

VINCENT NAMATJIRA OAM

Medal of the Order of Australia

Born, Alice Springs, Northern Territory

Lives and works in Indulkana, South Australia

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2020 The Royal Tour, THIS IS NO FANTASY, Melbourne
- 2019 Coming To America, THIS IS NO FANTASY, Melbourne
- 2018 Positions, Art Basel Miami Beach 2018, Miami
Legends, THIS IS NO FANTASY, Melbourne
- 2017 Sydney Contemporary, THIS IS NO FANTASY, Sydney
- 2016 THIS IS NO FANTASY, Melbourne

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2020 Just Not Australian, touring regional exhibition
Eight Days in Kamay, State Library of New South Wales, Sydney
- 2019 Ramsay Art Prize Finalist Exhibition (Winner), Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide
Archibald Prize Finalist Exhibition, Art Gallery New South Wales, Sydney
Just Not Australian, Artspace, Sydney (touring nationally from 2020)
Art Basel Hong Kong, THIS IS NO FANTASY, Hong Kong
Celebrating Culture: Contemporary Indigenous Art, Glen Eira Gallery, Melbourne
- 2018 The 9th Australia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art, Queensland Art Gallery of Modern Art
Weapons for the Soldier, Hazelhurst Regional Gallery (touring nationally from 2020)
Australian War Memorial, Canberra
A Lightness of Spirit is the Measure of Happiness, Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Melbourne
Archibald Prize Finalist Exhibition, Art Gallery of New South Wales
- 2017 Archibald Prize Finalist Exhibition, Art Gallery of New South Wales
The Ramsay Art Prize Finalist Exhibition, Art Gallery of South Australia
The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards, Museum & Art Gallery Northern Territory
NAIDOC Week, Adelaide Town Hall, South Australia
UQ Museum National Self Portrait Prize, University of Queensland, Brisbane
- 2016 Art16 Art Fair, London, United Kingdom
TarraWarra Biennial 2016: Endless Circulation, TarraWarra Museum of Art, Victoria
Nganampa Kililpil: Our Stars, Hazelhurst Regional Gallery, New South Wales
- 2015 Indigenous Australia: Enduring Civilisation, British Museum, London, United Kingdom
Tarnanthi Festival of Contemporary Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide
10th Mildura Palimpsest Biennale, Mildura, Victoria
Sydney Contemporary, THIS IS NO FANTASY, Sydney
Rising Stars, Outstation, Darwin, Northern Territory
Desert Mob, Alice Springs, Northern Territory
- 2014 Alberts Story, Marshall Arts, Adelaide, South Australia
Desert Mob, Alice Springs, Northern Territory
Adelaide Airport, on behalf of Marshall Arts, Adelaide
Aboriginal Art from the Eastern APY Lands, Kelch Gallery, Freiburg, Germany

- 2013 Desert Mob, Alice Springs, Northern Territory
Outstation, Darwin
Iwantja Paintings, Japingka Gallery, Perth, Western Australia
APY Lands Survey Exhibition, Outstation, Darwin Northern Territory
Our Mob, Anita Chan Lai Ling Gallery, Hong Kong
Art Mob, Hobart, Tasmania
Vincent Namatjira, Marshall Arts, Adelaide, South Australia
Salon des Refuse, Outstation Gallery, Darwin, Northern Territory
Mossenson Gallery, Melbourne
- 2012 Iwantja Arts, Mossenson Gallery, Perth, Western Australia
- 2011 Raft Artspace, Alice Springs, Northern Territory

AWARDS | GRANTS | RESIDENCIES

- 2020 Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM)
Winner, The Archibald Prize, Sydney
Recipient, Circular Quay Foyer Wall Commission, Museum of Contemporary Art Australia, Sydney
- 2019 Winner, The \$100,000 Ramsay Art Prize, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide
Finalist, The Archibald Prize, Art Gallery of Sydney
- 2018 Highly Commended, The Archibald Prize, Sydney
Finalist, The Alice Art Prize, Alice Springs
- 2017 Finalist, The Archibald Prize, Sydney
Finalist, Ramsay Art Prize, Adelaide
Finalist, Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Awards, Northern Territory
Invited entrant, Q Museum National Self Portrait Prize
- 2016 Finalist, Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Awards, Northern Territory
- 2015 Finalist, John Fries Memorial Prize – shortlisted, Sydney
Finalist, Western Australian Indigenous Art Award, Perth
- 2014 Finalist, Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Awards, Northern Territory
Finalist, Alice Art Prize, Alice Springs
- 2013 Finalist, Outback Art Award, Broken Hill Regional Art Gallery
Finalist, John Fries Memorial Prize
Finalist, Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Awards, Northern Territory

COLLECTIONS

British Museum
National Gallery of Victoria
Art Gallery of New South Wales
Art Gallery of South Australia
Art Gallery of Western Australia
Queensland Art Gallery/Gallery of Modern Art
Flinders University Art Museum
Berndt Museum, University of Western Australia
Artbank

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2019 Wes Hill, The wry humour of Vincent Namatjira's portraits, Frieze Magazine, Feb 2019
- 2018 APY Artist's take on power hits a nerve, Australian Financial Review, Dec 2018
Natalie King, Vincent Namatjira in conversation with Natalie King, Ocula, 24 Nov 2018
Nick Galvin, Indigenous soldiers out of the shadows, Sydney Morning Herald, November 2018
John McDonald, The Archibald Prize 2018: A tough one to pick, 10 May 2018
Andrew Purvis, Vincent Namatjira's portraits of the rich and powerful, fine print magazine
- 2017 Andrew Purvis, Vincent Namatjira's portraits of the rich and powerful, March 30
- 2016 Sophie Knezic, 5th TarraWarra Biennial, September 10
TarraWarra Biennial: Endless Circulation, Arts Review, August 25
Emily Richie, Vincent Namatjira: past and future in one frame, The Australian, August 19
Kiran Finnane, From Ceremony to Selfies, Art Monthly, March 15
- 2015 Kathy Marks, 'Aboriginal art festival, Australia: New generation of Central Desert artists captivating the art world', Traveller, September 11
Tarnanthi fair gives indigenous creativity a \$100,00 showcase, The Australian, October 14
Gaye Sculthorpe, 'Bringing Great Australian Indigenous works...', Australian Financial Review, April 2
- 2014 Emily Cones-Browne, British Museum Acquires Vincent Namatjira Work, Art Collector magazine
- 2013 'Australia's Best emerging Visual Artists Shine', Elle Magazine, August 30
Katie Spain, 'Brush with Greatness in the APY Lands: Vincent Namatjira', The Advertiser, August 9

VINCENT NAMATJIRA

Bold, painterly and conceptually rich, Vincent Namatjira's work has gained significant recognition in Australia and abroad. Namatjira's imagery calls on Australia's colonial history, with recurring references to Captain Cook, the British Royal family and contemporary aspects of Indigenous life. Recent works reveal his growing interest in contemporary discourse around international political issues. Namatjira's observational works also chart his personal history and his investigatory search for identity.

'I'm interested in people and their stories, and how someone from today is connected with the past. I like to paint people who are famous, and paint them here in my community, painting them in the desert puts them into an unexpected place. Having just a little bit of humour can take the power out of a serious situation, whether something is happening to you right now, or it happened long ago – it lets you be in a little bit of control again, you can get a bit of cheeky revenge. A sense of humour and a paintbrush is a powerful thing.' (Vincent Namatjira)

BIO

Following a standout show at Art Basel Miami Beach 2018, Namatjira's work was included in Just Not Australian at Artspace, Sydney, which will tour nationally. In 2018 his work was curated into the Asia Pacific Triennial at the Queensland Art Gallery/Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane and exhibitions at the Australian Centre of Contemporary Art, Melbourne; Hazelhurst Gallery and Warrnambool Art Gallery, Victoria. Previous institutional exhibitions include Indigenous Australia: Enduring Civilisation at the British Museum, London, 2015; TarraWarra Biennial, TarraWarra Museum of Art 2016;

THIS IS NO FANTASY

dianne tanzer + nicola stein

Tarnanthi Festival of Contemporary Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art, Art Gallery of South Australia 2017 & 2018. He has exhibited at Art Basel Hong Kong 2019, Art Basel Miami Beach 2018, Sydney Contemporary 2017 and Art London 2016.

Namatjira was awarded the \$100,000 acquisitive Ramsay Prize 2019 at the Art Gallery of South Australia and was a finalist in the Archibald Prize 2019. In 2018 Namatjira received Highly Commended in the Archibald Prize and was an invited finalist in the UQ Museum National Self Portrait Prize and Art Gallery of South Australia's Ramsay Prize 2017. He was a finalist in the Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Awards 2017, 2016, 2014, 2013 and the John Fries Memorial Award 2015, 2013. Namatjira's work is held in significant institutional collections including the British Museum, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Art Gallery of Western Australia and Queensland Art Gallery/Gallery of Modern Art.