

Ko Wharenui Harikoa he poro whaka hakakoko
Ko Uenuku tawhana ki te Rangi

Wharenui Harikoa is a refracting prism of Tūpuna inspired light that shines across the sky like a rainbow

Over the past eight years, husband and wife duo Lissy Robinson-Cole (Ngāti Hine, Ngāti Kahu) and Rudi Robinson (Ngaruahine, Te Arawa, Ngāti Pāoa, Waikato ki Tai) have been using their creative energies to explore mātauranga Māori and their personal whakapapa through crocheted sculptural forms. *Wharenui Harikoa* (House of Joy) is Lissy and Rudi's most ambitious creation to date—a full-scale wharenui (meeting house) featuring vibrant poupou (wall pillars), tekoteko (carved human forms), tukutuku panels (patterned wall panels) and adorned pou tokomanawa (carved centre-post) completely crocheted by hand.

Bringing together bright, neon colours and traditional toi whakairo (Māori carving) shapes, their mahi offers a new way of understanding the importance of joy and aroha within te aō Māori. The aim of *Wharenui Harikoa* is to transform intergenerational trauma into deeply felt joy, one loop at a time, connecting all people and igniting joy globally.

Connecting their community stitch by stitch, *Wharenui Harikoa* is an ongoing project brought to life by a huge network of helpers—including contributions from international textile artists and a collaboration with Ōtautahi Christchurch-based Outlaw Yarn to produce 300kg of custom hot pink yarn. Due to be fully finished by Matariki 2023, this exhibition of *Wharenui Harikoa* reveals the pieces completed so far, providing an opportunity to share in the making and kaupapa of the wharenui, and the mātauranga that has guided its design and construction

The artists would like to acknowledge their beautiful Tūpuna, for whom this wharenuī is a celebration. They would also like to acknowledge the creativity and support of all their whānau, friends and supporters, including:

Waīta - Rewi McClay (Ngāti Hine, Ngāti kahu)

Waipunarangi - Nigel Borrell (Pirirākau, Ngāiterangi, Ngāti Ranginui, Te Whakatōhea)

Tupuānuku - Hollie Tawhiao (Ngāti Tiipa) & Maungarongo Ron Te Kawa (Ngāti Porou)

Tupuārangi - Linda Munn (Ngāpuhi, Ngāti Pūkenga, Ngāti Ātiawa, Ngāi Tahu)

Waitī - Hollie Tawhiao (Ngāti Tiipa)

Pohutukawa - Manutahi Gray (Ngāti Hine, Ngāti Kahu)

Hiwaiterangi - Ben Rikiti (Ngāti Pīkiao, Ngāi Tūhoe)

INTERNATIONAL CONTRIBUTORS

London Kaye (USA), Tinna Thorvaldar (Iceland), Carmen Paulino (USA), Francoise (Aroha) Danoy (Ngāti Porou /USA), and Frederick Worrell (Ngāti Porou/UK)

CROCHET ANGELS

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TIKANGA ADVISORS

- Hohepa Maclean (Ngāti Hine, Ngāti Kahu)
- Jack Gray (Te Rarawa, Ngāpuhi, Ngāti Porou)
- Zoe Black (Ngāpuhi, Ngāti Hine, Pākehā)

SPONSORS AND COMMERCIAL PARTNERS

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- Creative New Zealand
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- Manatū Taonga, Ministry of Culture and Heritage
- Manurewa Local Board
- Nathan Homestead Pukepuke

And many others!