

On behalf of Makinti Napanangka, Papunya Tula Artists would like to thank the judges for their wonderful acknowledgement of Napanangka's vital contribution to Australian art.

The work selected by the judges to be the winner of the 25th Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award, depicts ceremonies at her beloved Lupul, a rockhole site south-west of Kintore in the Northern Territory.

In 1996 Napanangka began painting for Papunya Tula Artists, for which she is a shareholder and has previously stood as a director.

Due to her age and family circumstances, Napanangka is unfortunately unable to be present to accept her award. We can say however, that if Napanangka were here to claim this prize, she would accept the award most graciously and with great humour.