

# THE PINTUPI NINE



We gratefully  
acknowledge the  
Traditional Owners and  
their custodianship of  
the lands on which this  
project originated.

We pay our respects to their Ancestors  
and their descendants, who continue  
cultural and spiritual connections to  
Country.



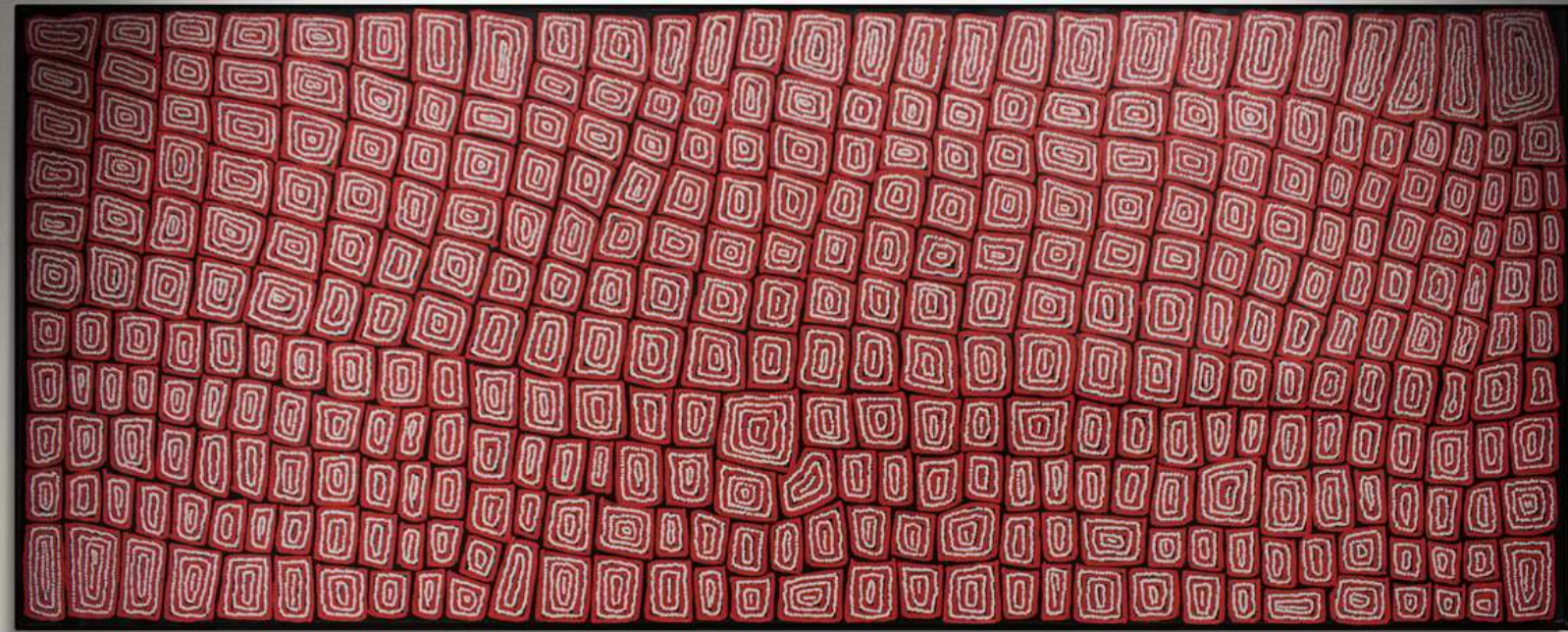


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# Forward

We are proud to present the Pintupi Nine Exhibition, a profound tribute to one of the most extraordinary artistic legacies in contemporary Indigenous Australian art. This collection brings together the works of the Pintupi Nine Family Group - artists whose creations are not only highly collectible but also deeply significant in preserving and sharing their sacred Dreaming stories. Emerging from the Gibson Desert in 1984 after living a traditional, nomadic lifestyle, these artists embody a direct and uninterrupted connection to their Ancestors, Country, and cultural heritage.

Through their mesmerizing dot paintings, Walala, Warlimpirnga, Thomas Tjapaltjarri, and their sister Yukultji Napangati, among others, have transported audiences into the heart of the Western Desert, where Ancestral narratives unfold in intricate patterns and vibrant pigments. Their work has gained international recognition, with pieces housed in prestigious collections across the United States and beyond, reinforcing their status as some of the most important voices in Indigenous art today.



This exhibition is particularly poignant as we reflect on the recent and tragic passing of Thomas Tjapaltjarri. Thomas was not only an esteemed artist but also someone we knew personally, making his loss deeply felt within our gallery and the broader art community. His passing serves as a stark reminder of the preciousness of this remarkable group and the urgency of preserving and celebrating their artistic and cultural contributions.

The Pintupi Nine's journey from an isolated existence to international acclaim is nothing short of extraordinary. Their art, untouched by external influences for generations, remains one of the purest forms of cultural expression. These paintings are more than just visually striking - they are profound statements of identity, survival, and spiritual continuity. They tell stories that have been passed down for thousands of years, offering a glimpse into a world that remains largely unknown to many.

This exhibition invites us to honor the legacy of the Pintupi Nine artists, to reflect on their immense cultural contributions, and to appreciate the deep spiritual knowledge embedded in their work. It is a rare opportunity to engage with art that transcends time, bridging the past with the present, and ensuring that these sacred narratives continue to inspire future generations.

Kate Owen Gallery is privileged to present this collection, a celebration of resilience, artistic brilliance, and the enduring power of the world's oldest living culture. We invite you to immerse yourself in these extraordinary works and experience the profound connection between art, land, and ancestry that defines the Pintupi Nine's legacy.







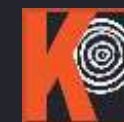
# ARTWORKS



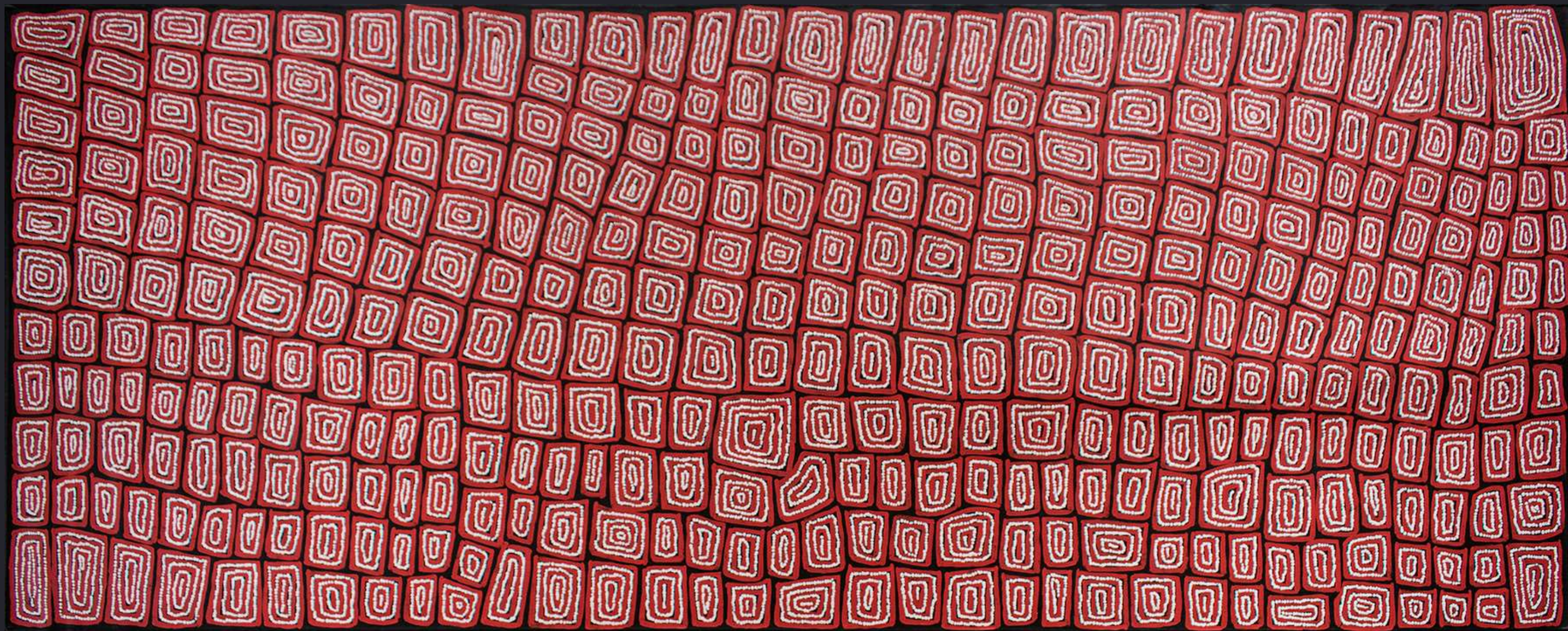


**Tarkul**

Warlimpirnga Tjapaltjarri  
Acrylic on Linen, 91 x 137cm  
\$34,995 [WARGH9709114]





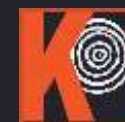


**Tingari**

Thomas Tjapaltjarri

Acrylic on Linen, 121 x 298cm

\$29,995 [TTJAR201577]





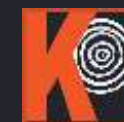


**Tali**

Yukultji Napangati

Acrylic on Linen, 151 x 198cm

\$110,000 [YUKHF05211006]







**Tingari**

Walala Tjapaltjarri

Acrylic on Linen, 92 x 152cm

\$4,500 [WTJJ0007]





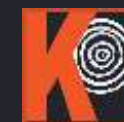


**Marrawa**

Warlimpirnga Tjapaltjarri

Acrylic on Linen, 181 x 244cm

\$180,000 [WARHF1914]







**Tingari**

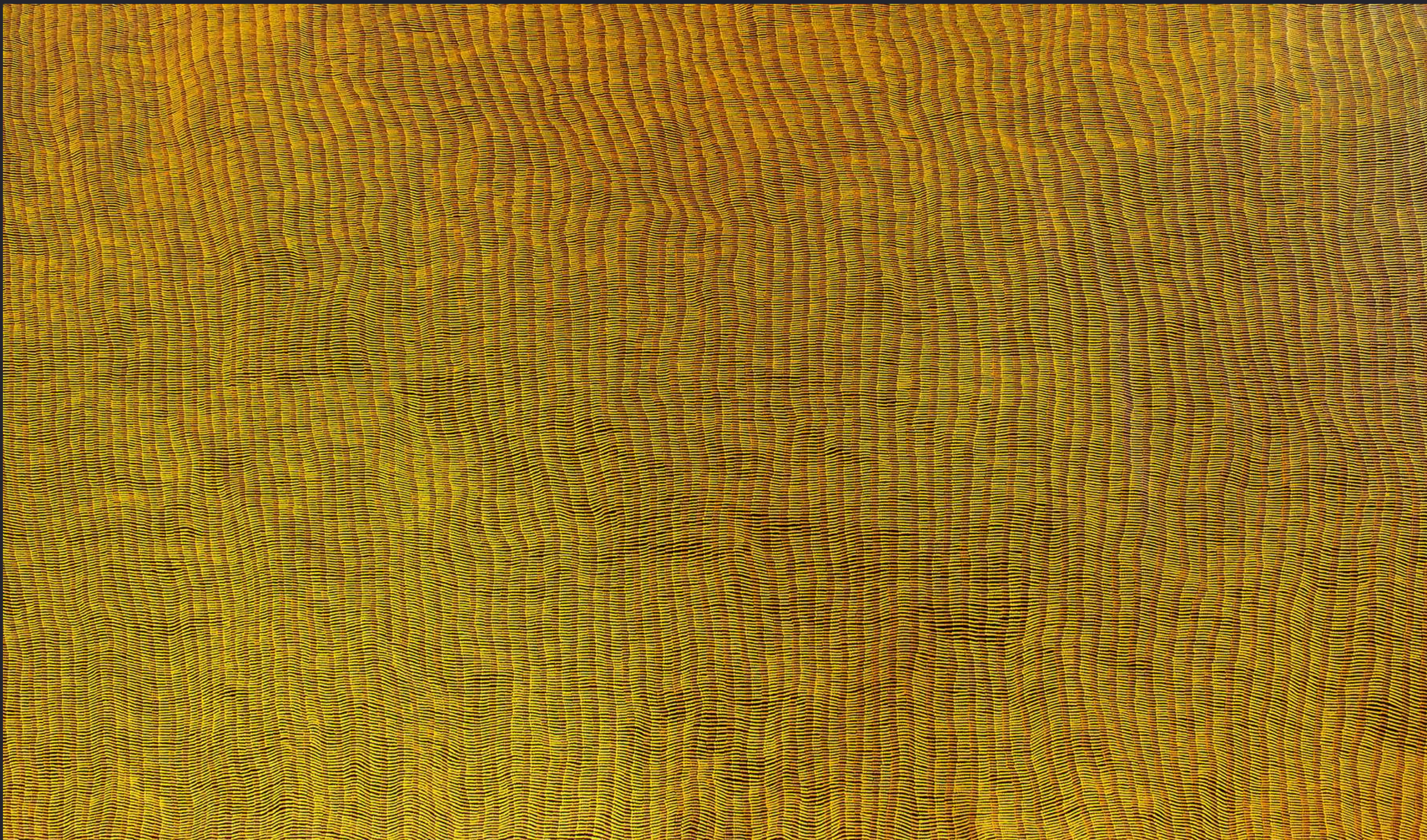
Thomas Tjapaltjarri

Acrylic on Linen, 122 x 182cm

\$17,500 [TTJAR202319]







**Tali**

Yukultji Napangati

Acrylic on Linen, 198 x 299cm

\$250,000 [YUKHA24465]





**Tingari**

Walala Tjapaltjarri

Acrylic on Linen, 92 x 151cm

\$4,500 [WTJJ0006]





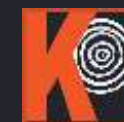


**Marrawa**

Warlimpirrnga Tjapaltjarri

Acrylic on Linen, 102 x 112cm

\$39,750 [WARHF1912]



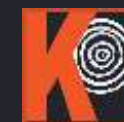
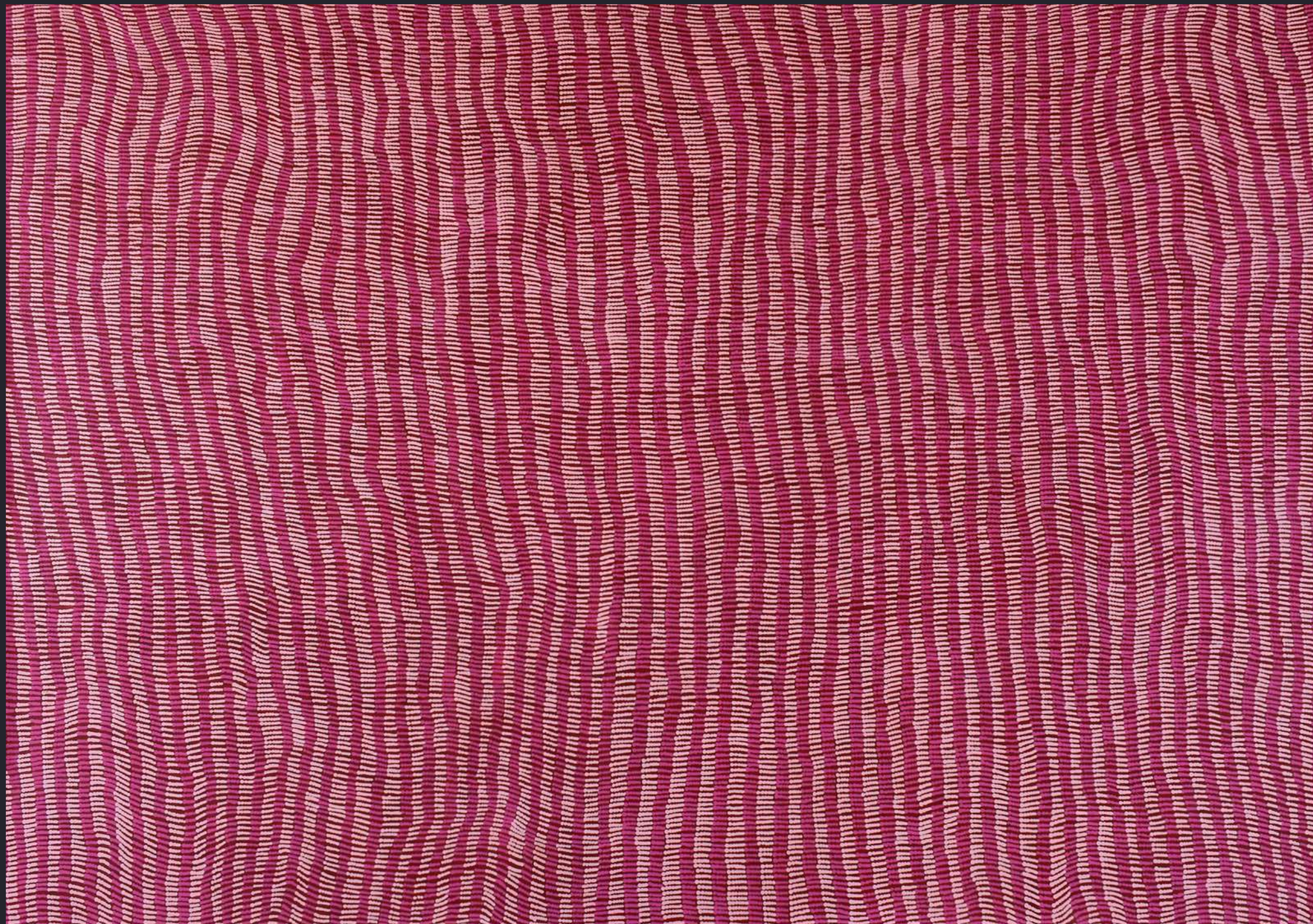


**Tali**

Yukultji Napangati

Acrylic on Linen, 151 x 198cm

\$110,000 [YUKHF2549]







**Tingari**

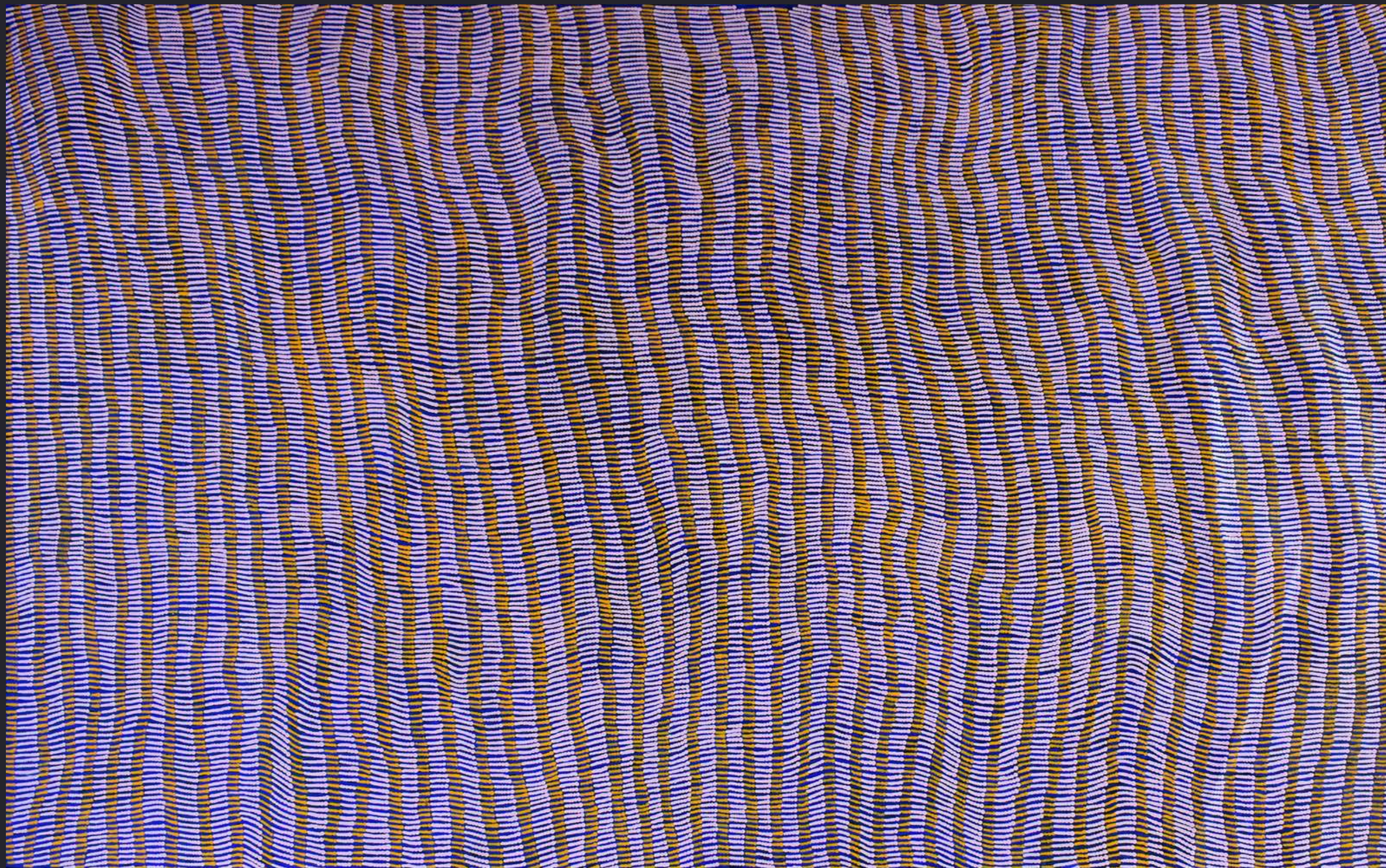
Walala Tjapaltjarri

Acrylic on Linen, 92 x 183cm

\$5,995 [WTJG0206]







**Tali**

Yukultji Napangati

Acrylic on Linen, 106 x 167cm

\$60,000 [YUKHF24242]



**Lake Mackay**

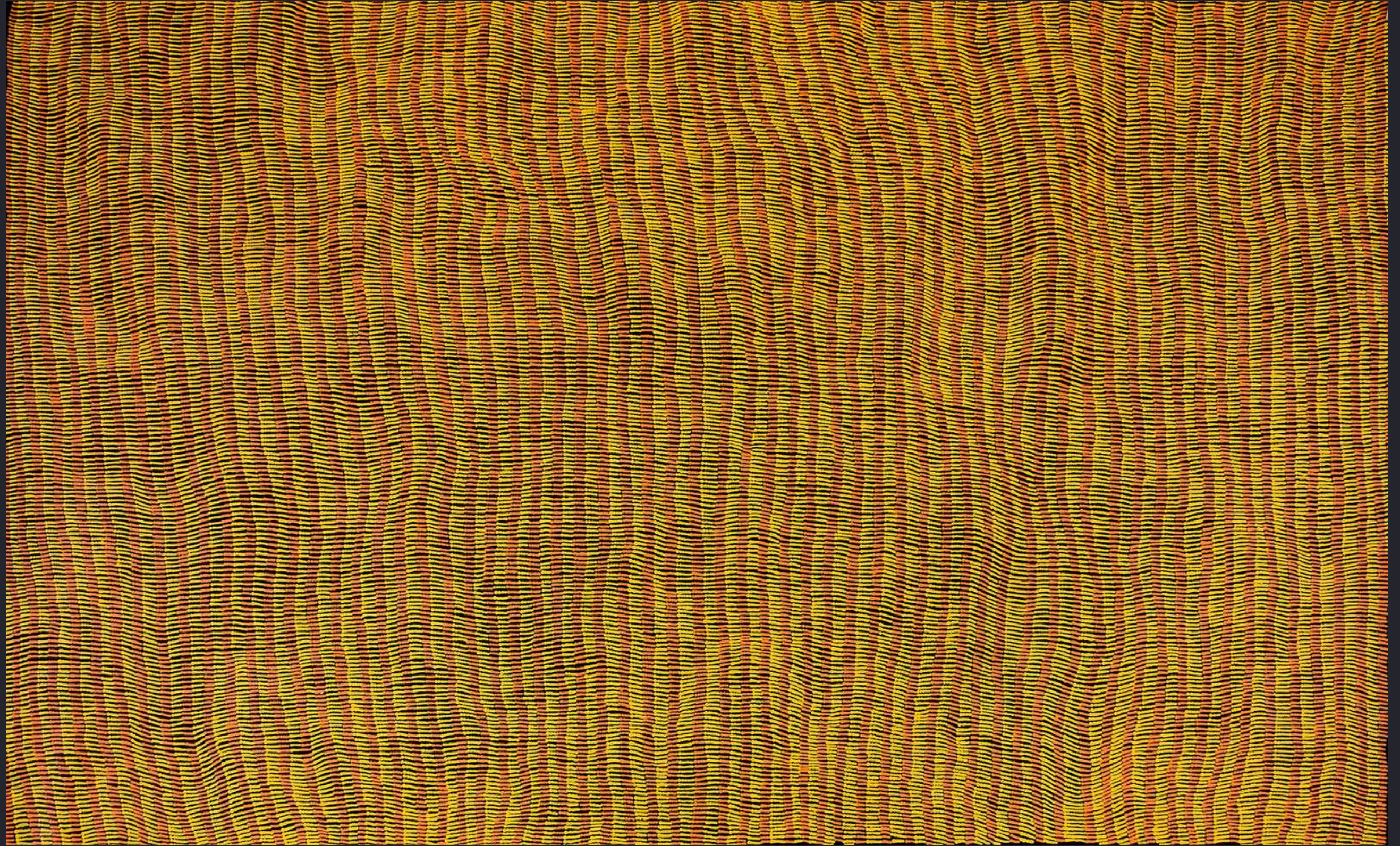
Warlimpirnga Tjapaltjarri

Acrylic on Linen, 199 x 244cm

\$200,000 [WARHF1217667]







**Tali**

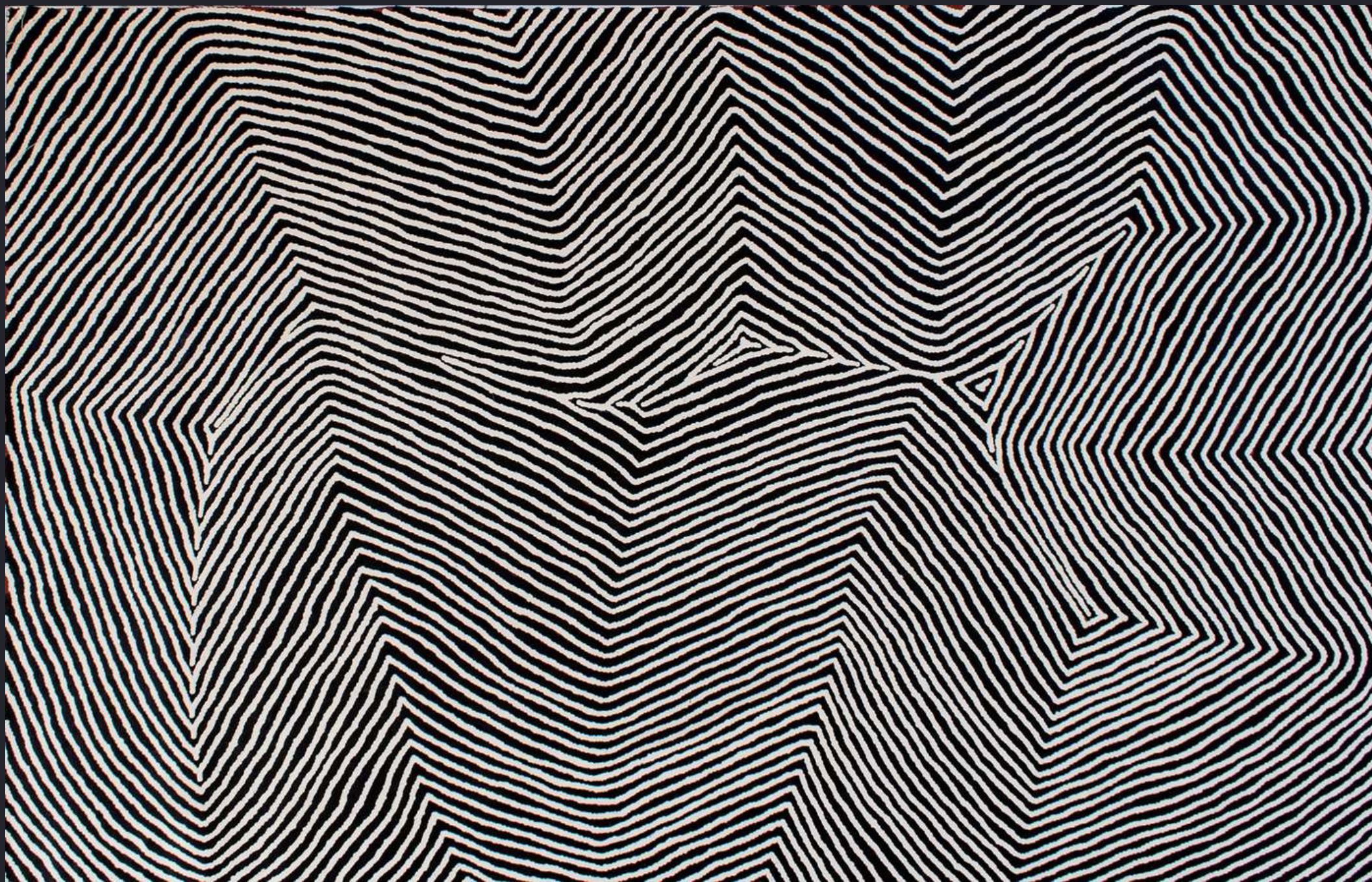
Yukultji Napangati

Acrylic on Linen, 122 x 199cm

\$75,000 [YUKHF223332]





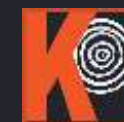


**Marrawa**

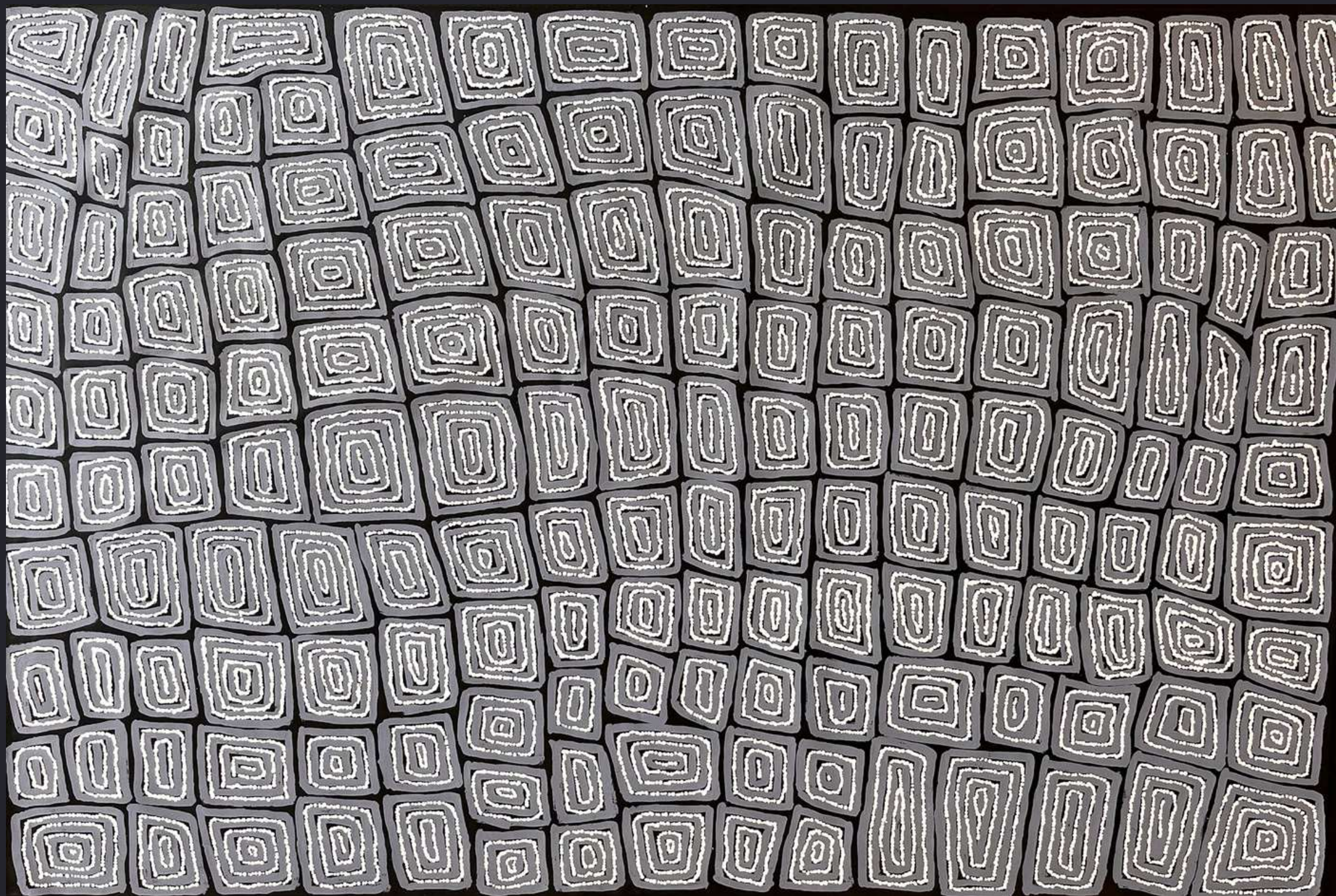
Warlimpirnga Tjapaltjarri

Acrylic on Linen, 96 x 151cm

\$65,000 [WARHF24438]







**Tingari**

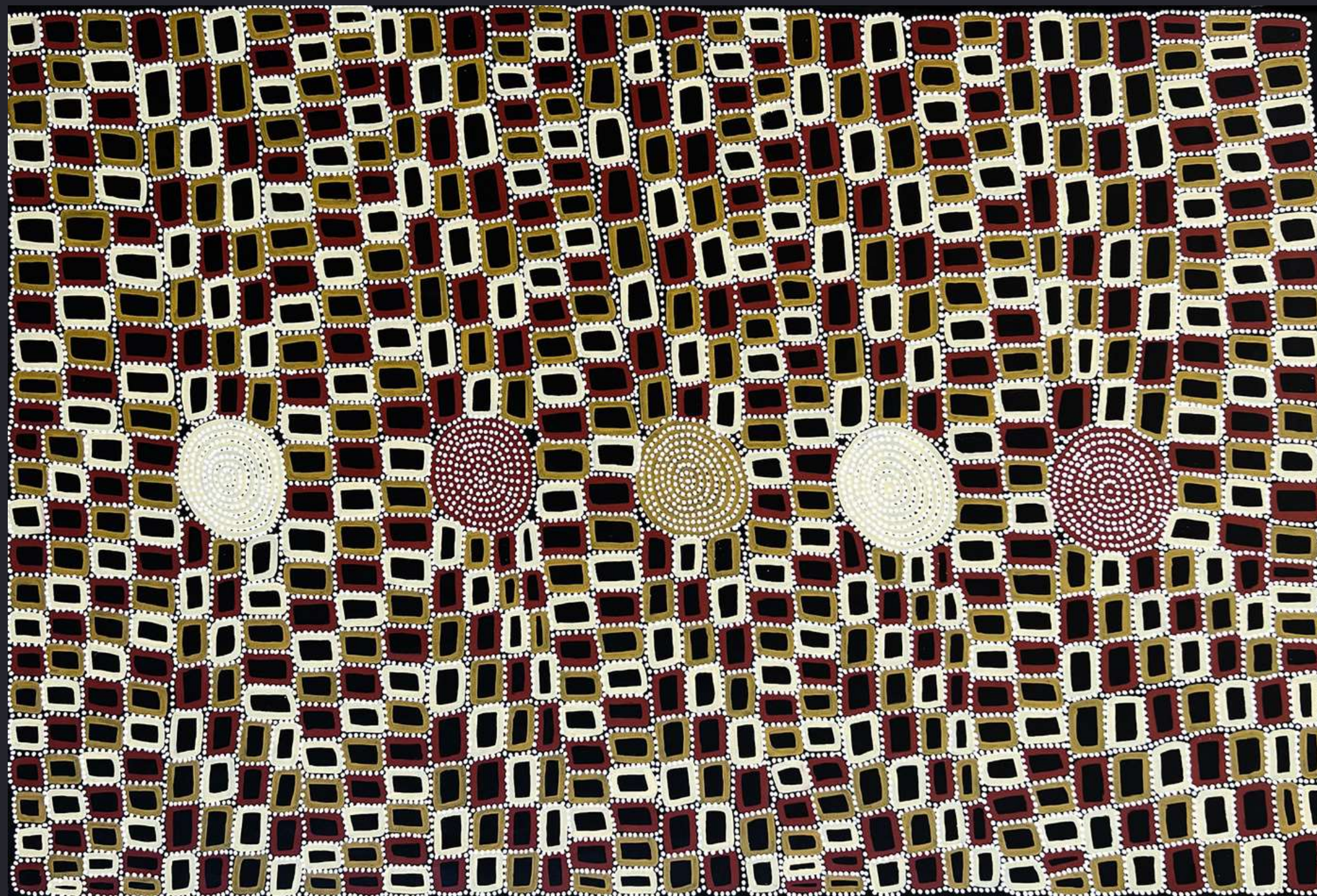
Thomas Tjapaltjarri

Acrylic on Linen, 122 x 183cm

\$17,500 [TTJG0173]





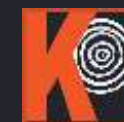


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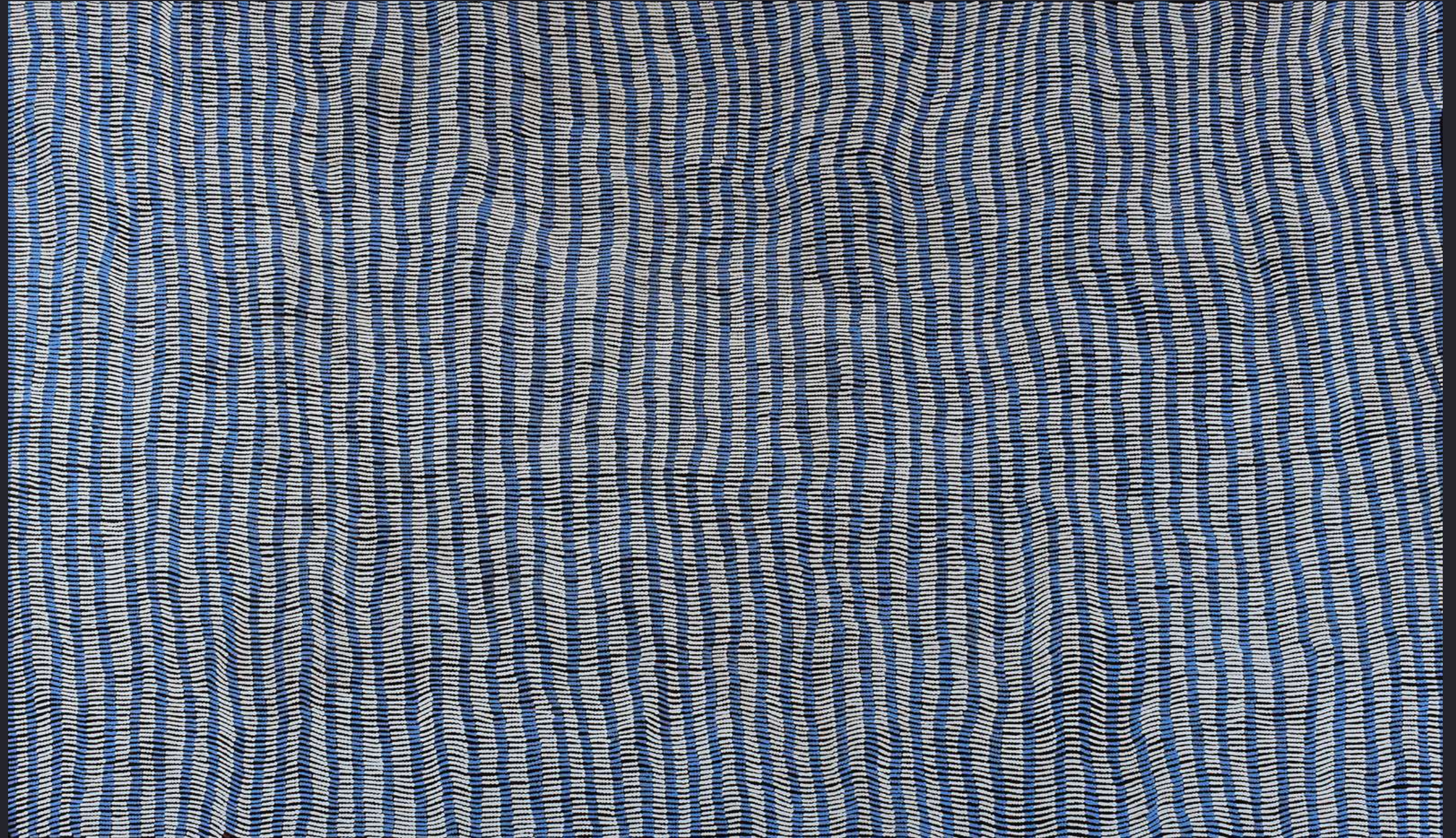
Walala Tjapaltjarri

Acrylic on Linen, 120 x 180cm

\$6,995 [WTJG0202]







**Tali**

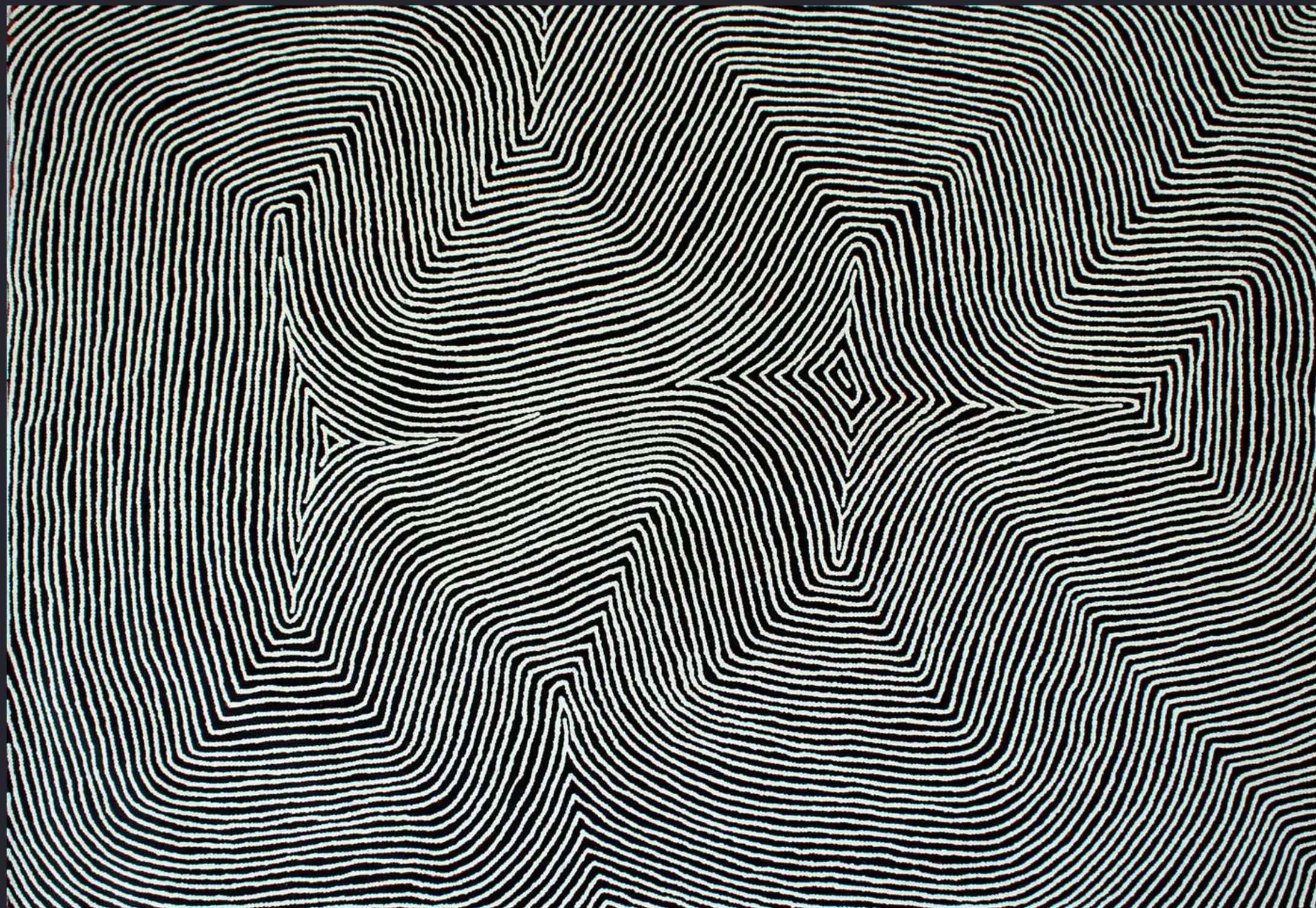
Yukultji Napangati

Acrylic on Linen, 121 x 199cm

\$75,000 [YUKHF2548]





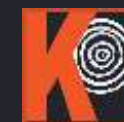


**Marrawa**

Warlimpirnga Tjapaltjarri

Acrylic on Linen, 122 x 168cm

\$75,000 [WARHF12200812]





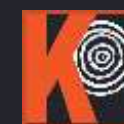


**Tingari**

Thomas Tjapaltjarri

Acrylic on Linen, 92 x 152cm

\$11,500 [TTJG0179]







**Tali**

Yukultji Napangati

Acrylic on Linen, 119 x 91cm

\$35,000 [YUKHF24243]



**Tali**

Yukultji Napangati

Acrylic on Linen, 118 x 90cm

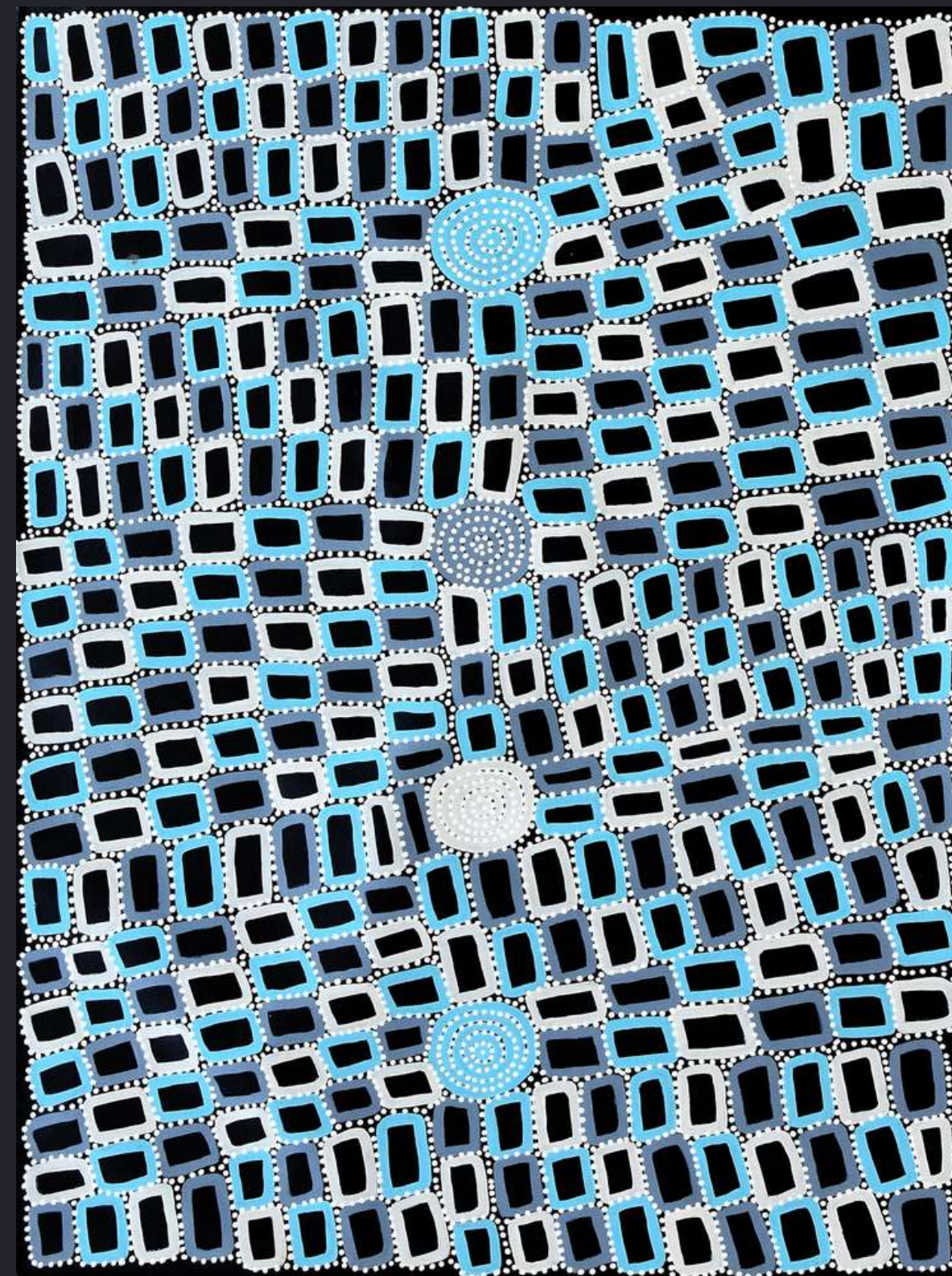
\$35,000 [YUKHF24216]





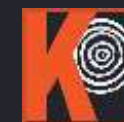
### Marrawa

Warlimpirnga Tjapaltjarri  
Acrylic on Linen, 118 x 89cm  
\$39,750 [WARHF223263]

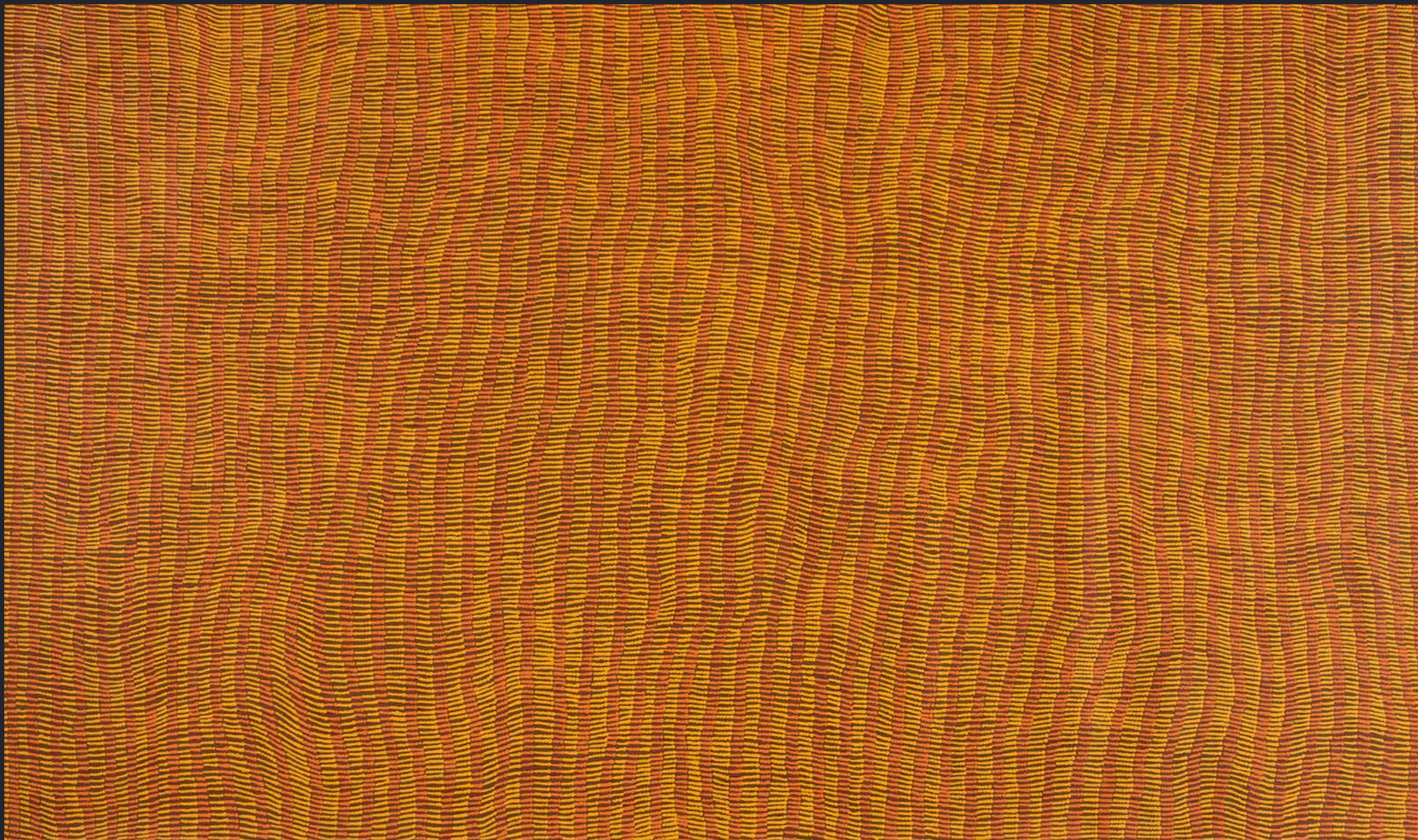


### Tingari

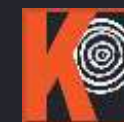
Walala Tjapaltjarri  
Acrylic on Linen, 92 x 121cm  
\$3,495 [WTJAR2102]







**Tali**  
Yukultji Napangati  
Acrylic on Linen, 121 x 199cm  
\$75,000 [YUKHF24315]







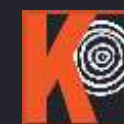
# Tingari

Warlimpirnga Tjapaltjarri  
Acrylic on Linen, 92 x 122cm  
\$39,750 [WARHF39/0220]

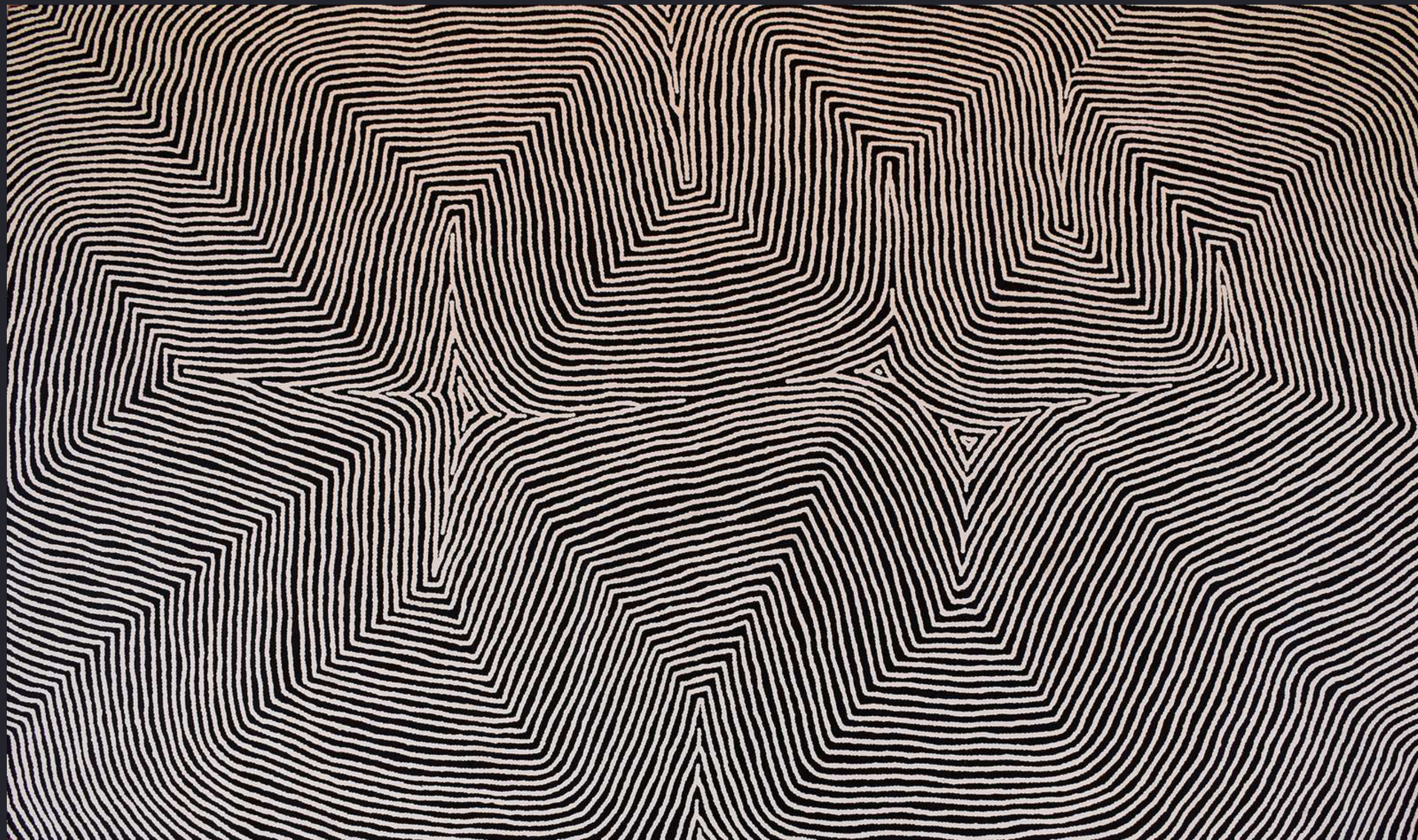


# Tingari

Walala Tjapaltjarri  
Acrylic on Linen, 92 x 121cm  
\$3,495 [WTJJ0001]





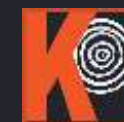


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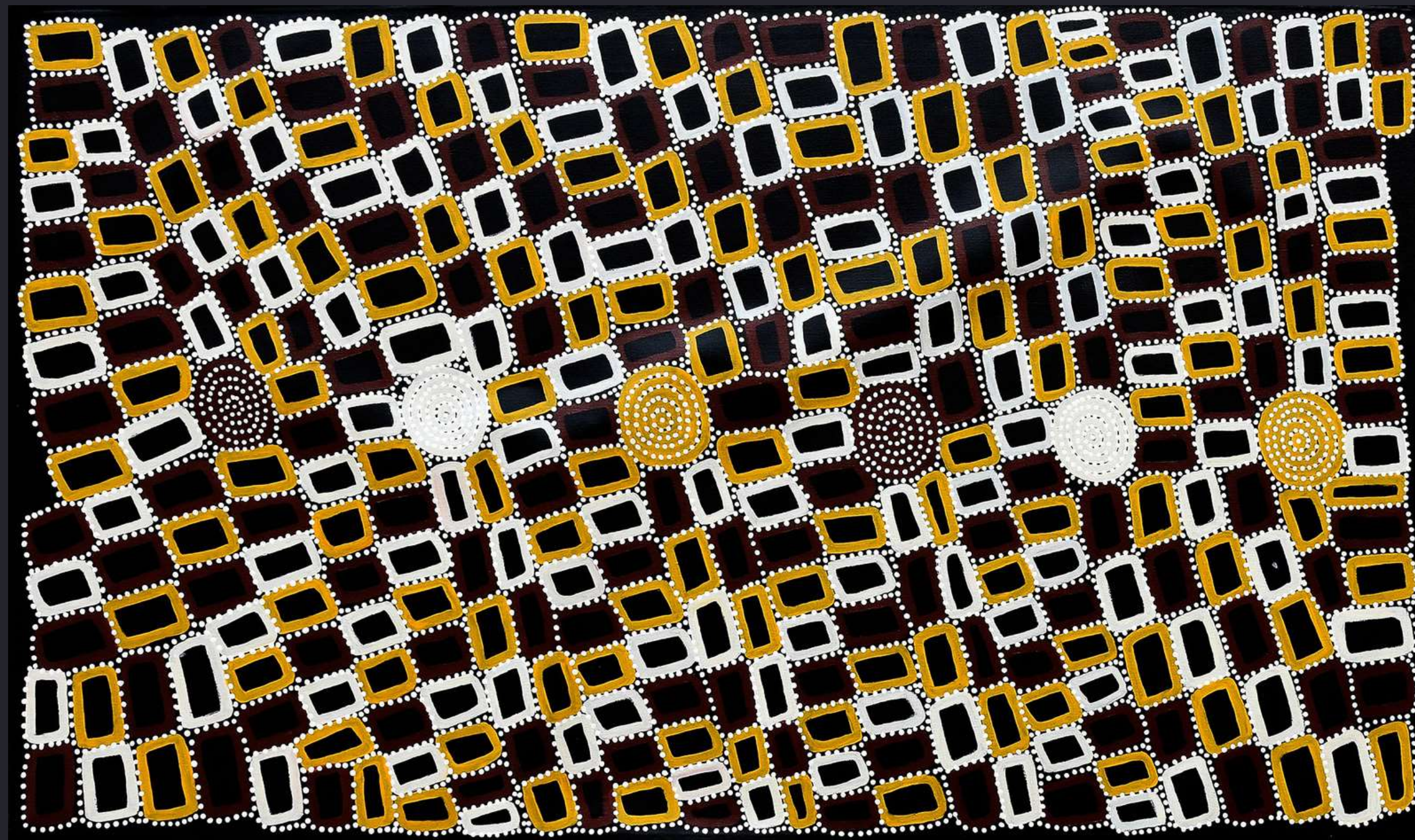
Warlimpirrnga Tjapaltjarri

Acrylic on Linen, 121 x 196cm

\$95,000 [WARHF2232980]





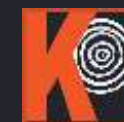


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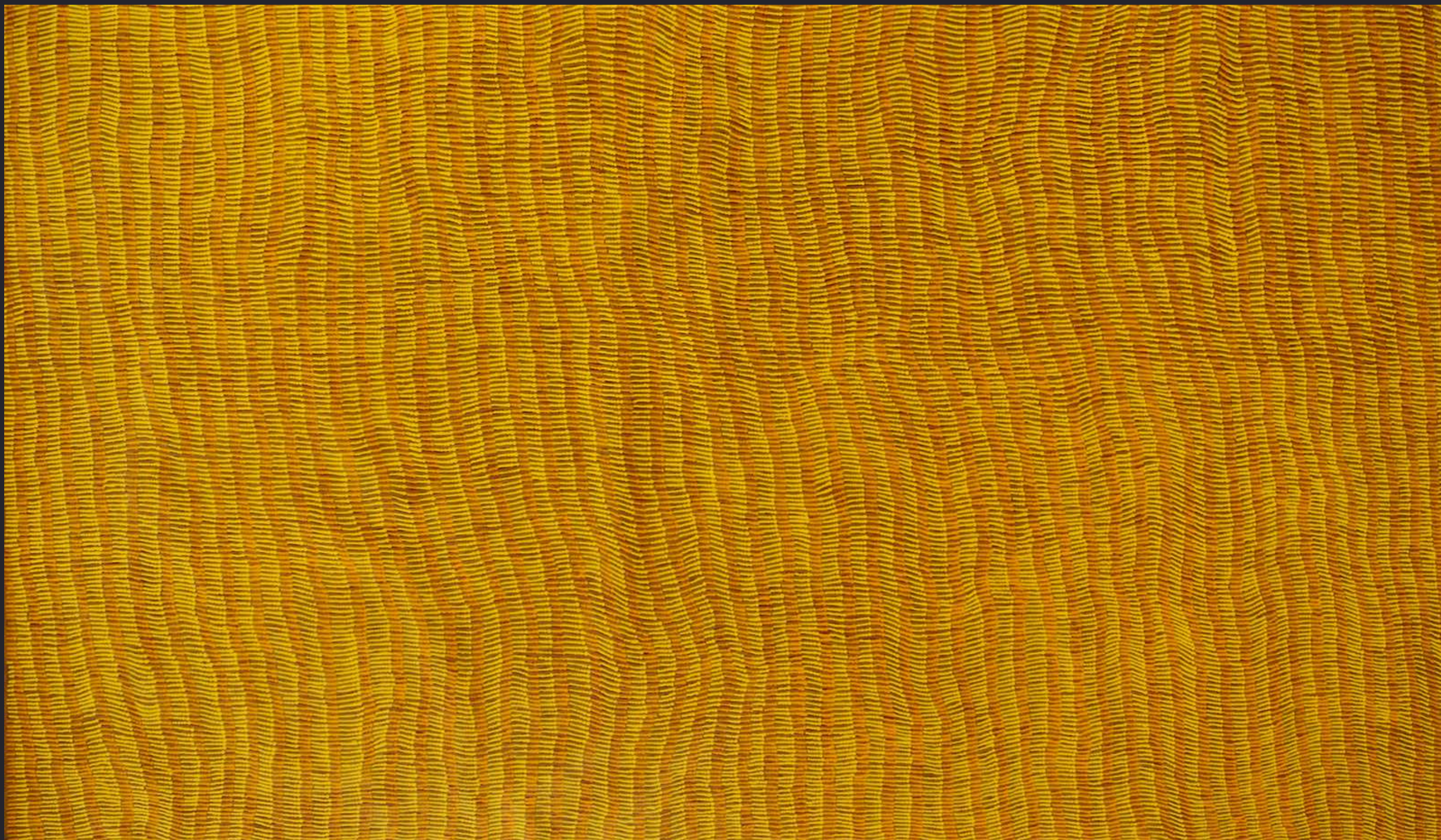
Walala Tjapaltjarri

Acrylic on Linen, 92 x 151cm

\$4,500 [WTJAR2101]





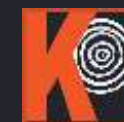


**Tali**

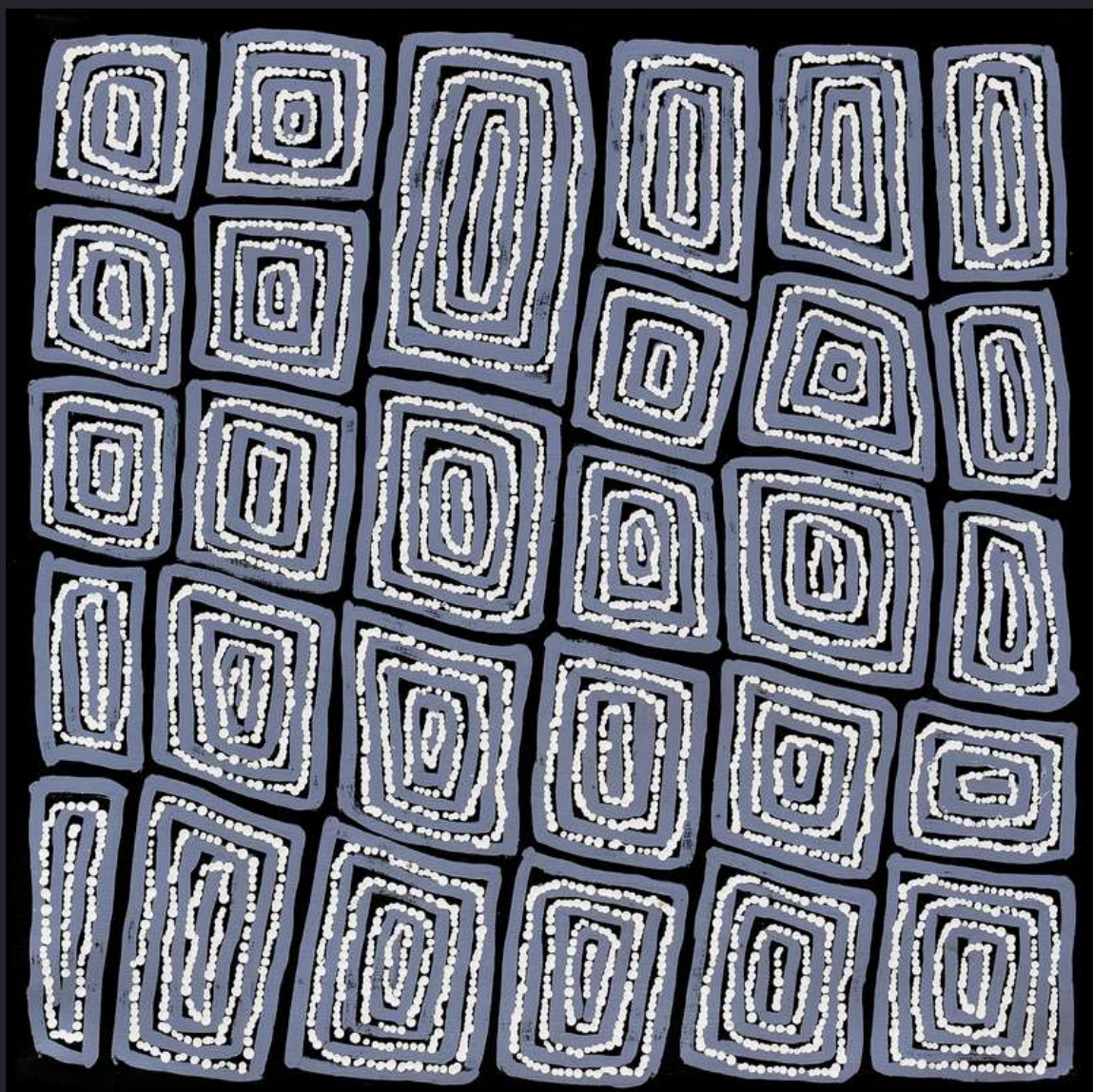
Yukultji Napangati

Acrylic on Linen, 122 x 199cm

\$75,000 [YUKHA24464]





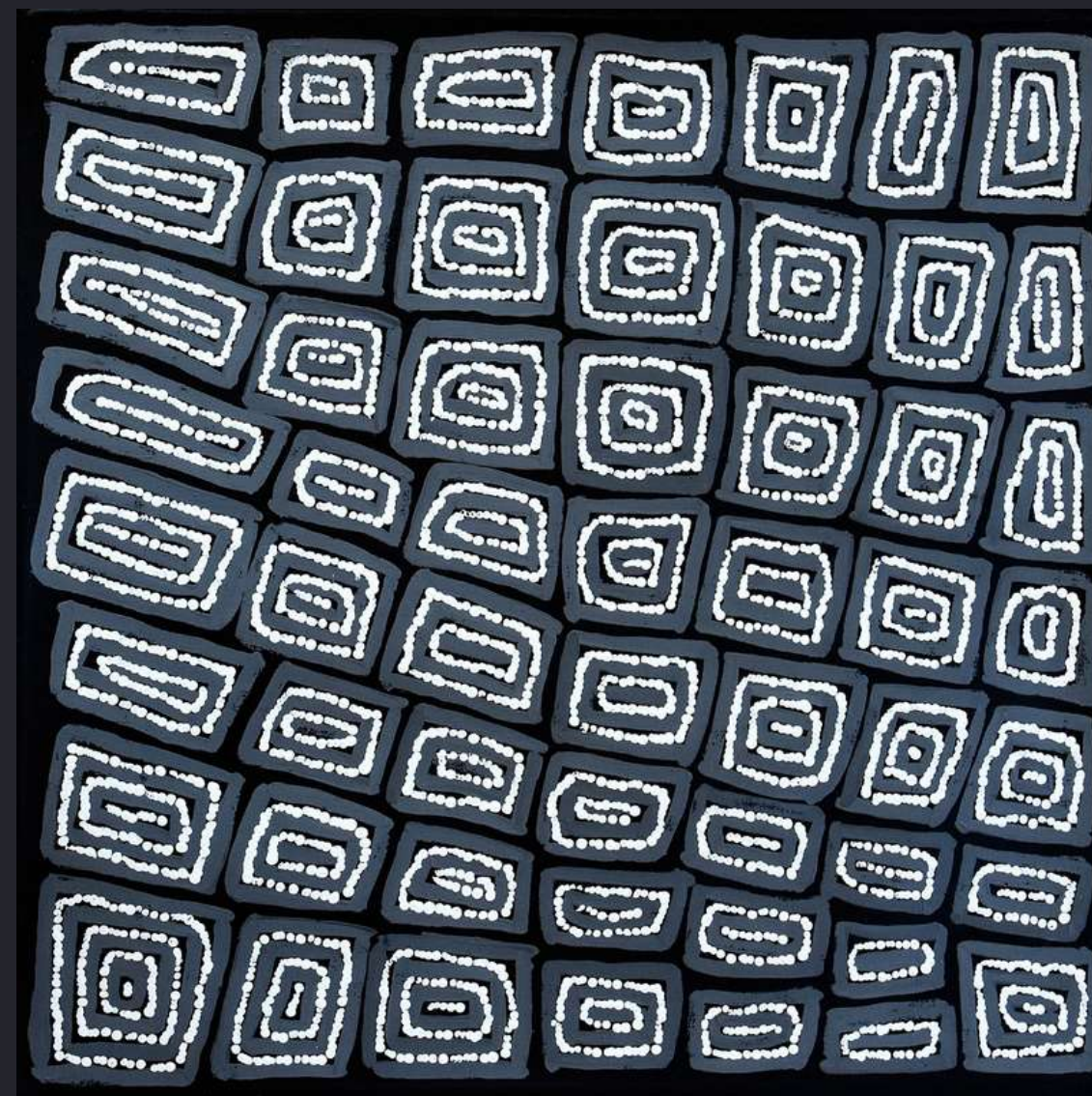


# Tingari

Thomas Tjapaltjarri

Acrylic on Linen, 62 x 61cm

\$2,495 [TTJG0163]

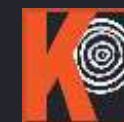


# Tingari

Thomas Tjapaltjarri

Acrylic on Linen, 61 x 60cm

\$2,495 [TTJAR1554]





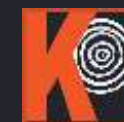


**Tingari**

Walala Tjapaltjarri

Acrylic on Linen, 61 x 152cm

\$2,995 [WTJJ0002]







# ARTISTS





# THE PINTUPI NINE

The Pintupi Nine, also known as "The Last Nomads," were a group of Indigenous Australians who lived a traditional nomadic lifestyle in the Western Desert region of Australia until their first contact with modern society in October 1984.

As some of the last Indigenous Australians to come into contact with Western society, their art represents a pure form of cultural expression, untainted by external influences for generations. The Pintupi Nine's artworks are celebrated for their intricate dot paintings, which vividly depict Dreamtime stories and traditional ceremonies, reflecting their deep spiritual connection to the land.

Their arrival introduced a new wave of creativity and cultural resurgence in Aboriginal art, influencing artists and collectors worldwide. Their unique perspective and style have enriched the understanding and appreciation of Indigenous Australian culture, highlighting the resilience and richness of traditions that continue to inspire and captivate audiences globally.





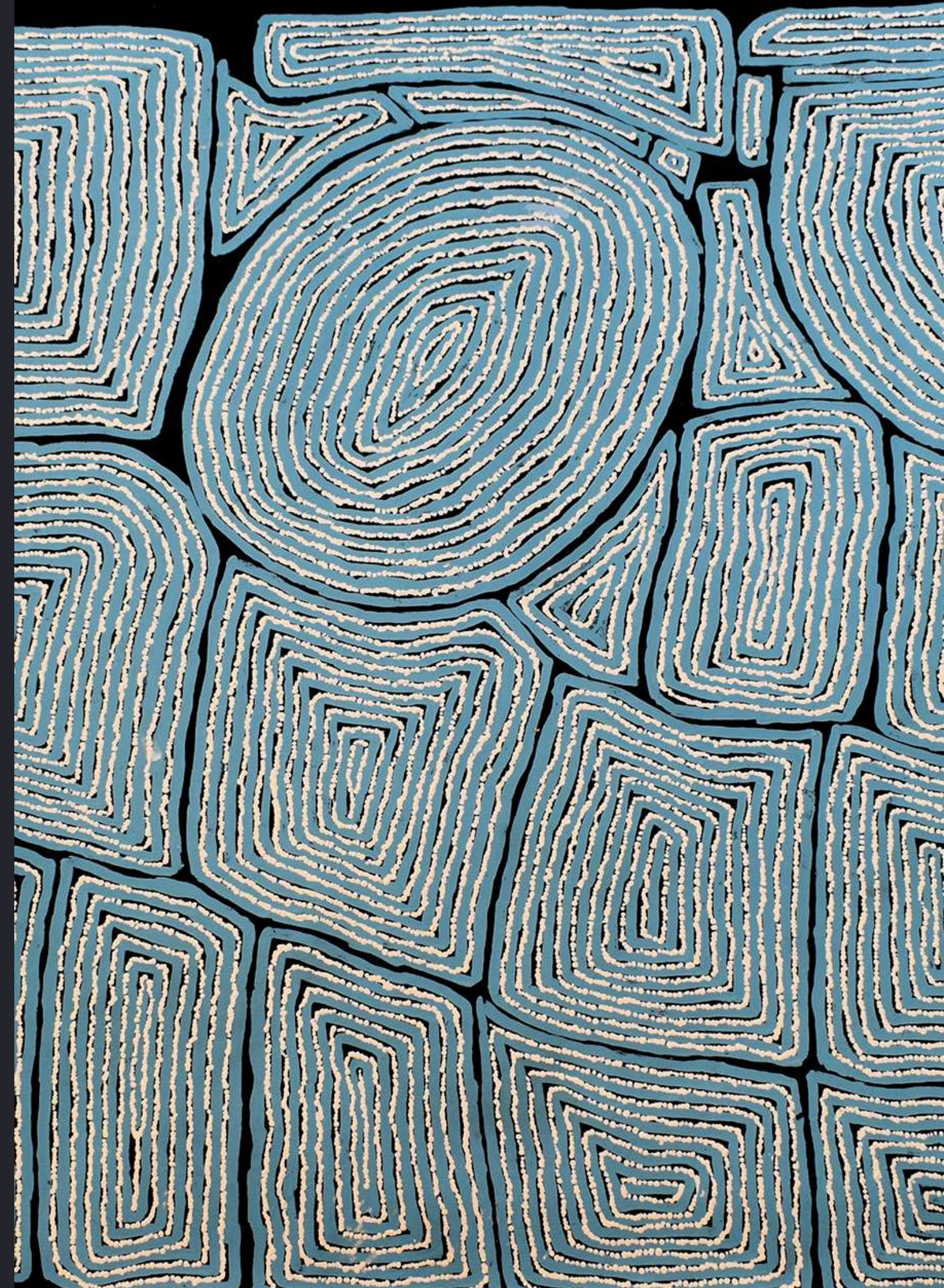
## Thomas Tjapaltjarri (c. 1964–2024)

Thomas Tjapaltjarri, a distinguished figure in Australian Indigenous art, was born circa 1964 in the Gibson Desert, Western Australia. As a member of the Pintupi Nine, Thomas and his family lived a nomadic life until their first contact with Western society in 1984, swiftly transitioning to acclaimed artists.

His distinctive style blends simple geometric designs and intricate dotting techniques, reminiscent of traditional Pintupi art passed down through generations, including from his brothers Warlimpirnga and Walala Tjapaltjarri, and artists like Willy and George Ward Tjungurrayi.

Thomas's artworks primarily explore the tales of the Tingari, ancient Dreamtime beings of the Pintupi, whose journeys across the desert shaped the landscape and imparted cultural knowledge. Deeply rooted in ceremonial practices and ancestral lore, his paintings are imbued with profound cultural significance.

Tragically, Thomas passed away unexpectedly, leaving behind an incredible legacy as an artist and custodian of traditional Pintupi life. His contributions to Indigenous art are prominently displayed in prestigious collections worldwide, such as the Hank Ebes Collection in Melbourne and the Luciano Benetton Collection in Venice. His ability to translate traditional Pintupi narratives into visually captivating artworks ensures the preservation and celebration of Aboriginal heritage for future generations. His participation in the National Museum of Australia's "Connection - Songlines from Australia's First Peoples" exhibition in 2022 further underscores his pivotal role in the contemporary Indigenous art landscape.







## Walala Tjapaltjarri

Walala Tjapaltjarri began his creative journey in 1997 under the tutelage of his renowned brother, Warlimpirnga. Walala's artistic evolution is rooted in traditional Tingari practices, which he swiftly transformed into a bold, graphic style. His paintings feature striking rectangular forms set against stark backgrounds, abstracting Pintupi designs into a highly stylized visual language.

In 1984, Walala and his family made global headlines upon emerging from remote wilderness, marking their first contact with modern society. This transition from nomadic life deeply informs Walala's art, which centers on the mythological journeys of ancestral beings through sacred sites like Wilkinkarra and Tarrku. His minimalist approach and gestural technique vividly depict the Tingari Cycle, embodying cultural knowledge and spiritual significance.

Today, Walala Tjapaltjarri's work is celebrated internationally, offering a contemporary interpretation of ancient traditions. His art not only preserves Aboriginal culture but also bridges past, present, and future, resonating for its narrative depth and visual impact in collections worldwide.





## Warlimpirnga Tjapaltjarri

Warlimpirnga Tjapaltjarri, born into a traditional life in the Western Desert, emerged as a prominent figure in contemporary Aboriginal art. Raised in isolation near Wilkinkarra, or Lake Mackay, Warlimpirnga's early years were marked by his family's deliberate avoidance of Western influence. A leader among the Pintupi Nine, Warlimpirnga was instrumental in their first contact experience.

Under the mentorship of Dr. George Tjapaltjarri, Warlimpirnga began painting in 1987, swiftly gaining acclaim. His work, deeply rooted in Snake and Tingari Dreaming stories, captures the spiritual essence of his homeland with mesmerizing precision. Exhibited widely, including at prestigious venues like the National Gallery of Victoria and Art Gallery of New South Wales, his art resonates globally. In 2015, his solo exhibition 'Maparntjarra' in New York marked a milestone in Aboriginal art's American reception.

Beyond artistic achievement, Warlimpirnga remains a cultural leader, highlighted by his pivotal role in preserving and promoting Pintupi traditions. His legacy extends through his influential paintings and enduring commitment to his community in Kiwirrkurra.







## Yukultji Napangati

Yukultji had one of the most intense reactions to first contact, yet she embraced painting in the mid-1990s and quickly gained acclaim.

A luminary in contemporary Indigenous Australian art, her works, renowned for their cultural depth and technical finesse, are housed in prestigious collections like the National Gallery of Australia. Using earthy ochres and meticulous dotting techniques, Napangati's paintings vividly depict ancestral stories and the desert's sacred landscapes, bridging ancient cultural heritage with modern artistic expression. A defining moment in her career came in 2021 when Beyoncé shared her artwork, bringing her work to millions.

Her art resonates with the rhythms of desert life, harmoniously blending tradition and contemporary interpretation. Yukultji Napangati's legacy lies not only in her artistic prowess but also in her ability to convey the enduring spirit of her people through a universally resonant medium.

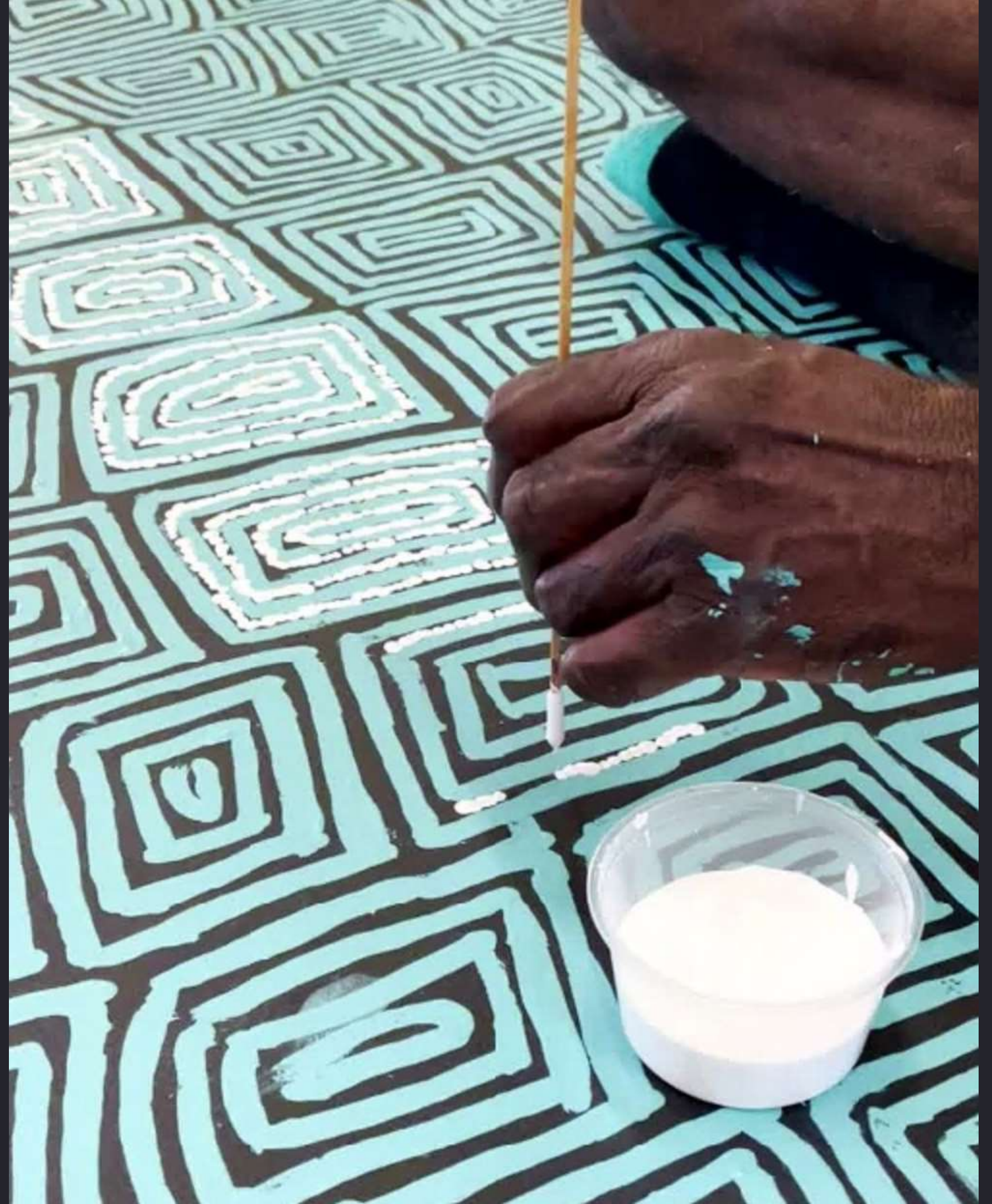


# Ethics + Authenticity

Kate Owen Gallery is committed to upholding the rights of Indigenous artists and each painting is sold with a Certificate of Authenticity guaranteeing the provenance of the work.

The Gallery is a proud member of the Aboriginal Art Association of Australia (AAAA), the pan industry organisation for people involved in Indigenous art.

The Association binds members to a strict code of conduct, so clients can be assured that artists are dealt with fairly, transparently and with respect.





# Contact Us



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