

PEARL AUSTIN

Antikirinya Matutjara Yankunytjatjara

Lives and works in Kupa Piti [Cooper Pedy], South Australia

b. 1963

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2026 *Mabel Creek: The Resilience of Being*, 8 Wall Gallery, Paddington, Sydney, NSW

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2025 *Manifestations: Summer Showcase*, 8 Wall Gallery, Sydney, NSW

New Beginnings, Yaama Hanu Moree, NSW

Kuli Kutu (Towards Summer), APY Gallery Collingwood Yards, VIC

Generation Next (for Tarnanthi), APY Gallery Adelaide, SA

2024 *Opal Fields*, APY Gallery Adelaide, SA

Bright Shiny Things - New Works from Cooper Pedy, APY Gallery Adelaide, SA

2023 *Stories from Many Places*, APY Gallery Docklands, VIC

2022 *Itlikirra Itlikirra (Side by Side)*, APY Gallery Docklands, VIC

Painted Desert, APY Gallery Sydney, NSW

Opal Country, APY Gallery Adelaide, SA

AWARDS, RESIDENCIES & COMMISSIONS

2026 Finalist, Darebin Art Prize, Bundoora Homestead Art Centre, Bundoora, VIC

Studio Residency, 8 Wall Gallery, Sydney, NSW

2025 Country Road x Ngali x Pearl Austin Collaboration - Womenswear Collection

2024 Finalist, Malka Aboriginal Art Prize, Port Augusta, SA

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Pearl Austin is an Indigenous artist, community leader, and educator of the Antikirinya Matutjara Yankunytjatjara people, and is an active member and the current Board Chair of Umoona Art Centre. With over 30 years experience as an educator at the Coober Pedy Area School, Pearl has supported generations of students and has worked tirelessly to strengthen Indigenous cultural knowledge within the education system and broader community.

Both Austin's parents are of the Yankunytjatjara people, with her mother born in Amata and her father at Mount Eba Station. Austin's art practice is grounded in her connection to Country and centres around recurring themes of water, land, her family lineage, and the two seasons that occur on Country – dry and wet. Describing her inspiration as the “beauty of the dry” and “colours of the wet”, the artist presents work that speaks to the powerful natural shifts that animate the desert landscape. Austin's work is also motivated by and rooted in her commitment to passing on cultural knowledge, stories, and language to her 3 children and 6 grandchildren.

Austin has been included in numerous group exhibitions including *Generation Next*, 2025 at APY Gallery Adelaide as part of Tarnanthi Festival, *New Beginnings*, 2025 at Yaama Ganu, Moree, and *Opal Fields*, 2024 at APY Gallery Sydney. She was a finalist in the 2026 Darebin Art Prize and the 2024 Malka Aboriginal Art Prize. In 2025, Pearl was commissioned for a collaborative Country Road x Ngali Womenswear Collection that was available in stores nationwide. Austin presents her debut solo exhibition *Mabel Creek: The Resilience of Being* at 8 Wall Gallery, Paddington.