

Ken Sisters Collaborative

Seven Sisters, 2019 acrylic on canvas 200 by 300 cm.

Provenance

Jan Murphy Gallery, Brisbane Private Collection, Brisbane

Price Upon Request

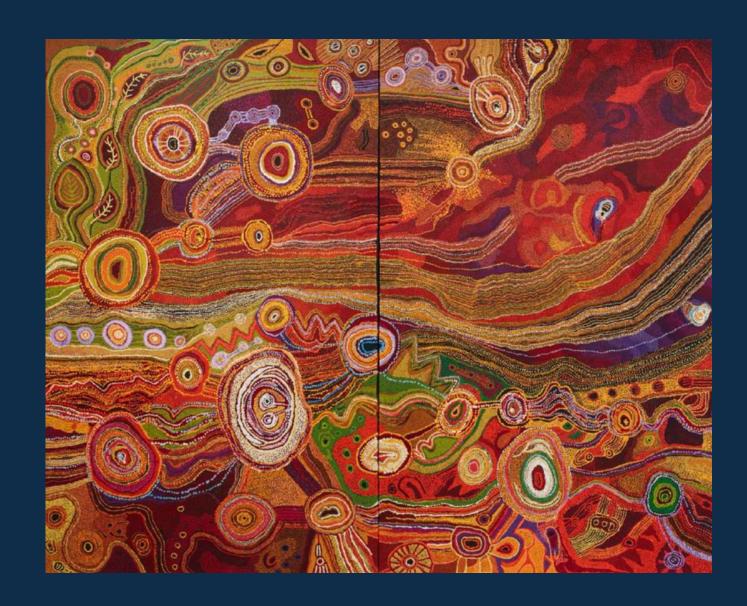




This work is accompanied by a certificate from Tjala Arts, which includes the following description:

The Ken Sisters are five sisters, Yaritja Young, Maringka Tunkin, Freda Brady, Sandra Ken and Tjungkara Ken and they have depicted the Seven Sisters Story. This is a Tjukurpa Story (Creation Story) about the constellations of Pleiades and Orion. The sisters are the constellaton of Pleiades and the other star Orion is said to be Nyiru or Nyirunya (described as a lusty or bad man). Nyiru is forever chasing the sisters known as the Kunkarunkara women as it is said he wants to marry the eldest sister The seven sisters travelagain and again from the sky to the earth to escape Nyiru's unwanted attentions. They turn into their human form to escape from the persistent Nyiru, but he always finds them and they flee back to the sky. As Nyiru is chasing the sisters he tries to catch them by using magic to turn into the most tempting kampurarpra (bush tomatoes) for the sisters to eat and the most beautiful IIi (fig) tree for them to camp under. However, the sisters are too clever for Nyiru and outwit him as they are knowledgeable about his magic. They go hungry and run through the night rather than be caught by Nyiru. Every now and again one of the women falls victim to his ways. it is said that he eventually captures the youngest sister but with the help of the oldest sister, she escapes back to her sisters who are waiting for her. Eventually the sisters fly back into the sky to escape Nyiru, reforming the constellation. (In some cases the artist will secretly depict sexual elements as Nyiru is really only after one thing - sex).

WORKS IN INSTITUTIONAL COLLECTIONS

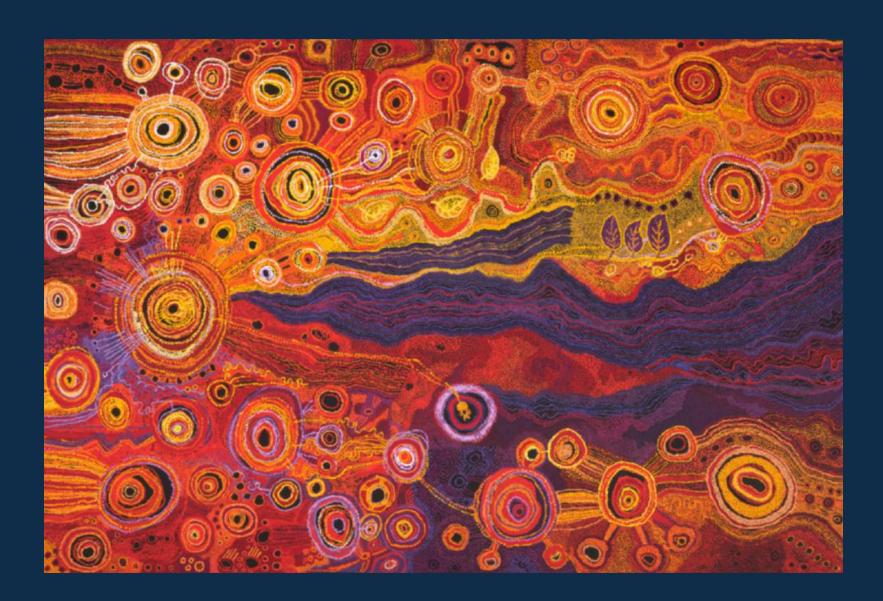


Ken Family Collaborative

Seven Sisters, 2016 acrylic on canvas, in two parts 244 by 303.5 cm.

Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney

Winner of the Wynne Prize 2016



Ken Family Collaborative

Seven Sisters, 2018 acrylic on canvas 200 by 300 cm.

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra

Acquired from the same exhibition as the present work

"THE ROLE OF THE ARTIST IS THE SAME IN THE CITIES AS IT IS IN THE BUSH, IT'S A RESPECTED POSITION. ARTISTS OUT HERE ARE KNOWN FOR BEING BRAVE AND ADVENTUROUS. WE PUSH NEW IDEAS WHILE STILL PROTECTING AND KEEPING OUR TJUKJRPA STRONG FOR OUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN."

- YARITJA YOUNG



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