

## MEDIA RELEASE 27 APRIL 2017

## **REKO RENNIE CREATES NEW NGA PLAY EXPERIENCE**

Following on from the success of NGA Play during the *Versailles: Treasures from the Palace* exhibition, the NGA gets set to open a new installation by contemporary Aboriginal artist Reko Rennie.

The collaboration is an innovative and interactive NGA Play experience that explores and challenges the understanding of Indigenous art and encourages people of all ages to engage in the culture and history of its Indigenous Australian people. Reko Rennie NGA Play opens on 14 May.

'Reko Rennie's play space invites the young-at-heart to explore traditional designs with a fresh new perspective. It's going to be a colourful, immersive space — and it also captures a strong sense of contemporary Indigenous identity which is relevant as we mark 50 years since the 1967 Referendum, a Constitutional change which saw the inclusion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the Australian census,' said Kirsten Paisley, NGA Deputy Director.

Kamilaroi/Gamilaraay/Gummaroi artist Reko Rennie is one of the 30 artists from across the country shown in *Defying Empire: 3<sup>rd</sup> National Indigenous Art Triennial* which opens at the NGA on 26 May presented by the NGA's Indigenous Art Partner, Wesfarmers Arts. Rennie's work is also showing as part of the 57<sup>th</sup> Venice Biennale in May.

NGA Play is made possible through the support of Tim Fairfax in honour of Betty Churcher.

## **MEDIA ENQUIRES:**

Megan Reeder Hope, Publicist National Gallery of Australia

E: megan.reederhope@nga.gov.au

M: 0435 103 735