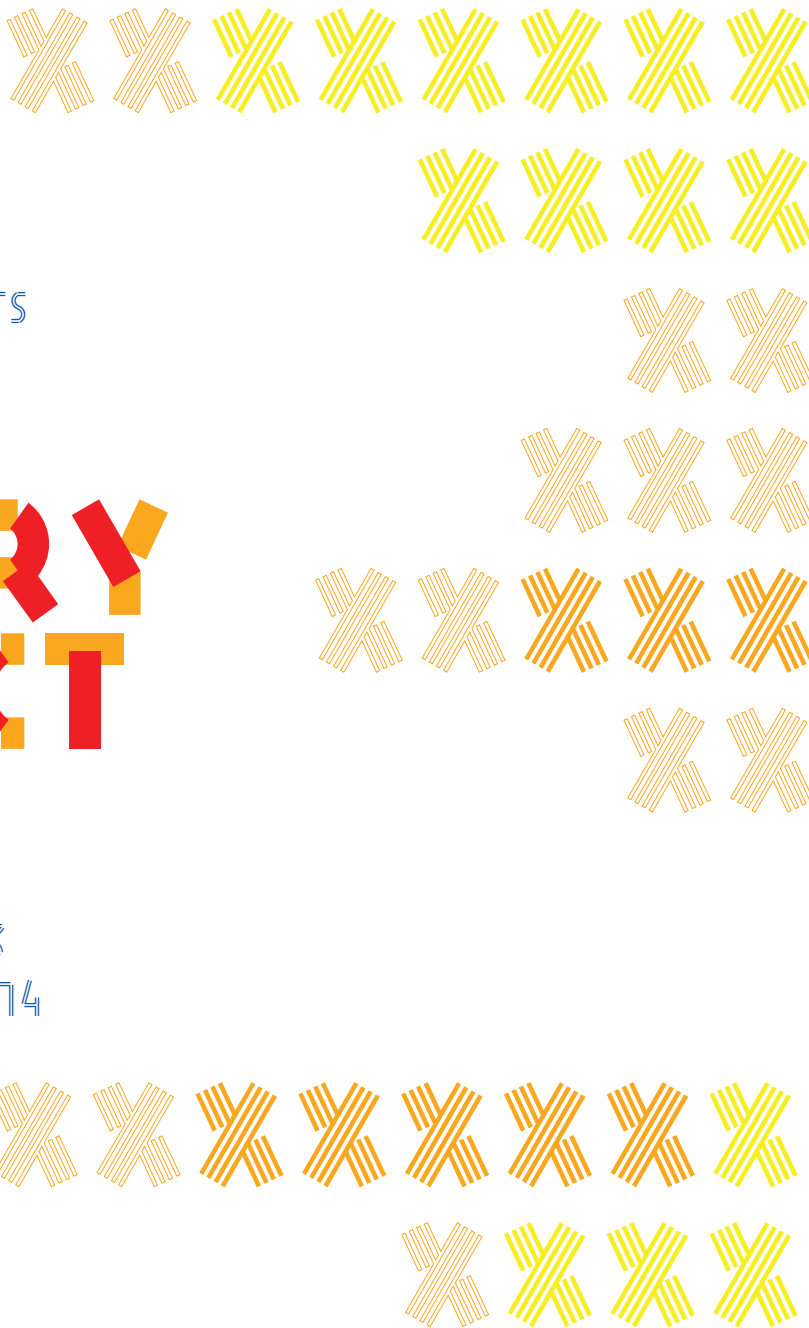




THE RED ROOM  
COMPANY PRESENTS

THE  
POETRY  
OBJECT  
2013

18 NOVEMBER 2013  
TO 26 JANUARY 2014





THAILAND

# THE POETRY OBJECT

“OBJECTS HAVE  
INNER LIVES”

RACHAEL BRIGGS,  
JUDGE OF THE POETRY OBJECT

From stones to tarnished coins and roller-skates, talismanic objects empower us and bring back memories of special times. *The Poetry Object* celebrates these curious and magical connections, collecting poems that tell stories about how we find, lose, and treasure our objects.

Created by The Red Room Company, *The Poetry Object* is a free writing competition that invites young writers and their teachers to submit poems and photographs about objects that are special to them. First commissioned by NSW Public Schools (Sydney Region) in 2011, *The Poetry Object* was opened to all Australian and New Zealand schools in 2013.

AS I LOOKED INTO  
THE FIRES FROM  
WHERE IT CAME  
AND REALISED THE  
JOURNEY IT MADE  
JUST FOR ME  
SO MUCH DETAIL PUT  
INTO THE FLOWERS  
AND SO MANY FLOWERS  
PUT INTO THE SEA,  
EACH LITTLE FLOWER  
HAS ITS OWN STORY,  
SO MANY STORIES PUT  
INTO ONE OBJECT.

(EXCERPT) OLI, YEAR 6,  
HEATHCOTE PUBLIC SCHOOL, NSW

## THE 2013 PROJECT

This year more than 70 primary and secondary schools participated, resulting in the publication of a record 1150 poems.

Special objects that inspired poems included an arm cast, flamenco shoes, musical instruments, jewellery, beloved pets, books, a turban and even one student's shadow!

Celebrated Australian poets, Eileen Chong, Zenobia Frost, Royce Kurmelovs, L-FRESH The LION, Kate Middleton and Corey Wakeling were also commissioned to write poems about their own talismanic objects.

Explore *The Poetry Object* gallery online  
[www.redroomcompany.org/projects/poetry-object/](http://www.redroomcompany.org/projects/poetry-object/)

## THE EXHIBITION

The exhibition features shortlisted student poems selected by *The Poetry Object* judge, poet Rachael Briggs. Prizes for Winning Student Poem (Primary and Secondary), Winning Teacher Poem and Best School Installation were awarded respectively to

**JAMES PATEMAN**, YEAR 6,  
HOLY SAVIOUR SCHOOL, NSW

**ISABELLA SMITH**, YEAR 8,  
IONA COLLEGE, HAWKE'S BAY, NZ

**MS ALISON JOHNSON**,  
WATERFORD STATE PRIMARY  
SCHOOL, QLD

**MID-NORTH CHRISTIAN  
COLLEGE, SA**

## ABOUT THE RED ROOM COMPANY

The Red Room Company is a not-for-profit arts organisation that creates, publishes and promotes poetry in unusual ways. Through interactive public projects and poetry education programs in schools and other learning institutions we transform people's perception of poetry.  
[www.redroomcompany.org](http://www.redroomcompany.org)

YOU HAVE AN ENGINE IN YOUR HEAD,  
AND WHEELS IN YOUR SHOES  
THAT'S WHY I LOVE YOU.

*The Nitro Car* (excerpt)

James, Year 6, Holy Saviour School, NSW

Winning Student Poem (Primary)

THE ROOM BEHIND THE BOOK IS LIT BY  
THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ONE WAY MIRROR  
WHITE LIGHT COMES THROUGH THE CRACKS

*My Book* (excerpt)

Isabella, Year 8, Iona College, NZ

Winning Student Poem (Secondary)

LEMON-FRAGRANT TRANSLUCENT CUPS  
POINT TO THE SKY  
BEAUTY THAT STRENGTHENS MY  
HEART FOR LIVING  
ONCE DINOSAUR FOOD

*Magnolia*

Ms Alison Johnson, Waterford State Primary School, QLD

Winning Teacher Poem

THE RED ROOM COMPANY

# THE POETRY OBJECT

18 NOVEMBER 2013 TO 26 JANUARY 2014

MONDAY TO FRIDAY, 10AM-7PM  
SATURDAY TO SUNDAY 11AM – 4PM

## CUSTOMS HOUSE

Level 1, Customs House  
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Sydney NSW 2000

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[customshouse@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au](mailto:customshouse@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au)

## SPECIAL THANKS

To all participating schools and students  
The Graeme Wood Foundation  
John B. Fairfax AO  
Customs House  
City of Sydney  
Arts NSW  
Australia Council for the Arts

## PHOTOGRAPHY

Tawfik Elgazzar,  
[elgazzar.com.au](http://elgazzar.com.au)

[WWW.REDROOMCOMPANY.ORG](http://WWW.REDROOMCOMPANY.ORG)

