

COWRA REGIONAL ART GALLERY

# DESERT PSYCHEDELIC: Jimmy Pike

15 December 2012 to 3 February 2013

Aboriginal artist Jimmy Pike's extraordinary tale of achieving against the odds is explored in the exhibition **Desert Psychedelic: Jimmy Pike**.

Born in the Great Sandy Desert around 1940, Pike lived a traditional Walmajarri life for most of his childhood. As an adult, while serving time in prison, Pike joined art classes and before long his work was capturing the explosive beauty of the harsh desert landscape with bold forms and non-traditional colours.



Jimmy Pike, *Jila Japingka*, c.1986. Silk. Courtesy of Desert Designs. Photo: A. Higgins.

According to the exhibition curator Kirsten Fitzpatrick from Brisbane based touring organisation **artisan** Jimmy Pike's collaboration with the company **Desert Designs** saw his works explode onto an international stage and represented one of the most successful forays into the intersecting areas of Indigenous art, craft and commercial design to date.

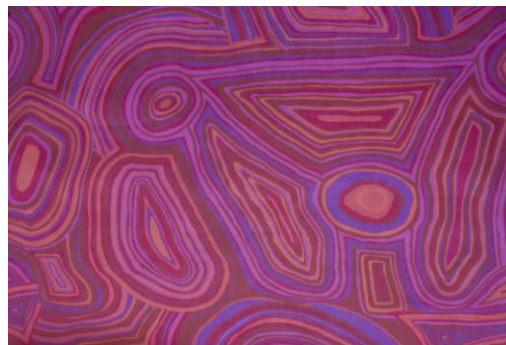
Effortlessly Australian and flamboyant in their brilliance, Pike's prints appeared on everything from bed linen to accessories, as well as garments ranging from high-fashion to sportswear.

This significant touring exhibition features paintings, prints and textile designs including fashion garments by Jimmy Pike made in the '80s during the height of the Indigenous cultural renaissance.



Jimmy Pike *Grandfather and Grandson*, 1989. Colour screenprint. Courtesy of Desert Designs. Photo: A. Higgins.

Jimmy Pike passed away in 2002 but left a legacy of brilliant paintings, prints, textile designs, stories and illustrations cementing his place as a versatile and visionary artist. Many of his prints and paintings can be found in major national and international gallery collections.



Jimmy Pike, *Jila Japingka*, c.1986. Silk chiffon. Courtesy of Desert Designs. Photo: A. Higgins.



*Desert Psychedelic: Jimmy Pike* is curated by **artisan** and toured by **Museum and Gallery Services Queensland** with the assistance of **Visions Australia**

**Cowra Regional Art Gallery**  
77 Darling Street Cowra NSW 2794  
Hours: Tuesday to Saturday 10am – 4pm,  
Sunday 2pm – 4pm (Monday Closed) Free Admission  
Tel 02 6340 2190 [www.cowraartgallery.com.au](http://www.cowraartgallery.com.au)  
The Cowra Regional Art Gallery is a Cultural facility of the Cowra Shire Council

