

# ARTITJA FINE ART

PO Box 406 South Fremantle W.A. 6162

Ph: 08 9336 7787

Fax: 08 9336 6901

Mobile: 0418 900 954

Email: [info@boodja.com.au](mailto:info@boodja.com.au)

Newsletter Vol.2 May 2004

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*Anna Kanaris & Arthur Clarke  
Artitja Fine Art*

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**WELCOME** to the second edition of our newsletter, and the first since Boodja Fine Art relaunched itself as *Artitja Fine Art*.

I am happy to say the circulation for this newsletter has increased significantly, particularly due to the success of our recent exhibition *Desert Dreamings* held at the Old George Gallery in East Fremantle in March this year. So thank you for your support and interest, it is appreciated.

Although newly named, and after operating as a private gallery by appointment for around 18 months (as we still do), *Artitja Fine Art* certainly seems to have found its feet and we look forward to assisting you - our valued clients, and interested patrons in developing your Aboriginal art collection by offering advice, research and of

course, high quality and hand-picked artworks from some of Australia's best Aboriginal artists, including new, younger and emerging artists.

As well as our ongoing private viewings, we are currently developing a public exhibition programme for the next 18 months, details of which will emerge soon.

Watch this space!

## Desert Dreamings exhibition

As mentioned, our exhibition featuring Central and Western Desert artists held at the Old George Gallery in East Fremantle in March was received very well, as were the information sessions offered. The sessions filled up quickly, and through demand we held an extra afternoon session, which also filled up.



*Barry Strickland officially opening Desert Dreamings  
and launching our new name. March 2004*

I personally am a great believer in educating and informing the public and think the art is enhanced with the extra knowledge.

Certainly information sessions will be something that will feature in future exhibitions and if there is enough interest I will also consider running the occasional information session upon request. If you are interested email me at [info@boodja.com.au](mailto:info@boodja.com.au) I would be happy to run a session for between 6-10 people at an arranged time.

Also, credit must also go to that beautiful old hotel, the Old George, which was so welcoming and really did accommodate the art beautifully. We look forward to exhibiting there again in the year 2005.

### **New artworks on hand**

We have a few fabulous new pieces of work on hand at the moment which I would be happy to send images of upon request, along with size and price details.

There are two new Minnie Pwerle paintings (one of which is shown below), and a lovely Theresa Pula painting. Minnie Pwerle has recently been listed as Australia's 50 most collectable artists and she is in great demand. Minnie loves painting however, so that demand is being met nicely.



*Minnie Pwerle 120x90cm*

Theresa Pula is the granddaughter of Minnie Pwerle and daughter of Barbara Weir, so she certainly has good credentials for her burgeoning career. Theresa has been exhibited and her art has always been received with high regard. The work of hers we have is a

white and grey on black dot painting, similar to one featured at our exhibition, but larger. Please ask for details.

### **Exciting!**

Also on hand are two exciting pieces of work from Kudditji Kngwarreye. Kudditji is the brother of Emily Kngwarreye, undoubtedly Australia's most well respected female Aboriginal artist (deceased). Kudditji was born at Boundary Bore in Utopia around 1928 and has been painting for some time and will be known to collectors.

Kudditji has just returned to a style of painting he was doing before his sister Emily became so well known, during which time he changed to painting more recognisably men's style paintings from the area.

Here is one of his works we have on hand.



*Kudditji Kngwarreye 62x63cm*

I think these works are really exciting, and although the two that we have on hand at the moment are the one colour, – we can easily source more upon request. Kudditji does combine colours and uses fabulous combinations of blues, magentas, greens and paler colours.

### **Wathaurong Glass**

Thank you for the positive response to the email sent to you last week regarding the glass platters from Wathaurong Glass in Geelong, Victoria. Please keep them in mind as quality glass art and very

reasonable prices. The ones we have on hand are \$90, and special orders can be taken for larger size platters. All designs are subtle, and individual and the products do carry a Certificate of Authenticity which contains the title of the artwork and the name of the artist. Contact [info@boodja.com.au](mailto:info@boodja.com.au) for more details.

Wathaurong Glass is an all indigenous company, and also produce architectural and commercial glass products.

Please let me know if you would like platter images re-sent.

### **Private Viewings coming up in June...**

Look out for your invitation to our next private viewings to be held around mid June, after our return from Alice Springs in a few weeks time, where Arthur and I will fit in a quick trip once again to Utopia.

It is always a great privilege to meet the artists and I look forward to bringing back a whole new fresh lot of works from known artists and hopefully a range from new young emerging artists.

Pencil it into your diary! Invites will be sent out early June, and as usual viewings will be by private appointment.

### **Framing**

Just a reminder that our fabulous framers **Trimmings Fine Art and Framing** work very closely with us to ensure high quality and very affordable framing. Malcolm at Trimmings can be contacted on 9339 3553 for any of your framing requirements. **Trimmings** is in East Fremantle.

### **General News**

Thanks for your response to the last newsletter, which gave a strong indication that you would like to keep informed through this medium. Another repeated comment was "more photos

please." I think quarterly works well and will work on that basis.

I am still keen to develop a broader range of topics for this newsletter and am happy to answer any questions you may like answered, or include information about an artist and their work that you would like to know about, etc. I can do that publicly through this newsletter, or indeed as a private enquiry. Please feel free to take me up on this offer and I will do my best to assist.

*Please keep in mind too, that although we are developing an exhibition programme we are a private gallery, by appointment only, and **operate all year round**, not just at exhibition time. We also stock art at all times.*

Interest in Aboriginal art is certainly growing, and more and more people are seeing the investment value in the art, particularly at a time when superannuation funds are not performing well, and investors are looking for stronger long term returns.

Buying art for investment isn't simply making a purchase, you must receive sound advice from a Financial Adviser who specializes in the regulations of investment art, and I would always recommend that you do so if that is your sole purpose of purchase.

I personally believe that even if you are buying for investment- whether in or out of a portfolio arrangement (such as buying a well profiled artist to hang on your wall), it is crucial to LOVE the work, don't buy just because "It's a so-and-so...". If you don't love the work, it won't love you back and further down the track if you do plan to sell, I bet it will be very difficult to do so.

### **A note to all my hotmail clients...**

As this letter is sent electronically to my data base email addressees, you probably realize that hotmail addresses cannot cope with multiple images, or images at all.

So dear hotmail readers, you unfortunately will miss out on the photographs, but if there is an image you are very interested in seeing, I can send it to you upon request.

### **Artitja Web Site**

[www.artitja.com.au](http://www.artitja.com.au) has now been registered and is currently patiently waiting for our website to be developed. It is in the process now, and you will be notified once it is up. Another exciting development for us...

### **Artitja Fine Art are Art.Trade Members**

*Artitja Fine Art* is a founding member of Art.Trade – the Australian Indigenous Art Traders Association. Currently I am a Board Member sharing the position of Vice President

Art.Trade members commit to operating under a Code of Ethics. Go to [www.arttrade.asn.au](http://www.arttrade.asn.au) . Look for this logo.



We look forward to seeing and/or hearing from you in the near future.

**Anna Kanaris/Arthur Clarke**  
**ARTITJA FINE ART**  
**MAY 2004**