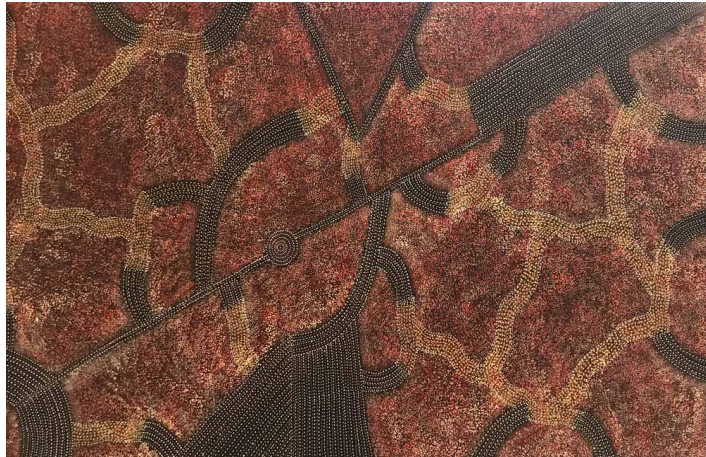




ABORIGINAL ART GALLERIES

GRACIE MORTON PWERLE



Gracie Pwerle Morton was born at a station in Utopia. The daughter of well known artist Myrtle Petyarre, she began her career as a batik artist in the 1970's with the Utopia Women's Batik Group before transferring her designs onto canvas in the late 1980's. In the works of Gracie Pwerle Morton one can readily see that the great strength and dynamism of the Utopian women artists that continues across the generations. Gracie's delicate dotting and colour variation uses an aerial perspective to portray the seasonal changes of the Amwekety - the Bush Plum, a plant of great significance to the women of Gracie's traditional country, Mosquito Bore.

She has always lived a traditional lifestyle, spending her early years collecting bush foods and living off the land. This was the way of life for central desert families throughout generations. Her education involved living and surviving in a desert environment just as her mother had done. Her style of painting is distinctively minimalist: she uses a very delicate dotting technique and traditional colours, which derive from the colours of natural ochres.

Gracie has received worldwide recognition for her very fine works, and was included at an early stage of her career in the Robert Holmes à Court Collection - one of the most prestigious private collections in Australia.