

**PMARA
NURNAKA**

Nana Selim G. H. M.



ILTJA NTJARRA MANY HANDS

Pmara Nurnaka (Our Country)

27 June – 20 July 2024

Opening Celebration, Thursday 4 July, 5 – 7pm

Featuring Stanley Ebatarinja, Vanessa Inkamala, Delray Inkamala, Dianne Inkamala, Reinhold Inkamala, Mandy Malbunka Lee, Selma Coulthard Nunay, Carita Coulthard, Hurbert Pareroutja, Jonathon Price, Everard Pei Pei & Mervyn Rubuntja.

Artists here at Itja Ntjarra Art Centre paint in the watercolour tradition of Albert Namatjira. Passed down through family lines, the Western Aranda artists have developed a style now known as the Hermannsburg School of Art. – Marisa Maher, Assistant Manager & Curator

This new collection of paintings on recycled road signs by the artists of Itja Ntjarra (Many Hands) Art Centre represents their relationship with the country on which they live, work and call home. The artists each in their own ways depict the Western Macdonnell Ranges, Alice Springs and Hermannsburg. They show places of cultural and historical significance and through using the imperative tone of the road sign, in both Western Aranda and English, are able to emphasise the importance of caring for these places and each other. – Tyler Arnold (Studio Coordinator)

Painting on repurposed road signs this unique and innovative body of work speaks to the way country is named and boundaries are drawn since colonisation. Whether used to direct traffic or to communicate specific rules, signs like these are crucial in governing our relationship to the land. In bright and arresting colours, they are used to convey laws and regulations across the continent. In the hands of the Itja Ntjarra artists, their function is subverted to communicate important information relating to Country, its beauty, cultural practices and customary lore on traditional lands. Each sign has been painted with images of Country in the Hermannsburg style. Alongside these beautiful images are messages from First Nations artists that urge us to look after these precious lands for future generations, telling us that it is not something to be owned or taken advantage of for profit.

We want to introduce to people in urban environments the beautiful landscape of the Northern Territory. At the same time, we want to raise awareness about the issues we are facing. – Senior artist Mervyn Rubuntja

The Itja Ntjarra artists have dedicated decades of committed artistic practice to the respectful and close study of their Country. For those unfamiliar with Central Australian landscape, the works are captivating depictions of the landscapes. The messages they convey command attention, reworking the words of the colonial state to speak plainly and clearly, calling for greater respect for Country, its stories and people.

The Itja Ntjarra artists' road signs featured in the 23rd Biennale of Sydney in 2022 and in 'Belonging / Tjoritjarinja' at Ngununggula in the Southern Highlands, 25 March – 21 May 2023.

(L to R) Tyler Arnold (Studio Coordinator), Mervyn Rubuntja, Klinton Buzzacott, Selma Coulthard Nunay, Dianne Inkamala, Carita Coulthard, Delray Inkamala, Vanessa Inkamala, Marisa Maher (Assistant Manager).





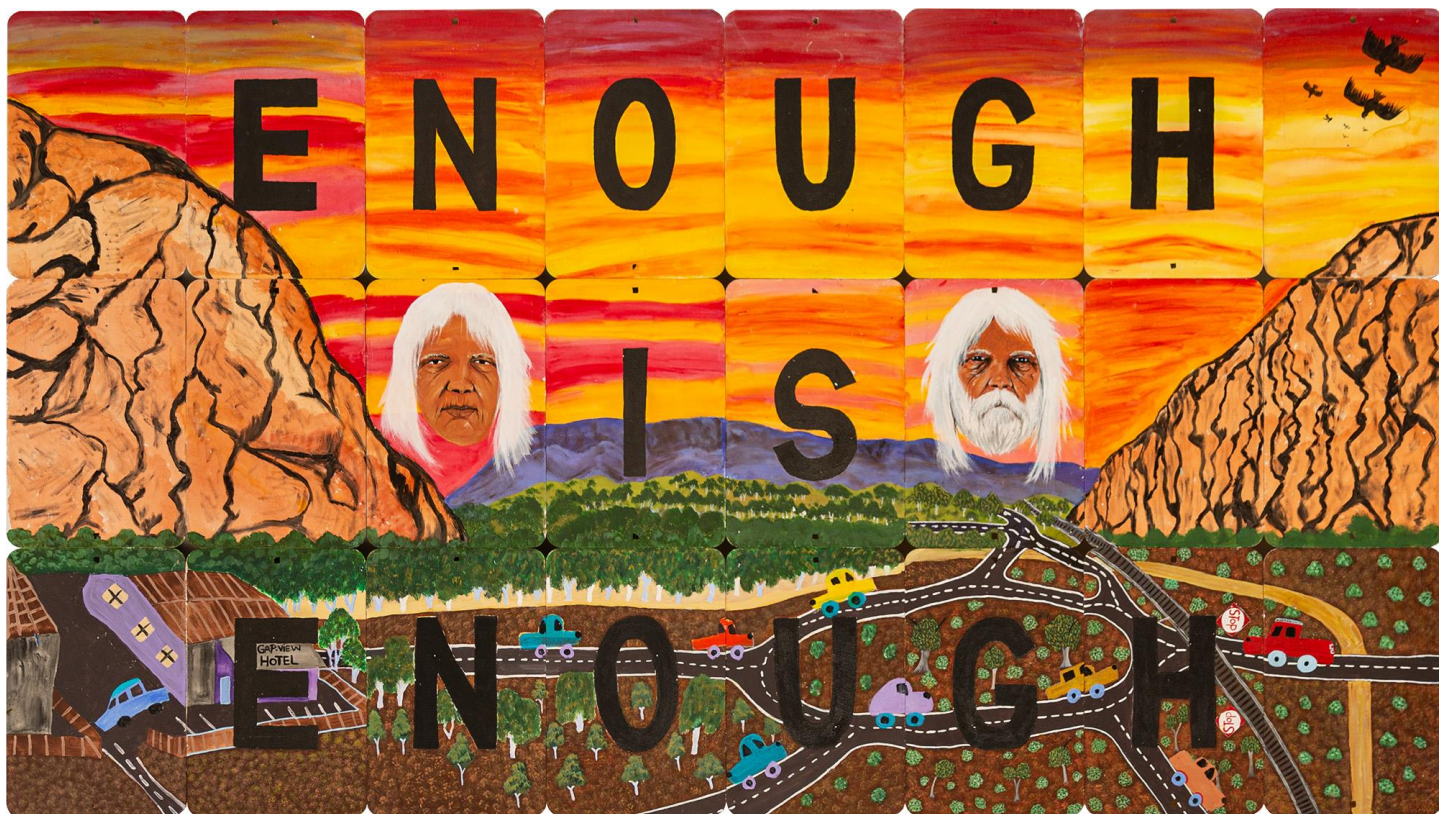
CARITA COULTHARD, DIANNE INKAMALA, EVERARD PEI PEI, JONATHON PRICE, REINHOLD INKAMALA, DELRAY INKAMALA, MANDY MALBUNKA

Enough is Enough

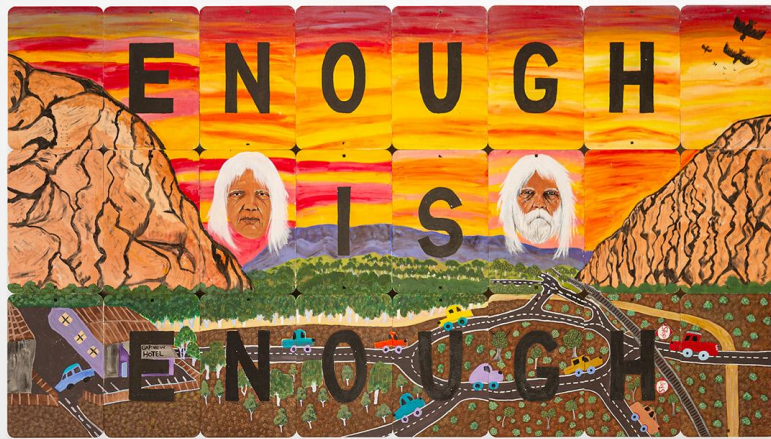
acrylic on repurposed road sign

135 x 240 cm

\$14,000



Alice Springs is a special place, a beautiful place for people to come and enjoy. In recent times more and more police have been sent to Alice Springs from other places to fight 'youth crime'. However their way of doing it is through violence and locking kids up, our way is that people talk. Kids are kids, maybe it's our job to bring the kids in line, through our elders, not the police who use their force. Our past generations that held this place together are still within us, still helping us to create this beautiful place. By caring for each other we can keep people safe, by being strong in what we are doing, especially through our children. – Selma Coulthard Nunay



MERVYN RUBUNTJA

Don't Give Away

watercolour pigment on repurposed road sign

86 x 97 cm

\$5,300



This is a women's dreaming site.

It can't be given away, no mining is allowed here, it is a sacred area for ladies.



MERVYN RUBUNTJA

No More Give Away

watercolour pigment on repurposed road sign

86 x 97 cm

\$5,300



This is a sacred site in the West Macdonnell Ranges, it is part of a dreaming that comes from Western Australia and is kept by the custodians.

Mining is not allowed here. Too much has been given away, you can't do whatever you want and not respect these sacred sites.



VANESSA INKAMALA

Nuka Urrkaapuntja

watercolour pigment on repurposed road sign

60 x 90 cm

\$3,800



I paint every day, it is what I do for work.

This painting represents that.

I painted it from my memory and it shows the West Macdonnell Ranges near Mount Sonder.

This is the country that I paint.



VANESSA INKAMALA

Floodway – Mt. Hermannsburg, NT

watercolour pigment on repurposed road sign

102 x 102 cm

\$3,300

This work shows Mt Hermannsburg after the rain.

The ground is flooded below the hills.

Kwatja rua pitjima – a lot of water is coming.



VANESSA INKAMALA

Slow
watercolour pigment on repurposed road sign
44 x 44 cm
\$1,950

This painting includes multiple significant mountain ranges of Tjoritja (West Macdonnel Ranges) including Mt Sonder, Ormiston, Red Bank and Mt Ziel. The two black cockatoos in the middle show the little ones around. The message *slow* is addressed to anyone visiting this country, to slow down and be respectful.



VANESSA INKAMALA

Our Way

watercolour pigment on repurposed road sign

79.5 x 59.5 cm

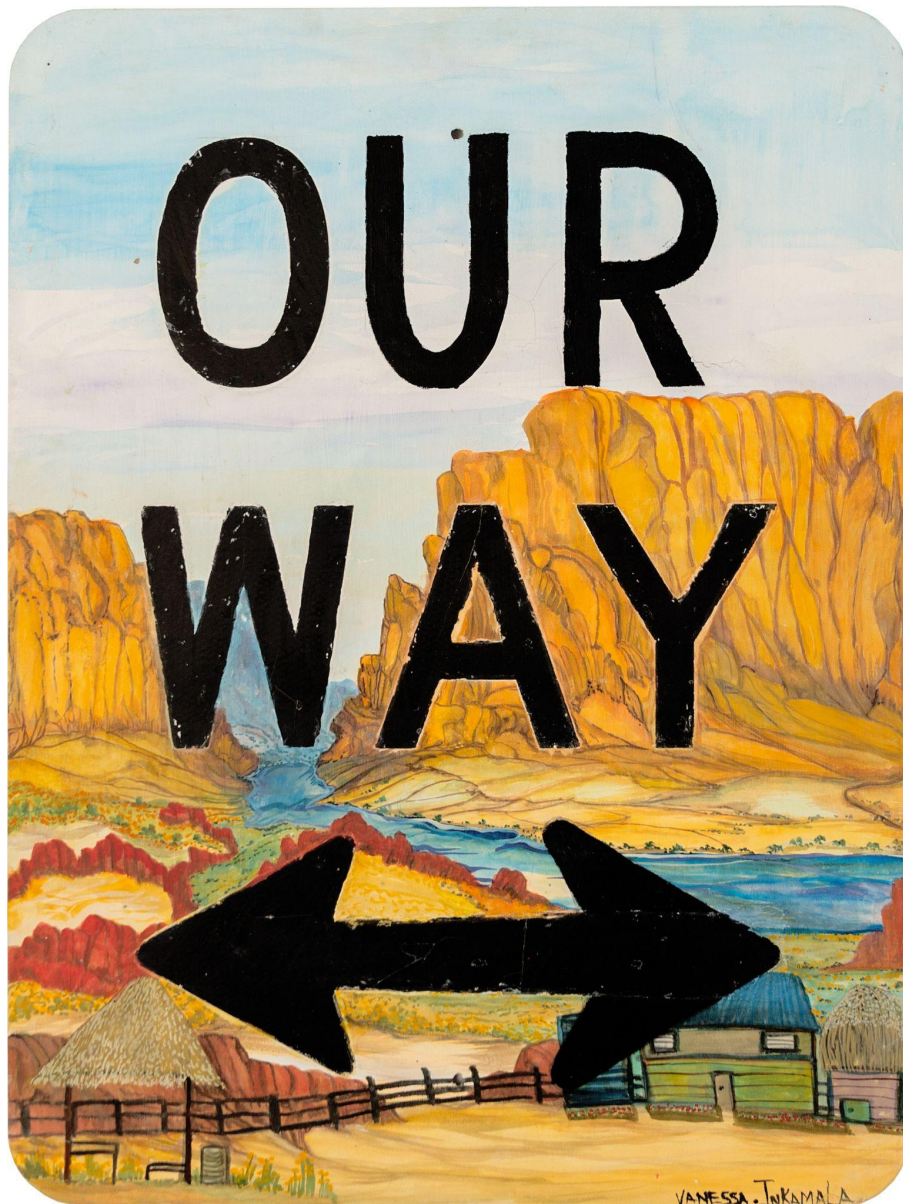
\$3,200



*We are doing painting our way, the way we learnt from our families.
At the front of this painting you can see the old Glen Helen Homestead.*

We went there as kids.

We used to watch the old people painting, they also painted their way.



JONATHON PRICE

Care

acrylic on repurposed road sign

101 x 101 cm

\$3,300

This painting is about care, taking care of one another, caring for culture and tradition.

*By caring for these things we retain the knowledge passed on from our ancestors,
the stories of the dreamtime, passed from elders to children.*





JONATHON PRICE

Kids to be Safe

acrylic on repurposed road sign

101 x 101 cm

\$3,300

This work is about looking after family.

Kids are the future.

In the background you can see the countryside around Barrow Creek.

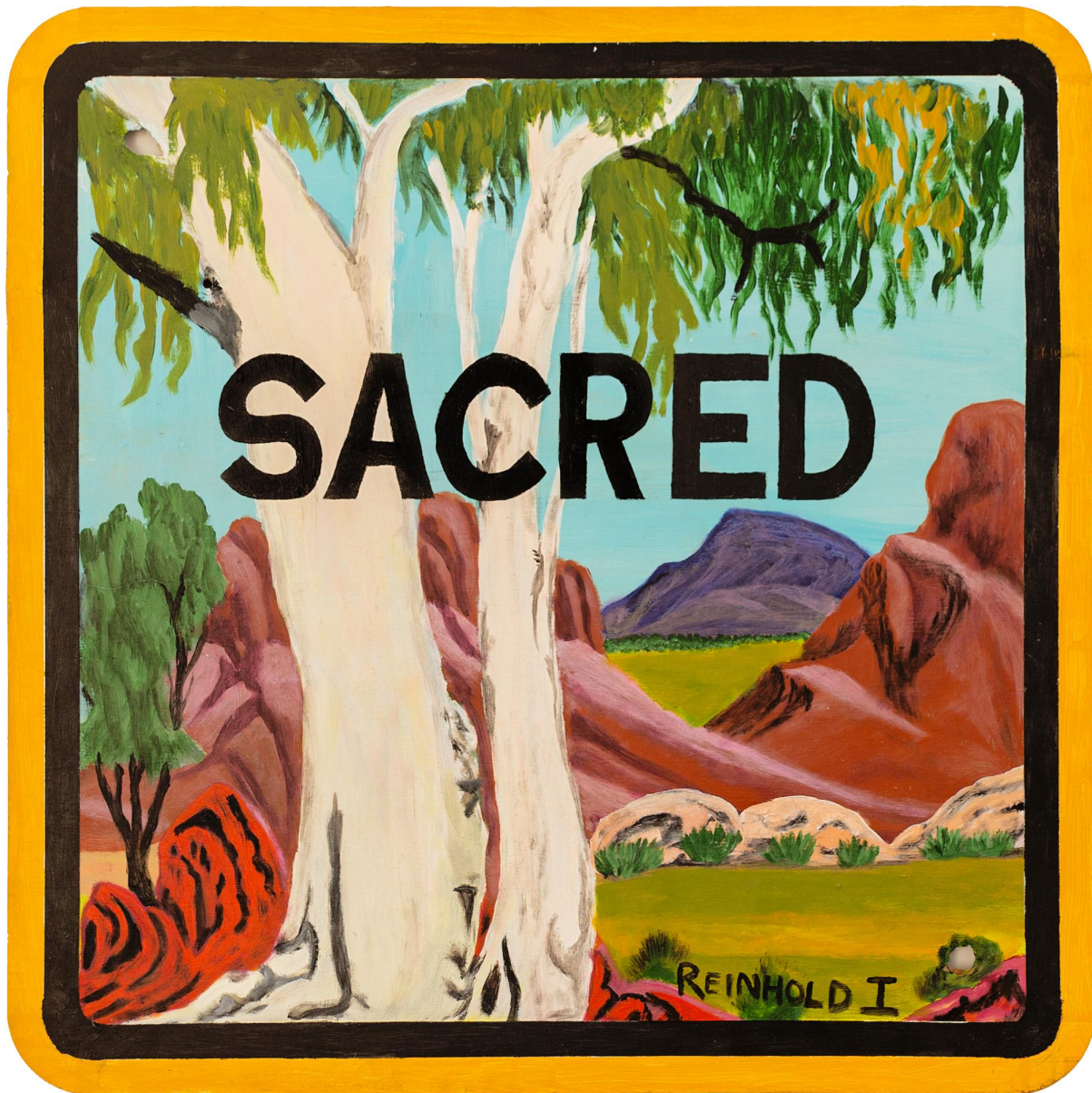


REINHOLD INKAMALA

Sacred
acrylic on repurposed road sign
75 x 75 cm
\$3,300

*In the bush, the hills are sacred, the grass, the trees, the waterholes of the Dreaming.
Stories, songs and language come from these places.*

*When you're in another people's country there are different laws, stories.
That is why we are allowed to paint in the West Macdonnell Ranges and not the northern or southern sides.*



REINHOLD INKAMALA & HUBERT PAREROULTJA

Old Place

watercolour pigment on repurposed road sign

75 x 75 cm

\$3,000

This work is a collaboration between Reinhold Inkamala and Hubert Pareroultja

It depicts the limestone buildings of Hermannsburg in the foreground as well as the culturally significant Mt Hermannsburg in the distance.



SELMA COULTHARD NUNAY

Pmara Nuka (My Home)

acrylic on repurposed road sign

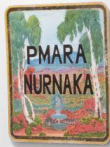
101 x 101 cm

\$3,300

This painting shows a special waterhole where the women go and camp.

*It is a special area where women can sort their things out,
healing and helping each other.*





SELMA COULTHARD NUNAY

Pmara Nurnaka (Our Home)

acrylic on repurposed road sign

75 x 75 cm

\$3,300

This painting shows a place where people take their kids to teach them the basics of life.

They learn to respect their elders, to respect country

and to grow up to be the elders they are taught by.



DIANNE INKAMALA

Care for Country

acrylic on repurposed road sign

101 x 101 cm

\$2,800

The West Macdonnell Ranges is my father's and my great grandfather's country.

They cared for Country.

Now that they have passed away it is important for us to care for Country.

I love to visit Country and to paint it.

This painting shows Two Mile, I painted it after the rain.

I love my Country.



DIANNE INKAMALA

Care

acrylic on repurposed road sign

60 x 60 cm

\$1,800

*This is my country where we used to go visit.
We would care for the animals in the water and flying around.*



MANDY MALBUNKA LEE

85 km per hour

watercolour pigment on repurposed road sign

50 x 74.5 cm

\$1,800

*This artwork is about driving to the speed limit.
There have been a lot of car crashes in and around town.
By driving in a safe way we are caring for one another.*



CARITA COULTHARD

Keep Family Strong

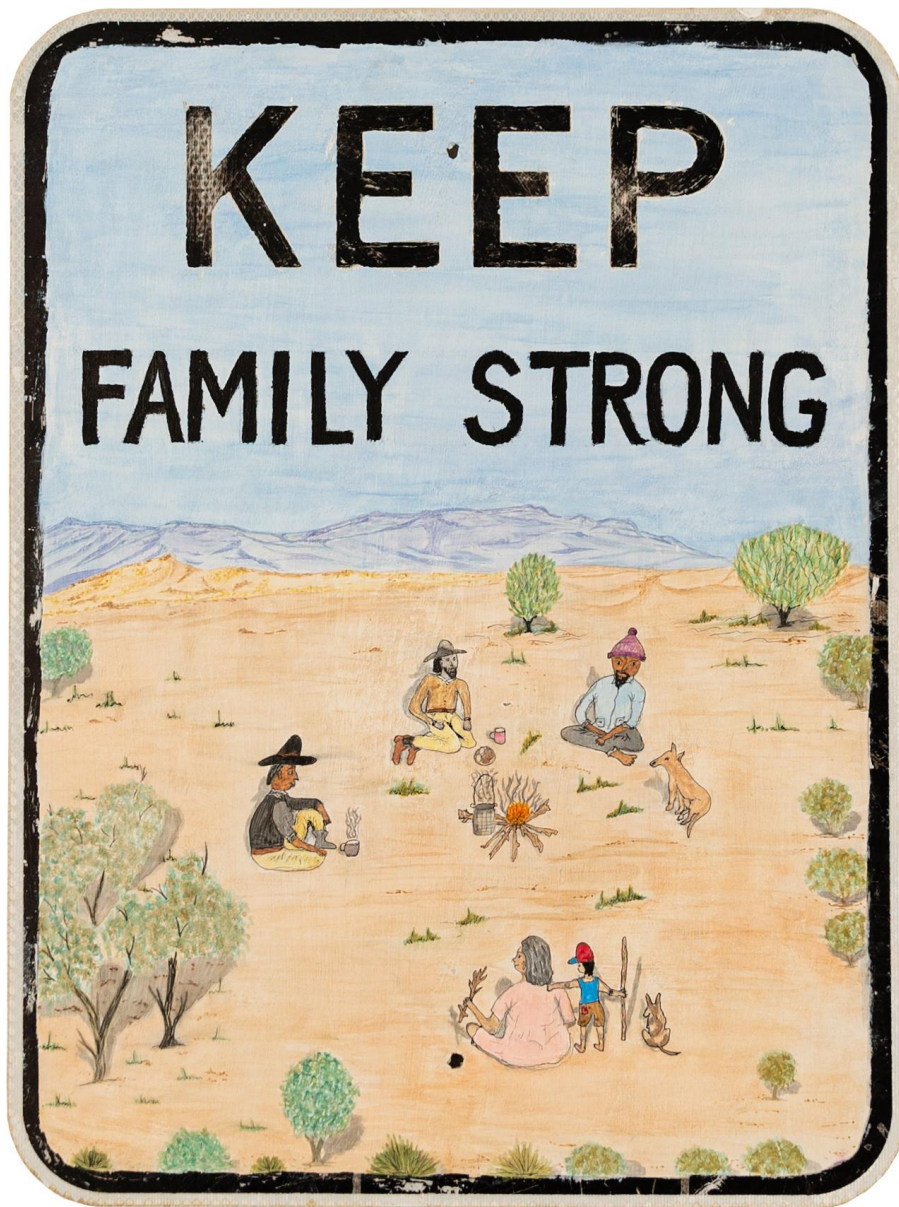
watercolour pigment on repurposed road sign

44.5 x 59.5 cm

\$1,400

The family went out to where ancestors used to be and spoke about keeping family strong.

They would talk about the land, how to make sure things are kept in order.



STANLEY EBATARINJA

Bloodway

watercolour pigment on repurposed road sign

102 x 102 cm

\$3,300



ILTJA NTJARRA MANY HANDS

VANESSA INKAMALA

Born 1968 in Ntaria (Hermannsburg), Australia. Lives and works Mparntwe (Alice Springs), Australia. *Western Aranda.*

DIANNE INKAMALA

Born 1971. Lives and works Mparntwe (Alice Springs), Australia. *Western Aranda.*

DELRAY INKAMALA

Born 1970 in Ntaria (Hermannsburg), Australia. Lives and works Mparntwe (Alice Springs), Australia. *Western Aranda.*

REINHOLD INKAMALA

Born 1974 in Mparntwe (Alice Springs), Australia. Lives and works Ntaria (Hermannsburg), Australia. *Western Aranda.*

SELMA COULTHARD NUNAY

Born 1954 in Mparntwe (Alice Springs), Australia. Lives and works Mparntwe (Alice Springs), Australia. *Western & Southern Aranda.*

MERVYN RUBUNTJA

Born 1958 in Mparntwe (Alice Springs), Australia. Lives and works Mparntwe (Alice Springs), Australia. *Central & Western Aranda.*

MANDY MALBUNKA LEE

Born 1989. Lives and works Mparntwe (Alice Springs), Australia. *Western Aranda.*

STANLEY EBATARINJA

Born 1971. Lives and works Mparntwe, Alice Springs, Australia. *Western Aranda.*

CARITA COULTHARD

Born 1969. Lives and works Mparntwe, Alice Springs, Australia. *Luritja, Pitjantjara & Western Aranda.*

HUBERT PAREROULTJA

Born 1952. Lives and works Mparntwe, Alice Springs, Australia. *Luritja & Western Aranda.*

JONATHON PRICE

Born 1983. Lives and works Mparntwe, Alice Springs, Australia. *Kaytetye.*

EVERARD PEI PEI

Lives and works Mparntwe, Alice Springs. *Pitjantjara & Western Aranda.*





SACRED

REINHOLD I