

# MELBOURNE'S INNER WEST UNITED THROUGH PUBLIC ARTWORK – LED BY LOCAL MORNINGTON PENINSULA ARTIST – COME TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE OPENING OF NEW COMMUNITY HUB

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## PRESS RELEASE

SEPTEMBER 5, 2023

Local Mornington Peninsula Artist creates 'Buwi Birrip Djerring' public artwork.

Moonee Valley City Council is excited to unveil the new Djerring Flemington Hub on September 9, 2023. It features local Mornington Peninsula artist's most recent & largest public art outcome.

Rosa Mar Tato Ortega created a public artwork that emerged from challenging times, a testament to creating art during the pandemic.

The scale of the work is approximately 7 metres x 7 metres, with eight panels in total across the west and east façade of the new building.

Moonee Valley City Council spokesperson recognises the challenges Rosa faced;

*'Rosa had an ability to work dynamically and adapted to the challenges of Covid-restrictions at the time with a wide range of communication tactics – both online and in person. She also mentored two young artists who provided a connection to the multi-cultural Flemington Community, particularly residents of the public housing estate which sits in immediate proximity to the new Hub.'*

*"Upon commencement of the project, Rosa met with Traditional Elders (Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation), and a project name was given: Buwi Birrip Djerring – Weave Thread Create Together. Rosa sought out a range of local environmental group representatives, community members and other Council stakeholders to inform the artwork.*

Rosa is thrilled to be celebrating at the community unveiling;

*'My artistic process weaves together a profound environmental consciousness with the vibrant narratives of our community. Buwi Birrip Djerring' is an intricate tapestry of imagery mirroring the rich tapestry of Flemington's cultural tapestry, while also echoing a deep appreciation for our waterways and landscapes. I see this work as a heartfelt tribute, honouring our people, our place, and the enduring themes of environmental stewardship, migration, and local heritage.'*

The building is Moonee Valley City Council's first community hub and was thoughtfully designed by Croxon Ramsay architects. It replaces the previous community centre, which served the local community for over 60 years.

You can visit the Djerring Flemington Hub webpage here .

The Hub lies on the lands of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Peoples of the Kulin Nation, who have lived and met in the greater area for generations. In Woi wurrung language, Djerring (pronounced: jerr-ring) means 'together'. The Djerring Flemington Hub name was selected by a public vote in 2022.

Event: Official launch of Djerring Flemington Hub

Date: Saturday 9 September

Time: 11 - 11:30am (official proceedings)

12 - 2:30pm (self-guided tours of the Hub, food, and activities)

Venue: 25 Mt Alexander Road Flemington

**Media Contact:**

Capital Works Project Officer – Built Form

Gemma Portelli 0458931463 [GPortelli@mvcc.vic.gov.au](mailto:GPortelli@mvcc.vic.gov.au)

Artist

Rosa Mar Tato Ortega 0412034401 [rossatato@gmail.com](mailto:rossatato@gmail.com)

