

Frequently Asked Questions

Thank you for your interest in *Reclaim the Void*. We hope these responses answer your questions. Please also look at the website for information. You can also sign up for the e-news on the home page of the website. If you don't find the answer to your question here, then please email us at: vivienne@reclaimthevoid.com.au

♥ How can I contribute to the project?

We are welcoming rugs from everyone! You may wish to make a rug as an individual, or with a group. You can attend a workshop, or even run one. You can start a 'rug hub' in your area. You can also attend one of our on-country retreats. All information is in the 'upcoming events' and 'weave a rag rug for country' pages of the website.

♥ When do you need the rugs by and when are you installing on Country?

We are planning to do the installation in Sept 2024, with assemblage in July 2024, so please get all rugs to us by May 2024 at the latest! This give us time to catalogue and colour-sort them all.

♥ Where do we send the rugs?

There are currently drop-off points in Perth and a postal address in Denmark, South Coast, Western Australia. These are all on the website on the page 'weave a rag rug for country'.

♥ How are you storing the rugs?

The rugs are being kept in a new sea container.

Can you say something about the environmental impact of the project?

Nothing is zero impact, and *Reclaim the Void* doesn't pretend to be zero impact. However, we are endeavouring to do our best to minimise possible future negative impact at the site of installation. We are following the advice of our environmental advisor, Professor Kingsley Dixon with regards to the environmental impact of the installation and project. We are asking people to use 100% cotton sheets where they can. Our belief is that any possible negative environmental impact of the project is outweighed by the positive aspects that the project brings.

♥ Do you have a site for the installation?

Selecting the correct site for the project is a cultural decision, and we are allowing it to take the appropriate amount of time. Whilst we began the project thinking we would cover a mining hole, we are now favouring laying the artwork on country impacted by mining. This reduces the infrastructure needed and will allow people to visit the artwork. In so many ways, this project is about process rather than outcome and we have found that the power of the project is in people's responses and gifts of a rug.

♥ Will the installation be permanent or temporary?

We are letting this unfold in its own way, finding the right site, environmental advice and what the Ngalia custodians decide is most appropriate. The natural process of fading may well become part of the project's journey.

♥ What cultural protocols do you have in place?

Reclaim the Void is a collaborative project with the Ngalia Heritage Research Council (Aboriginal Corporation), represented by Kado Muir. All cultural decisions are made through this forum. The project is informed by Ngalia Western Desert traditional knowledge, spirituality and culture and is immersed in the cultural custodianship of elders past, present and emerging.

♥ What is the 'share your story' part of the project about?

We plan to develop a digital 'rugalogue' that tells some of the stories of the people and/or groups/schools who are making rugs. We'd love to hear your rug story. The form is on the website on the 'weave a rag rug for country' page.

♥ Can I run a Reclaim the Void workshop?

You are welcome to run a workshop, but please register this through the form on the 'weave a rag rug for country' page of the website. Once you've registered your workshop we'll send you a kit of information to support the workshop, and guidelines for promoting your workshop.

♥ Do you send artists out to run a Reclaim the Void workshop?

Unfortunately we don't have the funds to be able to send artists to run community workshops. If you have funds to support one of our project artists to come to your community, please let us know. Otherwise we are endeavouring to put our time into supporting you to run a workshop.

♥ What is a rug hub and how do we become one?

A rug hub is an ongoing gathering, where people meet to make rugs together. It's different from a workshop in that it's ongoing, rather than a one off or series of events. A workshop can morph into a rug hub, or you might just want to set up a rug hub and start making! Please see the 'weave a rag rug for country' page of the website for more information and for the form to register as a rug hub. After registering, you'll be sent a kit of information.

♥ How does my school get involved in Reclaim the Void?

We have a kit of information for schools. If you have a budget to bring in one of our project artists please let us know. Otherwise we'll support you to contribute through your school. Please see the 'schools' page on our website.

Thank you for being part of the community of people who together form this project

