



## **ROSIE BATTY LAUNCHES YOUNG RURAL WOMEN'S COLOURING IN MARATHON FOR FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION AT NGA**

Next **Thursday 30th November at 10am**, Domestic Violence Campaigner **Rosie Batty** will launch with young rural women from around Australia as young as 12, an art marathon and world-first art initiative - **"Colourathon"** - to raise awareness and funds for family violence prevention.

Colourathon is a colouring in art marathon designed and delivered by the young women of Big hART's **Project O** initiative who are aged 12-15, and takes place in the Sculpture Garden at the National Gallery of Australia on Thursday 30th November, as well as at satellite events around the country. Held from 9am-9pm Colourathon is expected to attract over 1000 people, and brings together community, businesses and government to colour for change to address one of Australia's most critical issues, family violence.

At the Media Launch, Colourathon will be launched by **Rosie Batty**, with young women MC-ing the event and speeches from NGA **Deputy Director Kirsten Paisley**, **Project O National Director Genevieve Dugard** and **ACT Children & Young People Commissioner Jodie Griffiths-Cook**.

There will also be large-scale murals, weaving, live music, digital art and films taking place throughout the event, and from 4-7pm the general public are invited to join in. The colouring in templates have been designed especially for Colourathon by 5 leading female artists with each reverse side including a letter from the young women to the Prime Minister and the Minister for Women asking for their support for family violence prevention. Colourathon is the brainchild of award-winning campaigning arts organisation Big hART, who have been working with Australia's bright young future leaders in Roebourne WA, Cooma NSW, Wynyard TAS and Canberra to address this entrenched issue, through a strategy called Project O.

Colourathon sees young women leading the way for change. Harnessing the global trend of colouring in for mindfulness, Colourathon is supported by an online crowdfunding campaign, with every hour of colouring in sponsored to raise funds for specialist childhood trauma training for staff in women's shelters. With the average age of a child fleeing violence and needing crisis care in Australia just 2 1/2 years old, there is a critical need for specialist services which support children in women's shelters.

Find out more at [www.colourathon.com](http://www.colourathon.com)

### **WHAT:**

Colourathon Media Launch

### **KEY TIMES:**

10am	Project O Young Women introduce the event and MC
10:05am	Acknowledgement of Country
10:10am	Welcome from NGA Deputy Director Kirsten Paisley
10:15am	Project O National Director Genevieve Dugard speaks
10:20am	ACT Children & Young People Commissioner Jodie Griffiths-Cook speaks
10:25am	Rosie Batty Launches Colourathon
10:35am	Photo Opportunity with Project O young women and Rosie Batty and VIPS
10:40am	FINISH & Music by Claire Anne Taylor

### **WHERE:**

**The Sculpture Garden Restaurant, The National Gallery of Australia, Canberra**



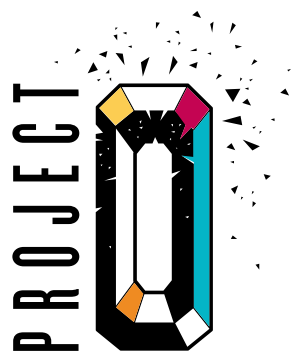
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# COLOURATHON



Major Event Partners:

**NGA**  
National Gallery of Australia

**CANBERRA  
THEATRE  
CENTRE** **AINSLIE+  
GORMAN**  
ARTS CENTRES

Media Partners:



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