Gallery of Australia.



Group Exhibitions

2024 2023	Artitja Fine Art, South Fremantle - Mantanguru From the Sand Everywhen Artspace, Mornington Peninsular, VIC - Piryakatu - Springtime
2023	Aboriginal Signature, Bruxelles, Belgium - Caress the Earth II: Manta Ngura Atuntju Kanyini II
2022	Artitja Fine Art Gallery, South Fremantle, WA - Inuntji Putitja – Desert Colours
2022	Everywhen Artspace, Mornington Peninsular, VIC - Ernabella-ku Tjukurpa : Stories from Ernabella
2022	Araleun Arts Centre, Alice Springs, NT - Desert Mob 2022
2022	Yaama Ganu Gallery, Moree, NSW - Mina-ka Malangka : After the Rain
2022	Aboriginal Signature, Brussels, Belgium - Profundity - Art from the APY Lands
2021	Praxis Artspace, Adelaide, SA - Iriti-Ngura Nintini Kuwari-Kutu - Showing the
	Past in the Present
2021	Aboriginal Signature, Bruxelles, Belgium - Caress the Earth: Manta Ngura
	Atuntju Kanyini
2021	York, WA - Spring Salon (Artitja Fine Art)
2020	Manngu (nest) - SDR Gallery at Paul Johnston Gallery, Darwin, NT
2015	Yangupala Tjuta Waakarinyi (Many Young People Working) - Sabbia Gallery,
	Paddington NSW
2014	Tjungu Warkarintja: Fifteen Years - Sabbia Gallery, Paddington NSW
2013	Ochres and Barks: Contemporary Indigenous Art of the Land – Salt
	Contemporary Art, Queenscliff VIC
2013	ReGeneration: established & emerging talents of Indigenous art - McCulloch & McCulloch, Shoreham, VIC
2011	Ngura kutjara - wangka mantanguru - Strathnaim Gallery, Canberra ACT
2009	Three Communities, One Language - Watson Arts Centre, Canberra, ACT
2009	Emabella Ceramics - Birrung Gallery, Sydney, NSW (Ceramics Triennial)
2009	From the Earth - JamFactory, Adelaide
2007	Australian Contemporary – New works from Emabella, Hermannsburg and Tiwilslands - SOFA, Chicago, USA
2007	Emabella – A Collection of New Works - Australia Dreaming Art, Melbourne, VIC
2007	Our Mob - Adelaide Festival Centre, Adelaide, SA

Collections

National Gallery of Australia, 2009