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THE BIG PICTURE

The faces of NHS resilience and courage

Alison Shepherd



As an expression of thanks and respect the acclaimed photographer Rankin has created a collection of 12 portraits of health workers to mark the NHS's 72nd anniversary.

Among his sitters was Farzana Hussain, a GP in Newham, east London, pictured here as her portrait was unveiled at Piccadilly Circus. "It's difficult to put into words how privileged I feel to be able to go to work every day and to help battle this global pandemic," she said.

"Every member of staff has their own story, fears, and hopes. I think Rankin's photography brings this out really well."

Rankin, who more usually photographs subjects such as the Queen and the Rolling Stones, said, "I was moved by the incredible efforts of people across the NHS. I hope these images portray the resilience and courage they show every day in the face of real adversity."

The portraits, which also include an intensive care consultant, a psychiatrist, nurses, a midwife, porter, cleaner, paramedic, pharmacist, 111 call centre worker, and an information officer, have been donated to the NHS.