

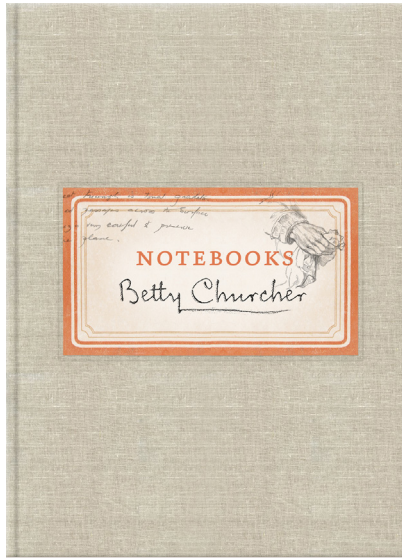
MEDIA RELEASE

THE MIEGUNYAH PRESS Lavishly illustrated landmark books that document the national story.



THE
MIEGUNYAH
PRESS

'Notebooks is a rewarding memoir: a careful calibration of beautifully reproduced art works ... few are equipped to provide such distilled observations.' —Weekend Australian



MIEGUNYAH PRESS
RRP \$44.99

PUBLICATION/EMBARGO DATE
01 November 2011

Betty Churcher will be available for interview throughout November.

For more information please contact **Olivia Blake** at MUP on 03 9342 0322 or 0406 998 030, or email oblake@unimelb.edu.au

FURTHER PRAISE FOR NOTEBOOKS:

'It is a delight to hold, to read, and, most importantly, to look at.'
—*Australian Book Review*

'... generous and eminently readable book.'
—*Sydney Morning Herald*

NOTEBOOKS

by Betty Churcher

SPECIAL LIMITED LINEN EDITION

In this gorgeously illustrated book, join Betty Churcher on a personal tour of her most beloved works, including masterpieces by Rembrandt, Goya, Manet, Velázquez, Courbet, Vermeer and Cézanne.

Former Director of the National Gallery of Australia and much-loved figure in Australia's art world, Betty Churcher was dubbed 'Betty Blockbuster' by the public during her reign at the NGA, as she is credited with bringing some of the world's best art to Australia. She was also the face of ABC TV series *Hidden Treasures*, and became something of a national treasure herself.

After the shock degeneration of her eyesight in 2003, Betty set off on a journey to revisit her favourite pieces of art around the world to sketch them and commit them to memory. Her journey and the lovingly drawn sketches are reproduced in this new book.

A trained artist, Betty's sketches reveal the secrets within the artworks and the processes of their creation. With the gift for making art accessible that characterised her popular television series, she gently leads your eye to these paintings' intimate details, describing their kinship with other masterpieces and their place in the history of art.

Betty Churcher's deeply held belief that art has the power to transport the viewer to another place and time is evident in this delightful book. Here, there is no doubting the magic of great art.

Betty Churcher is a graduate of the Royal College of Art, London, and holds an MA from the Courtauld Institute of Art. She was Director of the Art Gallery of Western Australia from 1987 to 1990 and Director of the National Gallery of Australia from 1990 to 1997. The author of several acclaimed books, including *The Art of War*, *Understanding Art* and *Molvig: The Lost Antipodean*. Betty has also been an art critic for the *Australian* and wrote and presented several television series on art including *Take Five* and *Hidden Treasures*. She holds an Order of Australia and is an Officer of the Order of Australia.

MELBOURNE · UNIVERSITY · PUBLISHING

Miegunyah Press 187 Grattan Street Carlton 3053 Australia · +613 9342 0300 · mup-info@unimelb.edu.au · www.mup.com.au