

# Angelina Pwerle KNGALE



Dates: 1947  
Language: Anmatyerre oriental  
Community: Utopia  
Art: Aboriginal  
Region: Central Desert  
State: Northern Territory



Originally from Utopia, north-east of Alice Springs, Angelina Kngale is representative of a school of painters who celebrate the mysteries of the great Australian desert, which is apparently very arid, but which can also produce, when the rains come, astonishing blossoms and fruits that are an important part of the subsistence diet of the Aborigines of this region. Angelina mentions here the « *bush plum* » or desert plum (the *änookitja* of the Aborigines).

This fruit goes through several colors before reaching maturity: here, the artist has presented together the various stages of the plant's growth, thus bringing together several moments in the same pictorial space and thus giving a mysterious dimension to her work with its extremely dense and dense canvas. This one makes us think of a real « *nebula* » as if the artist had wanted to realize a synthesis of the terrestrial and celestial planes, making us go back to the original Dream Time where Life was created.

Indeed, the memory of this creation was bequeathed to the aborigines by the Great Ancestors in the form of « *dreams* » that the initiates must transmit from generation to generation: originally, they made for this purpose vast paintings on the ground in the place where the myth was celebrated and this work is inspired by this tradition. Later, these paintings became the very material for the paintings on canvas that reproduced them in obviously restricted dimensions.

In the « *dream* » of the « *bush plum* », Great Ancestors created a watering hole called Arlperre which still exists today. It is in its vicinity that the desert plum tree grows and that men and women of the artist's clan come to harvest its fruits and celebrate the memory of its creation.

## Collections :

- Allen, Allen and Hemsley Collection, Sydney
- Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide
- Artbank, Sydney
- Commonwealth Law Courts, Melbourne
- Kerry Stokes Collection, Perth
- Latrobe University Collection, Melbourne
- Mansion Hotel, Melbourne
- National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
- National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
- Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children, Sydney
- The Holmes à Court Collection, Perth
- The National Museum of Art, Osaka, Japan