



Candy Nakamarra

(Australian, 1964 -)

Tingari Cycle #278

Acrylic on canvas
122 x 62.5 cm / 48 x 24.6 inch

ABOUT

This painting by Candy Nakamarra with its fine lines and beautiful geometric patterns, depicts the traditional Tingari Cycle. A collection of religious stories, ceremonies and laws that were transmitted to the inhabitants of the Western Desert by the Tingari. This was a group of mythical, spiritual ancestors that according to legend travelled a huge area of the Western Desert, shaping the landscape and various holy places.

Through abstract and linear patterns Candy depicts the major secret and sacred places of the Tingari, including caves and sand hills, but also mythological events which are attributed to the Tingari. The strength of the Tingari is clearly visible in this work. The beautiful, fine lines and use of strong color within a limited palette not only provide the work with a convincing impact but also give it an aura of spiritual strength. The dense, fine lines are reminiscent of the work of George Tjungurrayi, who also often creates this effect of a kind of optical illusion, giving the work an exceptional liveliness and dynamic.

BIOGRAPHY

(Candy Nakamarra)



Candy Nakamarra was born in 1964 in Papunya. She learned painting from her father Johnny Warangkula Tjupurrula. He was one of the most important painters of the early days of Aboriginal Art under Geoffrey Bardon and also one of the founders of the Papunya Tula Artists collective.

In her rhythmic work, often carried out in two colors, Candy depicts the feminine stories of the mythical Tingari Cycle, with fine lines and repetitive patterns. The Tingari Cycle is a collection of religious stories, ceremonies and laws that were transmitted to the inhabitants of the Western Desert by the Tingari. This was a group of mythical, spiritual beings that according to legend travelled a huge area of the Western Desert while teaching law and performing rituals and thereby shaping the landscape and various holy places.

Candy's style is reminiscent of the optical line work painted by artists like George Tjungurrayi, but is more angular and repetitive. Yet her work often has a similar illusionary effect. Besides his daughter Candy, Johnny Warangkula also taught his son Mike Nakamarra how to paint. Both are currently regarded as promising artists.