Emily Kame Kngwarreye

Emily is a proud Australian. She is an extremely unique indigenous painter from the 1900s. Can you believe she was the first indigenous Australian female painter to emerge from an art movement dominated by men? She was a very well know person in her time even though she only painted in the last eight years of her life which turned out to be the most exciting.

Emily Kame Kngwarreye was born in 1910, Utopia Northern Territory. She had one brother and one stepsister. As a child she had no art education at all whatsoever! She was also a senior member of the Anmatyerre Language Group. She started doing art there but then she decided she would expand her art skills.

She started her interesting painting journey when she was 80! She would paint on batik clothes and do fine dots to decorate them. Later on her journey she started painting on canvases because she said it was a lot easier and less time consuming. She went against traditional paintings and did her own thing. She would put fluid dots on the canvas or she would put blobs of colour on the canvas that would soon form a big layer. Another reason that she started painting is because people started recognising the importance of indigenous art so she decided she would do people proud.

She ended up producing over 3000 art pieces and most of them are in art galleries. She is now called one of the most important artists from Australia. She sold an art piece called Earths Creation for 2.1million dollars in 1995. She was so special and well known for her art that Qantas even has a plane named after her with her outstanding art work on it.In the final decade of her life she became the most celebrated Australian artist of her time.

On the 3rd of September 1996, the beautiful Emily Kame Kngwarreye sadly passed away. She had a very enjoyable and memorable life that will be remembered especially by the people close to her. She had no children but she definitely helped other kids believe in themselves and she made people love her for what she did.