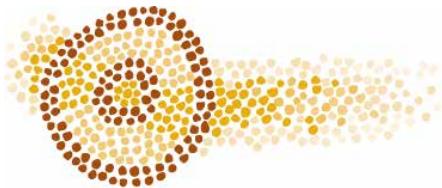


SHARING THE DREAMTIME

Early Paintings from Australia's Papunya Tula Artists



Wednesday, 3 December 2014 - Saturday, 28 February 2015
Booker-Lowe Gallery, Houston, Texas



Booker • Lowe Gallery

aboriginal and contemporary fine art of Australia

All images © the artists and Booker-Lowe Gallery.

Front cover: Brian Waka, *Amonga Kutjupurra*, 54"x59" (p. 7)

Back cover: Mick Namarari Tjapaljarri, *Two Women Dreaming*, 48"x59" (p. 11)

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*Booker-Lowe Gallery
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Early Paintings from Australia's Papunya Tula Artists



Brenda Lynch, Nungurrayi, *Rainbow Serpents*, 52"x72" (p. 6)

The story of Australia's Papunya Tula Artists is legendary in the world of contemporary painting. In the early 1970s, this group of Aboriginal painters gave birth to what acclaimed art critic and writer Robert Hughes called "the last great art movement of the twentieth century."

In 1971, a young and idealistic Geoff Bardon left the comforts of Sydney to travel some 3016 km (1183 miles) to the government's Aboriginal settlement at Papunya, in the rugged and sparsely-populated western desert.

Bardon was drawn to the patterns the Aboriginal people made, in the sand and on their bodies for ceremonies, and on small carvings they sold to the government workers who visited Papunya. He was also intrigued with the complex creation myths that the people told and asked the elders of the settlement to paint one of these Dreamtime stories on the wall of the school, as a way of sharing a Dreaming or Tjukurrpa with the entire community. After much discussion, the elders agreed, and painted a large

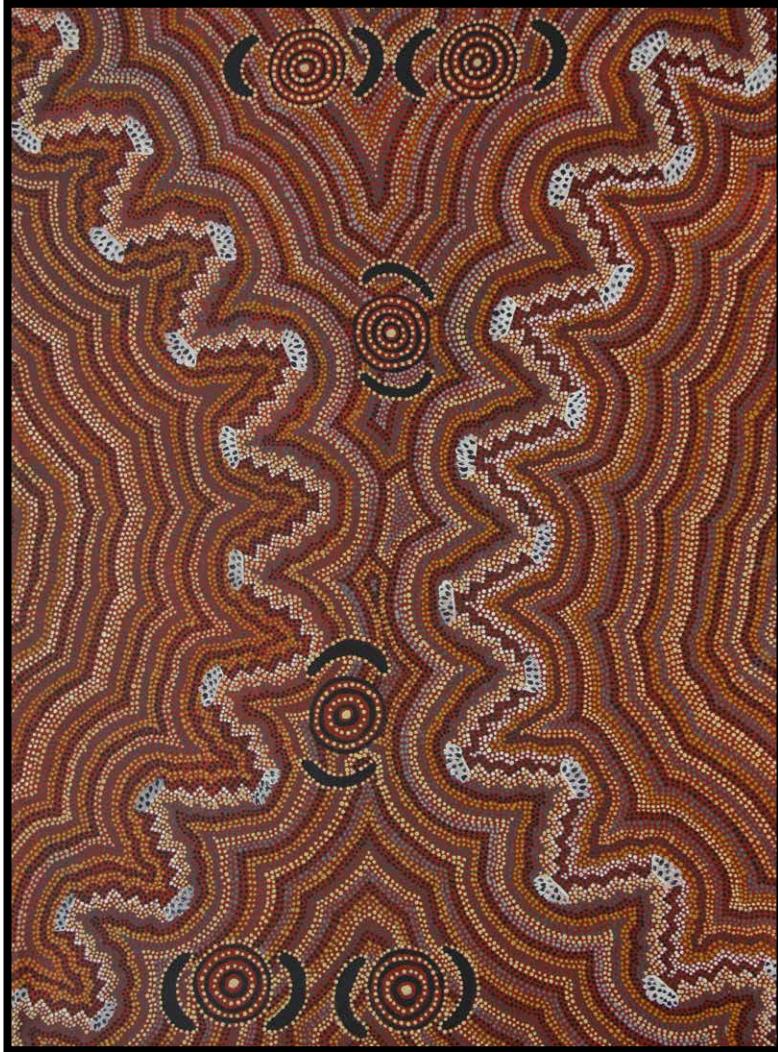
“Honey Ant Dreaming,” honoring the sacred sites near Papunya where the succulent honey ants swarmed and the people gathered them as delicacies.

The community and government workers were enthusiastic about the mural, and the artists were eager to share other Dreamings. When he could, Bardon bought art supplies in Alice Springs, but when there were none, the artists painted on old floor boards or construction scraps, using leftover house paint. Today those early “Papunya Boards” are among the most valuable of all Aboriginal artworks.

Geoff Bardon took the early paintings several hundred miles away to Alice Springs, and encouraged a local art dealer to display them. With Bardon’s help the painters organized an artists’ co-operative so they could control the sale of their work, and today, Papunya Tula Artists have a beautiful “white wall” gallery in Alice Springs and show their work throughout the world in major museums and galleries.

Professor Liam Leightley lived and worked in Australia in the mid-late 1980s and, fascinated with the Papunya style, acquired a group of master paintings. We are honored that when he and his family “downsized,” they chose Booker-Lowe to show and sell them.

In addition to eleven paintings from the Leightley collection, Sharing The Dreamtime includes other Aboriginal paintings from the 1980s, all traditional in style and timeless in aesthetic.



Alan Tjungala, *Napperby Dreaming*, acrylic on canvas, 47"x35"
LL.214001at



Bob Tjungurrayi, *Women's Dreaming*, acrylic on canvas, 48"x72"
LL.214002bt



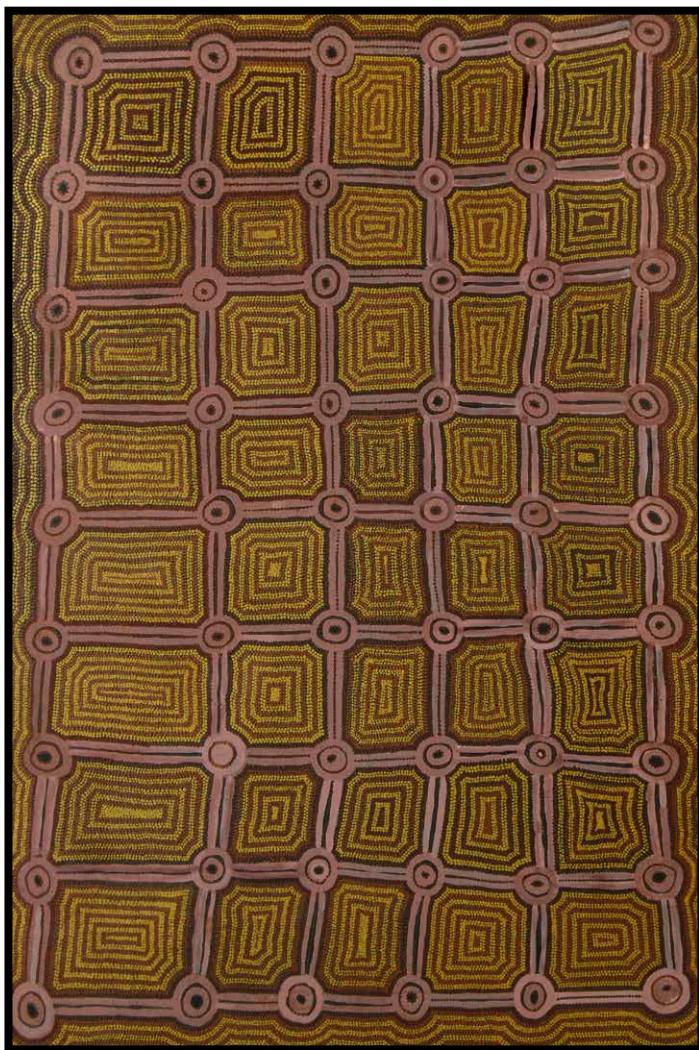
Brenda Lynch Nungurrayi, *Rainbow Serpents*, acrylic on canvas, 52"x72"
LL.214003bln



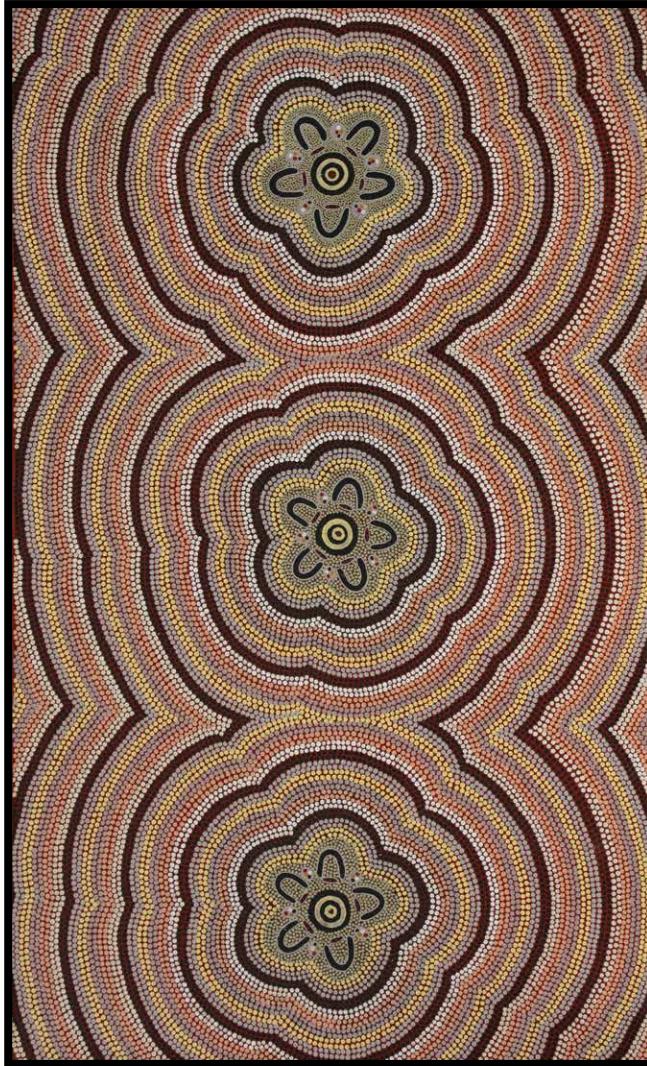
Brian Waka, *Amonga Kutjupurra*, acrylic on canvas, 59"x54"
LL.214004bw



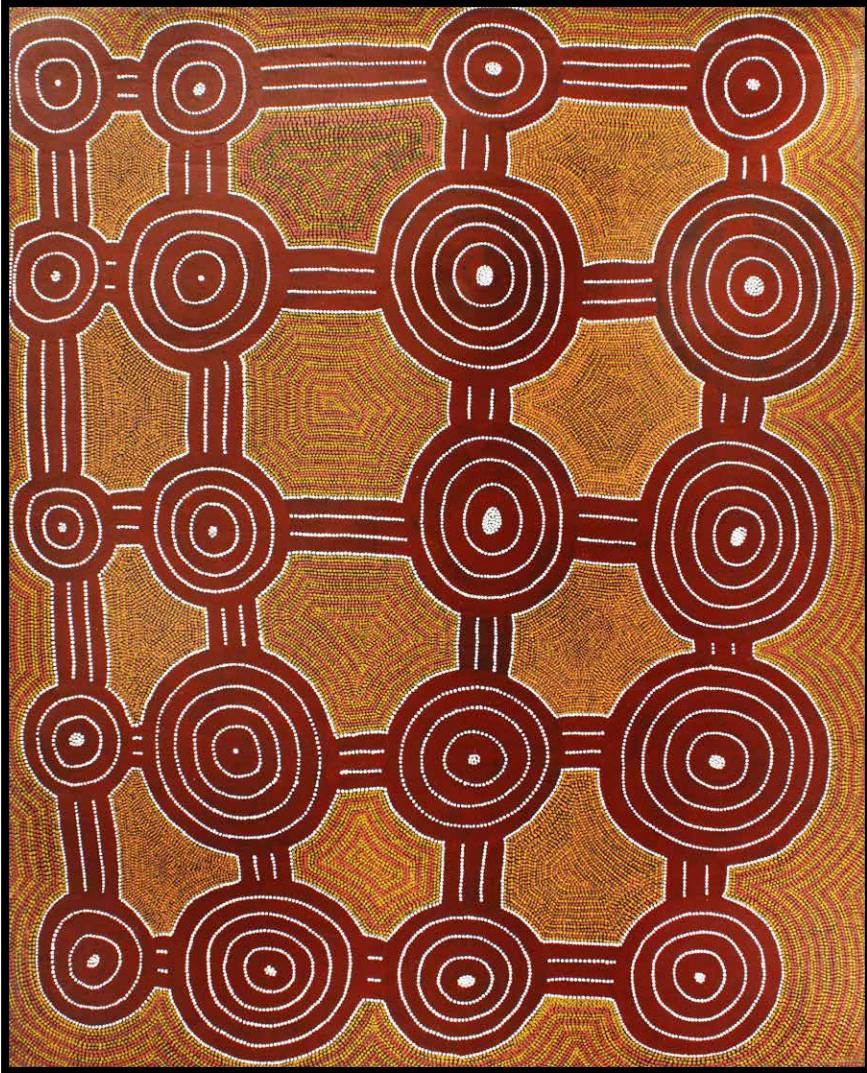
Dini Campbell Tjapitjinpa, *Ngarru Dreaming*, acrylic on canvas, 48"x60"
LL.214005dct



George Tjangala, *Tingari Dreaming*, acrylic on canvas, 71"x48"
LL.214006gt



Mary (and Colin) Dixon Nungurrayi, *Women's Dreaming*, acrylic on canvas, 60"x36"
LL.214007mcdn



Mick Namarari Tjapaljarri, *Two Women Dreaming*, acrylic on canvas, 59"x48"
LL.214008mnt



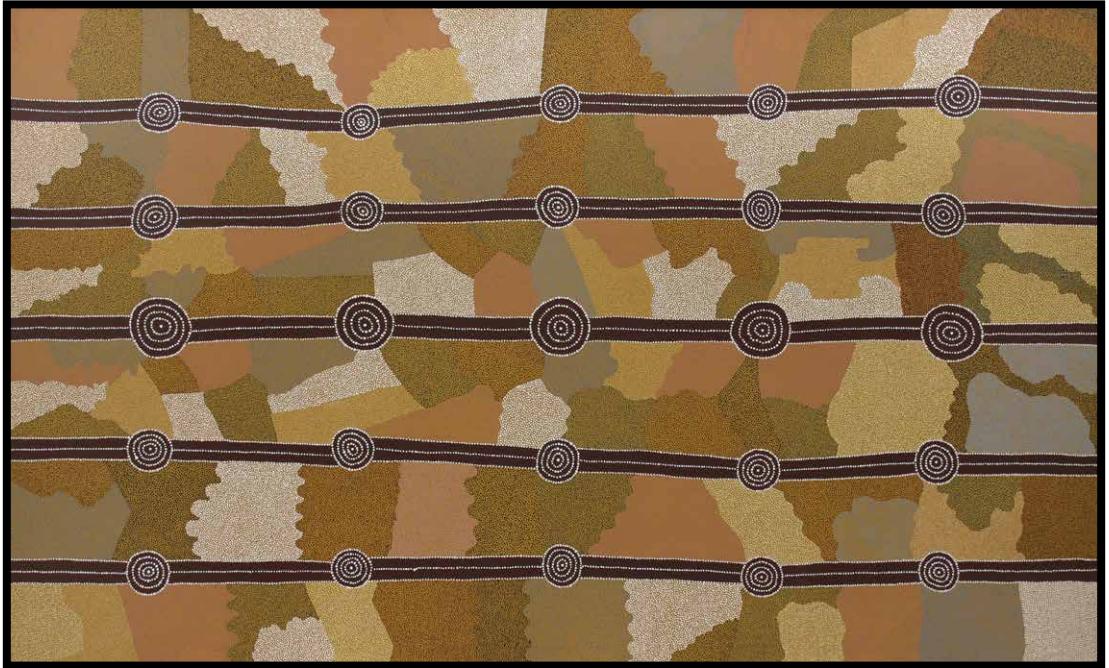
Morris Jabanunga, *Four Snakes at a Waterhole*, acrylic on canvas, 42"x51"
LL.214009mj



Two Bob Tjungurrayi, *Women's Dreaming*, acrylic on canvas, 36"x47"
LL.2140010tbt



William Sandy, *Puya Dreaming near Kanpi*, acrylic on belgian linen, 48"x36"
AS.140214



Wyuta Tjupurulla, *Five Journeys*, acrylic on canvas, 55"x90"
LL.2140011wt



Booker-Lowe Gallery, Houston, Texas

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Catalogue designed by Sarah Beth Wilson. © Booker-Lowe Gallery 2014.