



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMY AND GENDER AND ECONOMIC EQUALITY
Ms Leanne Castley MLA (Chair), Ms Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy Chair),
Mr Johnathan Davis MLA

Submission Cover sheet

Inquiry into memorialisation through
public commemoration

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From: [REDACTED]
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The Committee Secretary
Standing Committee on Economy and Gender and Economic Equality
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I am writing to express my support for the inclusion of Rosemary Dobson in the Poets' Corner site in Garema Place.

At the time of the establishment of Poets' Corner there was concern in the literary community that Rosemary Dobson was not included. She was a poet of such humanity and skill with an international reputation equal to the poets who were commemorated that it was surprising that she wasn't included. The reason given was that she was still alive.

She died in June 2012.

Now, nearly ten years later, the situation could be remedied. Rosemary Dobson was an extraordinarily gifted poet, whose work expressed a profound understanding of the nature of women's (and men's) lives at a time when women's lives were less frequently recognised. Her poetry, as her nature, was quiet and incisive, both profound and accessible. It is perhaps her personal quietness that has led to her being overlooked in the matter of memorialisation.

This quality didn't prevent her from supporting other poets in reading their manuscripts and writing statements of support. She was in this way an active member of the national community of literary artists, as well, of course, as helping to form our national consciousness with her incisive work. She is most definitely worthy of inclusion in Poets' Corner.

Sincerely,

Lesley Lebkowicz