



PRINCIPAL PARTNER



Sydney Opera House presents

# *All About Women 2015*

International Women's Day, Sunday 8 March 2015, Sydney Opera House

**Having it all. Losing it all. Going it alone. Going to war. Taking on trolls.  
Cutting hair in New York City. Saving the world.**

*All About Women* returns in 2015 with a program bursting with storytellers, thinkers and adventurers from around the world. The program promises an exhilarating day of stories about how women shape their lives - and everybody's future - and an opportunity to celebrate International Women's Day in the ever-inspiring surrounds of the Sydney Opera House.

Heading into its third year, *All About Women 2015* is part of the wide-ranging and exciting *Ideas at the House* program, a year-round talks and ideas program that has presented speakers ranging from **Tavi Gevinson** to **Yoko Ono**, **Alice Waters** and **Alison Bechdel** in recent years, in addition to the flagship Opera House *Festival of Dangerous Ideas*, the deep-thinking *Four Thought* sessions and its newest series focused on ideas for a better Australia, *Carnegie Conversations*.

Last year's *All About Women* was attended by almost 5000 people and received more than ten times that number of views online. To view previous *All About Women* talks, visit the Ideas at the House [YouTube](#) channel.

**International guests coming to Sydney to speak at *All About Women 2015* include:**

- **Anita Sarkeesian**, a key player in dismantling misogyny in the world of video games, who has this year been attacked by anti-feminist trolls and explained #Gamergate to Stephen Colbert;
- **Elizabeth Gilbert**, the author of *Eat, Pray, Love* and *The Signature of All Things*, who will re-visit the elusive force of creative genius (first discussed in an immensely popular TED talk viewed over nine million times and counting);
- Author of *Bad Feminist* and *An Untamed State*, **Roxane Gay**, who loves the colour pink, feels nostalgic about Sweet Valley High, listens to rap even though the lyrics are often degrading toward women, and identifies as a feminist;
- Underwater trailblazer and National Geographic Explorer-In-Residence **Sylvia Earle**, who has dedicated her life to marine science and logged over 7000 hours under the sea, and at 79 years of age is showing no sign of slowing down, in conversation with journalist **Simran Sethi**;
- Washington Post staff writer and author of *Overwhelmed: Work, Love, and Play When No One Has The Time* **Brigid Schulte** presents her insights on what she terms "the overwhelm", collected during hundreds of interviews with neuroscientists, sociologists and working parents;
- Author of *Hideous Kinky* and her latest novel *Mr Mac and Me*, **Esther Freud** – daughter of Lucian and great-granddaughter of Sigmund – who will talk about her work and her own childhood memories;
- **Rayya Elias**, hairdresser to Elizabeth Gilbert and author of *Harley Loco: A Memoir of Hard Living, Hair and Post Punk, from the Middle East to the Lower East Side*, who will talk drugs, punk and coiffure in New York City.

Local legends and cultural critics include **Clementine Ford, Annabel Crabb, Germaine Greer, John Bell, Helen Garner, Judith Lucy, Kaz Cooke, Jane Caro, Rosie Batty, Catherine Fox, Elizabeth Farrelly, Randa Abdel-Fattah** and **Susan Carland**, discussing diverse topics from women in Shakespeare and work/life balance, to domestic violence and the reality of being a woman in Australia.

#### **Key highlights of *All About Women 2015*:**

- 19 sessions over one day;
- “How To Be A Feminist” – a special event where you are invited to bring along one of the young people in your life featuring **Roxane Gay, Germaine Greer, Anita Sarkeesian, Tara Moss** and **Clementine Ford** and more showcasing a range of feminists and feminisms;
- **Satellite Events** – Ideas at the House has partnered with ABC Local Radio and venues such as HotHouse Theatre in Albury-Wodonga, Riverside Theatre Parramatta and the Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre to live-stream two special panels from *All About Women* and celebrate International Women’s Day with even more women around Australia;
- **The Baulkham Hills African Ladies Troupe** – celebration of women, human rights, laughter and resilience. This Australian production tells four remarkable stories of survival. With a bit of sage advice on hair care.

**Sydney Opera House Chief Executive Louise Herron said,** *“It is a particular pleasure to welcome All About Women back in 2015, bigger, bolder and better than ever. We had high hopes when we launched the festival early in the Opera House’s 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year in 2013 and we are thrilled with the public response which inspires us to keep developing and improving this important festival.”*

**Sydney Opera House Head of Talks and Ideas and curator of *All About Women*, Ann Mossop said,** *“This is our most exciting All About Women program yet. We are bringing together a group of amazing speakers to create a day of big discussions, hot issues and inspiring stories.”*

#### **TICKETS:**

On-sale 9am Monday 15 December

[sydneyoperahouse.com/aaw](http://sydneyoperahouse.com/aaw) / 02 9250 7777

Tickets from \$25

A complete list of events and the festival calendar can be found at: [sydneyoperahouse.com/aaw](http://sydneyoperahouse.com/aaw)

#### **CONNECT:**

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/IdeasAtTheHouse>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ideasatthehouse>

Instagram: <http://instagram.com/sydneyoperahouse/>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/ideasatthehouse>

IATH Hub: <http://www.sydneyoperahouse.com/ideasatthehouse>

#### **MEDIA CONTACT:**

Julia Lenton / [jlenton@sydneyoperahouse.com](mailto:jlenton@sydneyoperahouse.com) / +612 9250 7825 / +61 410 748 039

