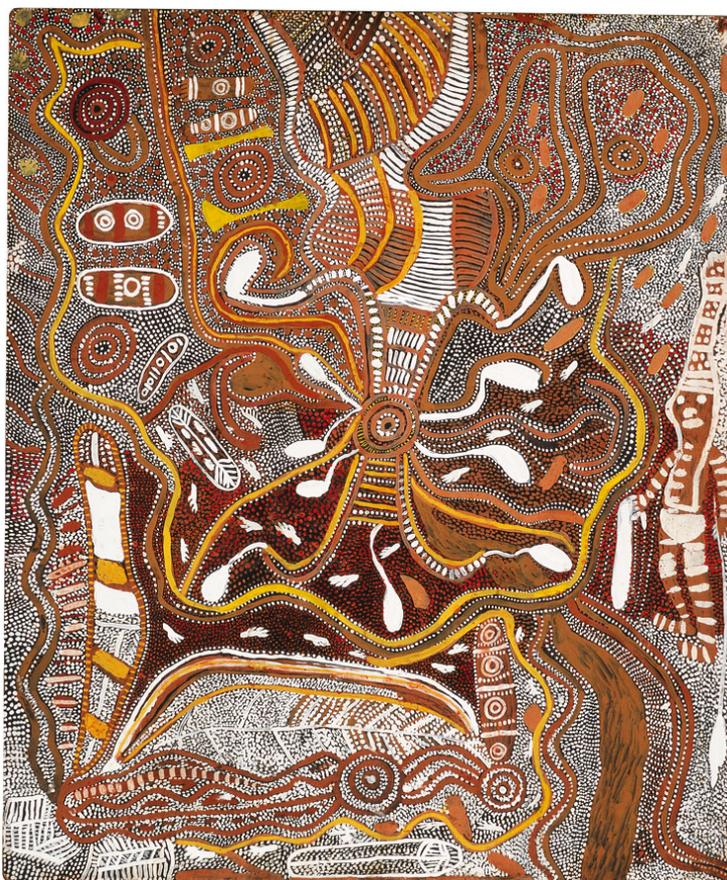


Important Aboriginal & Oceanic Art

AUCTION 15 OCTOBER 2012



JOHNNY WARANGKULA TJUPURRULA, *RAIN DREAMING WITH CEREMONIAL MAN* (1971), ESTIMATE \$140,000-180,000

A COLLECTION OF IMPORTANT ABORIGINAL & OCEANIC ART will be offered for sale by Sotheby's Australia on **Monday, 15 October 2012** in Sydney. Comprising **113 lots**, the diverse collection includes many important and early artefacts, Papunya boards and contemporary Indigenous art. The total collection has an estimated value of \$1.3-1.9 million, and features important works by renowned artists such as Kitty Kantilla, Ginger Riley Munduwalawala, Anatjari Tjakamarra and Johnny Warangkula Tjupurrula.

A number of exceptional early Papunya boards feature in the sale, with Johnny Warangkula Tjupurrula's *Rain Dreaming with Ceremonial Man* (1971) of particular note (estimate \$140,000-180,000, lot 53, pictured). Warangkula was one a group of senior men who began painting at in the isolated desert community of Papunya in 1971. A powerful example of Western Desert Art, the work was formerly in the collection of Geoffrey Bardon, the art teacher at Papunya whose encouragement and promotion was crucial to the early development of Western Desert painting movement.



The sale also includes two exceptional early works by Anatjari Tjakamarra. *Untitled (Tingari Ceremony)* (1972) (estimate \$50,000-70,000, lot 7) was originally collected in 1973 by Ian Higgins, who worked for the first Federal Minister for Aboriginal Affairs; it has been held in the same collection ever since. *Tinikutinupa (Kangaroo Rat Dreaming) (Version 2)* (1973) (estimate \$80,000-120,000, lot 52) is a particularly striking work, one of a small series of paintings of concentric squares which are derived from the design on a sacred board *Kuninka*.



The sale also provides a unique opportunity to acquire a rare and historically significant collection of photographs titled *Picturesque New Guinea* by J.W. Lindt (estimate \$60,000-80,000, lot 32, selected pictured above). Lindt was the preeminent photographer in Melbourne's late colonial period, and travelled widely in pursuit of photographic opportunities. This collection of 48 photographs provides a rare insight into the landscapes, tribes and colonial development of the then British protectorate.

Exceptional examples of contemporary Indigenous art feature strongly in this sale, including a refined selection of early Balgo works from a private collection in Queensland; artists of particular note within this group include Sunfly Tjampitjin, Wimmitji Tjapangati, and Donkeyman Lee Tjupurrula. The highlight of contemporary art is a magnificent work by Ginger Riley Munduwalawala: *Garimala* (1988) (estimate \$60,000-80,000, lot 43, pictured), was included in the highly acclaimed retrospective of the artist's work held at the National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne in 1997.

'Our abiding commitment to carefully-curated sales of only the finest historical, modern and contemporary art is demonstrated by this selection of outstanding works, which has been carefully assembled by D'Lan Davidson, Head of Aboriginal Art' said Geoffrey Smith, Chairman of Sotheby's Australia. 'It is an honour that we make available to the public items of national significance as part of this sale.'

AT A GLANCE

IMPORTANT ABORIGINAL & OCEANIC ART, SOTHEBY'S AUSTRALIA
AUCTION IN SYDNEY 15 OCTOBER 2012 | 6.30PM
INTERCONTINENTAL SYDNEY, 117 MACQUARIE STREET, SYDNEY

LOTS ON OFFER: 113
ESTIMATE RANGE: \$1.3-1.9 million

EXHIBITION IN MELBOURNE
THURSDAY 4 - SUNDAY 7 OCTOBER, 10AM TO 5PM
926 HIGH STREET ARMADALE

EXHIBITION IN SYDNEY
THURSDAY 11 - SUNDAY 14 OCTOBER, 10AM TO 5PM
118-122 QUEEN STREET WOOLLAHRA

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For a full catalogue, high resolution images, further information or to arrange an interview with Geoffrey Smith, Chairman, please contact:

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**Pre-estimates do not include buyer's premium.