



**AWESOME Arts - The catalyst in developing creative,  
open-minded young Western Australians who are engaged with the world**

**Get 'Framed!' for free in the school holidays!**

30 March 2009

The bright young things of Perth are invited to create some awesome self-portraits these school holidays at 'Framed!' workshops. Local artist Minaxi May will lead budding young artists in exploring their individual, family and community identities through the creation of three very different styles of self-portraits; face-mapping, sticker portraits and face-warping.

Participants can expect to see their faces being warped into weird and wonderful shapes, ponder the many ways a face can tell a story and recreate their own features with stickers of all shapes and sizes.

Minaxi, a celebrated Western Australian visual and installation artist, says self-portraits are an interesting reflection of how people view themselves and the world around them.

"Colours, shapes, patterns and repetition are really great ways for young people to consider and communicate their identity, character and personality and the place that they live," said Ms May.

The 'Framed!' workshops will be held at the State Library of Western Australia at the Perth Cultural Centre in partnership with AWESOME Arts. Workshops are running from 18-23 April from 10.30am-12noon daily and are open to 6-16 year olds. Workshops are provided free of charge however bookings are essential; to secure a placement or for more information call 9427 3111.

**(ends)**

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**MINAXI MAY: BIO**

As a visual artist, Minaxi exhibits art, creates public art, commissions for art projects, arts festivals and is a facilitator of community art. Minaxi has a BA in Visual Arts, a MA in Art Therapy and qualifications in Multimedia, Graphic Design and teaching as well as skills in animation and fashion. She is currently a PhD candidate at Murdoch University.

Minaxi is particularly inspired by art methods such as installation and print, using bought, reusable or ephemeral materials including plastics (acrylic, toys, objects & vinyl) stickers, food, fabrics and new/multi-media.

Minaxi's work investigates themes of popular, urban and media cultures and their impact on notions of beauty, consumerism, design and the everyday with a focus on colour, pattern, repetition and play.

She has received numerous prizes including the Fremantle Print Award People's Choice Award (2004) and the Artsource Gunnery Residency at Artspace, Sydney, where she presented a studio showing, Playtime. Most recently, Minaxi was Artist in Residence at Fremantle Arts Centre (3 ½ months). Her work has been exhibited both locally and nationally, with her solo exhibition Tagged: Celebrity.Change.Commodity touring throughout Western Australia from 2006 to 2009.

Minaxi is working towards an installation in Fremantle's *Lick Clothing's* new artspace and *two* solo shows this year, *Kaleidoscope* and *That Red Dot*. She has been commissioned to create a new work for *Illume* as part of Campbelltown Arts Centre's (NSW) large outdoor video projection program (9 Oct. - 6 Dec.). Also, from October 2009 till January 2010 she will have a collaborative studio residency at the Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts (PICA) with artist Olga Cironis

Maxi's work is featured in private collections internationally and in Australia, including the Cruthers and Fremantle Arts Centre collections.