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Newsletter Vol.7 December 2005

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WELCOME to this seventh edition of our newsletter – with an update of Artitja news and views, and what's happening in the Aboriginal art world.

The year has flown by so fast, proving that time does go faster as you get older!

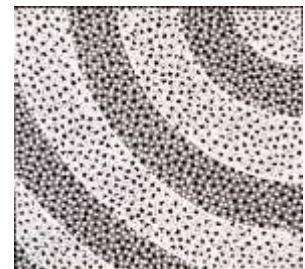
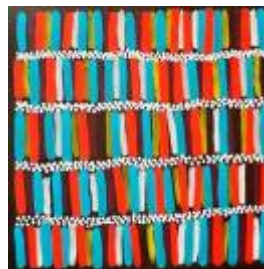
Arthur and I (Anna) are happy to report that our efforts and commitment towards a personalized and educational approach to the Aboriginal art and the artists we represent has resulted in a steady, increasing client base Australia wide, which we hope will continue throughout 2006 and beyond...

We would like to send a big thank you to the artists and also to all our clients, friends and interested art lovers for your support and encouragement throughout the year. It is much appreciated.

Can you believe it is nearly Christmas?

Short answer – no. I'm still from time to time writing 2004 on paperwork. However, it is that time of the year and the Christmas decorations adorn the city streets, the suburban trees, and Christmas shopping season is well and truly upon us.

Can we suggest as an alternative to socks, soap and undies in the Christmas stocking this year, you may consider a small painting for a gift. We have a really nice range of 30x30cm original canvases, and slightly bigger sizes 45x30cm starting at \$90 (unframed).



Paintings: size 30x30cm \$90 unframed - \$140 framed

Clockwise from top left: Lena Puerle, Karen Bird, Peggy Purvis, Lucky Morton

They are also a great gift idea for overseas friends or relatives. Easy to post or pack in a suitcase. In fact some are already winging their way across the world. Our experience is that they are so different that the recipients become quite curious and interested in the culture and design aspects, as well as appreciating the art.

Aboriginal Art at the Musee du quai Branley in Paris, France



The ceiling of one section of the building showing a large scale painting by central desert artist Ningura Napurrula. The building is still being built hence the plastic sheeting. The photograph is taken from ground level looking up at the third floor.

Arthur and I took a much needed holiday to Europe in October and while there took the time to visit the Musee du Quai Branley in Paris, right next to the Eiffel Tower. The museum is entirely dedicated to the world's indigenous art and artists and is due to open in June next year.

A huge coup for Australia's Indigenous Artists is the decision by the French Government to allocate one whole building –loosely termed 'the Australia building' - to house Australian Aboriginal art. Over the past several years, talks between the two countries have been taking place, with the outcome being sculpted facades, glass wall etchings and painting ceilings by artists such as Tommy Watson, Lena Nyabi, Ningura Napurrula, Judy Watson, John Mawurndjul and more.

It is an extremely exciting and immensely important project, one that will set, in

concrete (pun intended), the significance and importance of the Australian Aboriginal culture, not just to this country, but to the world.



The etching on the outside wall which be a Lena Nyabi painting set in relief on the façade of the building. All large scale paintings, etchings and reliefs are all being recreated by well known French artisans, who have worked very closer with the project team and the artists.

Works by the Morton Sisters

Lucky, Mary and Audrey Morton, all from Utopia, N.E. of Alice Springs have been painting for many years. Lucky and Audrey both feature in the publication *Utopia: A Picture Story*, as participants in the now renowned mid 1980's project in which 88 silk batiks were made. The 'silks' now belong in the Holmes a Court collection when not being exhibited in state and national galleries or worldwide.

The Morton's have until quite recently painted in a more traditional style in the sense that they depict bush plum, seed and flower themes, however they have now developed an incredibly new, contemporary style full of colour and energy which I think gives a new depth to their work. I love the works and

here's a new piece from Lucky Morton depicting all her dreamtime stories, through a patchwork effect. Incredibly detailed upon close inspection.



Lucky Morton Kngwarreye titled "Country". This painting has been done in a patchwork design by Lucky to represent all of her dreamtime stories. Size: 120x120cm POA

This painting below is a small size, but still very effective in design. It is by Audrey Morton and represents all of Audrey's ancestral stories, including Rainbow, sweet honey grevillea, honey ant and flowers of her country.



Audrey Morton Kngwarreye titled "Country". As with Lucky, Audrey represents all of her dreaming stories in this very detailed small painting. Size: 60x45cm \$440

New Works.....

I am a lover of the warm weather, but not the really hot weather – like the

temperatures that are currently being experienced in Alice Springs and beyond. But that won't stop me heading that way in a week or so, to ensure we have a good selection of hand picked works to show over the break. I'm away 6th-11th December, and plan to return very well stocked.

On hand, however we still have some great pieces, I'm particularly fond of the Gloria Petyarre paintings shown here,

Gloria Petyarre: Mountain Devil Lizard Dreaming



Size: 120x60cm \$4000 each

and one still ought not to under-estimate the ongoing popularity of Minnie Pwerle's work. We have some great panel size Minnie's on hand, and I'm hoping to bring back more. They are a great size at 120x40cms, and priced very well.

If you'd like to see the ones we have at the moment go to our website www.artitja.com.au and have a peek.

As the Perth representative for Julie Nangala Robinson, we always have a good supply of sizes of her works available, and can take commissions. For any enquiries about Julie or her works, please contact us by phone 0418 900 954 or email at info@artitja.com.au .

In our last newsletter I mentioned that I had just had the privilege of meeting Evelyn Pultara, winner of the 2005 Indigenous Art Awards for best painting

in Darwin in August, and currently have a few of her paintings in stock including this one:



*Evelyn Pultara – Bush Yam. 120x180cm. POA
(note: colour does not show up well here)*

Artitja Summer Viewings

Your Invitation to View our latest works will be sent out very shortly, however, the invitation this time will be ongoing over the summer. As it is holiday time, and people come and go, we will be available throughout the whole of the Christmas and New Year break, and all of December and January and look forward to taking appointments to show the works.

We are available seven days, and flexible with times.

Small group bookings are also welcome.

**For an appointment call
0418 900 954**

December/Christmas Offer



For the month of December we are happy to offer a Christmas bonus of **free stretching (framing)** for purchase of art over the value of \$500.

Other news...

- We still have in stock a few copies of the Geoffrey Bardon book "Papunya – a Place made after the story" at a reduced retail price of \$110.00.

- If you need your works framed we recommend our framers Trimmings Fine Art and Framing - excellent work and very reasonable prices – phone Malcolm 9339 3553. (Malcolm also works the desk at our exhibitions!)
- We have recently updated our gallery pages on our web site so please check it out www.artitja.com.au
- Details for Artitja's Desert Dreaming 2006 exhibition series will be announced in the next newsletter. Watch this space...
- Artitja can source works from artists that we may not have in stock, so please feel free to ask if you wish us to source particular artists.

That's it for this edition of our newsletter. We hope you enjoy the read, and invite comment and suggestions for items to include in future editions.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a safe, peaceful and prosperous 2006, and look forward to seeing or hearing from you in the near future.



**Anna Kanaris and Arthur Clarke
ARTITJA FINE ART
December 2005**