

Vivid Light Walk Backgrounder
Nightly from 6pm – 11pm
27 May – 18 June 2016

Vivid Light is part of Vivid Sydney, the world's largest festival of light, music and ideas which runs for 23 nights from 27 May-18 June 2016.

Vivid Light will feature more than 80 installations from more than 200 artists and will light up the city's icons with major projections including the sails of the Sydney Opera House, the skyscrapers of Circular Quay and, for the first time, the eastern side of the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

The most famous precinct of Vivid Light is the Vivid Light Walk which runs nightly from 6pm to 11pm and transforms Circular Quay and its surrounds into a nighttime wonderland through large-scale illuminations, laser lightshows and 3D projections.

With more than 60 sculptures and installations, the Vivid Light Walk winds its way around Circular Quay from the Sydney Opera House to Walsh Bay, always with an emphasis on fun, creativity, innovation and a sense of wonder.

MAJOR PROJECTIONS

Sydney Opera House – Songlines

The world-renowned projections on the Sydney Opera House will soar to new heights in 2016 when, for the first time, the sails will celebrate the astonishingly rich and beautiful world of Australian Indigenous art and culture.

Songlines speaks directly to the spirituality and culture of Australia's First Peoples, depicting the interconnected sharing systems and trade routes that still weave through time and distance, earth and sky. The projection features the work of six artists of different clans, national estates and territories whose artwork illustrates the extraordinary connections between Indigenous astronomy and the natural world – the celestial and terrestrial songlines.

Songlines also celebrates the moving work of NSW and other Australian Indigenous artists, the minimalism and strength of Sydney's rock engravings and the powerful presence of women in Indigenous Art. The artwork combines traditional motif techniques with contemporary designs.

Customs House – Sydney’s Hidden Stories (AUS)

In the sequel to the Vivid Sydney 2015 favourite, *Enchanted Sydney*, the sandstone façade of Customs House will again come to life with the animatic antics of Bluey, an adventurous blue-tongue lizard who explores *Sydney’s Hidden Stories*. From Vivid Sydney regulars, Spinifex, Bluey will lead onlookers through landscapes inhabited by witches and wizards, gnomes and cockatoos, whilst spreading an important message of sustainability.

Museum of Contemporary Art Australia – THE MATTER OF PAINTING (France)

A Vivid Sydney favourite, the Museum of Contemporary Art Australia (MCA) is once again transformed during Vivid Sydney when MCA artist Huseyin Sami and artistic collective Danny Rose collaborate to create *THE MATTER OF PAINTING*. Exploring Sami’s focus on the process of ‘making art’, the installation transforms the MCA façade into a huge canvas as it appears to be carved, painted, cut and brushed. Using a wide range of animation techniques, sound design and music, the installation provides a true multi-sensory experience that will change perceptions of the building’s architecture, volume and mass.

Cadmans Cottage – IMPOSSIBLE Voyage (AUS)

IMPOSSIBLE Voyage invites bystanders to board an imaginary vessel at Cadmans Cottage and journey through a magical and mysterious land, interacting with the surroundings and choosing what path to follow. The light art installation evolves in real time responding to the movements of up to 30 visitors at one time and creating completely unique experiences.

Circular Quay and the Sydney Harbour Bridge – Dress Circle (AUS)

Dress Circle will allow visitors to make Circular Quay’s spectacular buildings their own personal canvas. Using a 3D, touch-sensitive interactive model of the Circular Quay skyscrapers, the Cahill Expressway and the Sydney Harbour Bridge, visitors can light up the skyline in real-time. Buildings can be selected individually or in groups and sequences, and visitors can then choose their own unique colour spectrum and apply a variety of effects. For the first time the eastern side of the Sydney Harbour Bridge will be lit, and part of the Dress Circle.

LIGHT WALK INSTALLATIONS

Attune (AUS)

Attune is an ever-changing, interactive light garden that encourages visitors to ‘tune in’ to the sounds in their environment, and to themselves. A cluster of large, geometric crystalline forms appear to grow up from the ground and respond to the sounds of visitors’ voices by pulsating with colour and light.

CATCH – A Fish Tale (AUS)

Upon entering *CATCH – A Fish Tale* visitors will be submerged into a constantly changing monochrome world that combines graphic art and lighting effects. The installation's interior will be bathed in pure red, blue or white light, with different graphic scenes appearing and disappearing with the changing of the light.

DNA (India)

This dynamic installation is inspired by the structure of DNA, with a series of coloured lights, or molecules, spiraling around a common core. As with the unique composition of each person's DNA, each visitor will see the installation differently, as the structure's shape and colour changes when viewed from different angles.

DODECA (AUS and Greece) *DODECA* is an interactive gyroscope that showcases the beauty of light through the interplay of colour, reflection and shadow. The structure is comprised of a series of luminous, geometric shapes all connected on a different axis so that they swirl and spin in highly complex ways.

Elantica (Belgium)

Floating on the waters of Sydney Harbour, *Elantica* consists of a series of geometrically-shaped 'islands' made of discarded circuit boards and electronics. Designed to be viewed from a distance, the installation raises questions about the relationship between nature and technology.

EORA – The Land (AUS)

EORA – The Land lights up the southern pylon of the Sydney Harbour Bridge with a breathtaking work by the Bangarra Dance Theatre. Through animation and the latest technology, visitors are given an insight into the rich history of the Eora people, the traditional owners of the land on which they stand.

Exterminia (Iran and AUS)

Exterminia consists of a curved structure that is bathed in soft coloured lights, much like the bioluminescence of marine creatures. When a visitor approaches the installation, the colours begin to react to the proximity of the people, a reflection on the contemporary issues of ocean change.

Extrude (NZ)

The gargantuan *Extrude* installation is comprised of 25 monolithic posts that tower over visitors. This extremely tall, interactive installation will pulse speeding beams of light when people get near, and is designed to be viewed up close and from a distance.

Flurry (AUS)

Flurry is an interactive, architectural sculpture that sits on the harbour's edge on the Sydney Opera House forecourt. Visitors are invited to dance, jump, wave or spin their way through the structure's vaulted tunnel as it reacts to their movements with colourful light effects.

Harbour Lights (AUS)

Sydney Harbour vessels will be decorated by *32 Hundred Lighting* using brilliant LED lights that change colour as the vessels travel into different harbour zones. These 'colour precincts' will create a dazzling spectacle when viewed from the harbour foreshore. Participating vessels include Sydney First Fleet Ferries, Oz Jet Boating, Sensational Sydney Cruises, Australian Cruise Group, Tribal Warrior, Captain Cook Cruises, Shadow Charters, Fantasea and Manly Fast Ferries.

Horizon (AUS)

Exploring the subtle interaction between audience, light and space, *Horizon* breaks down the viewing barriers of a sandstone wall to reveal a window into an alternative landscape of an arid central-desert.

I LOVE YOU (AUS)

Friends, lovers and couples can declare their love for each other from a raised platform at *I LOVE YOU* where an illuminated 'Love-O-Metre' pulses in the shape of a giant heart.

Infinity Box (AUS)

Infinity Box plays with basic human curiosity using infinity mirrors. The installation sits quietly, a large unassuming box with a discrete doorway. The question is: "What's in the box?" The answer is found by stepping through darkness into a never-ending world of pattern and light.

In the Frame (AUS)

In the Frame uses light and reflection to create a surreal space that appears to stretch into infinity when viewed from particular angles. Visitors can explore the installation's unique perspectives on space or take the opportunity to photograph reflections from another world.

LASER Oscilloscope (AUS)

LASER Oscilloscope is an interactive installation that adapts the technology of an oscilloscope to demonstrate the shapes of different sounds. As visitors make an array of sounds, from clapping and humming to shouting and whistling, coloured laser beams will trace the undulating forms of the various sounds onto a large wall, framed by the night sky.

Les Danseuses (AUS)

Hanging from a corner window on the sandstone façade of the Museum of Sydney, *Les Danseuses* is a suspension lamp that draws inspiration from dancing. Coloured light is diffused through the fabric of the lamp that moves gently against the resistance of air.

LIGHT ROCKET (AUS)

Captain Starlight's *LIGHT ROCKET* has landed at Vivid Light to bring some of the joy and laughter that the Starlight Children's Foundation brings to kids all over Australia. Rising 15 metres into the air the *LIGHT ROCKET* glows from within, and emits a sparkling beacon of light into the sky, lighting up the path to its next hospital to visit. As you enter the base of the rocket you enter another world – a giant kaleidoscope which you and your whole family can experience together, with light, mirrors and sound.

LIGHTSHOW – 60s to NOW (AUS)

LIGHTSHOW – 60s to NOW is both an installation and an exhibition, presenting a series of light displays by influential, multimedia artist Roger Foley-FOGG (aka Ellis D Fogg). As visitors explore the installation they'll be taken on a journey through the creative development of lightshow art from the 1960s to present day.

Light Totem (AUS)

Light Totem comprises of two beautiful totemic sculptures rising 4.8 metres in a twisted, sinuous pattern, created from single metal tubes using advanced manufacturing processes and experimentation with materials.

Magic Jellyfish (AUS)

Magic Jellyfish is a large, interactive light and sound installation that appears as a giant electric jellyfish. Upon entering the jellyfish's translucent dome guests will be greeted by a softly undulating, interactive light ring that they can pluck to trigger a beautiful light flare that travels to the top of the dome. Powerful, ambient, electronic sounds travel with the light flares, creating a multi-sensory experience.

McGrath Foundation Mosaic (AUS)

The *McGrath Foundation Mosaic* is a truly collaborative work with people from across the country joining together to upload their stories, photographs, and messages of support for those touched by breast cancer in Australia. The photographs have been combined to create an inspiring mosaic image of the late Jane McGrath and of thousands of Australians affected by breast cancer. The mosaic, which is projected onto the AMP Building at Circular Quay, shines a light on the prevalence of breast cancer in Australia.

Momentum (AUS)

Momentum explores the effects of motion and speed on the interactions of light, material and form. It comprises three, freestanding vertical boxes that each contain an illuminated three-dimensional object that, when rotated, creates kaleidoscopic optical illusions.

Mondrian Cube (AUS)

Mondrian Cube reinterprets the abstract artwork of Dutch painter, Piet Mondrian, into a dynamic, interactive installation that enables users to change core visual elements into their own masterpieces of pattern, colour and balance.

OSMOSE (NZ)

Osmose is a multi-sensory artwork that visitors experience by lying down under coloured shards of light. The changing colours of the shards evoke feelings of calmness and stillness or energy in the viewer. As they lie underneath the shards and let the light wash over them, participants also experience sounds tuned to the frequency of the colour that appears above.

Participation + (AUS and China)

Participation + allows visitors to participate in designing the content of the installation via an app and website. Audiences in China can even log on to send in words they'd like to see displayed on the user-generated installation, which will be displayed on a structure built out of '+' shaped components.

Plecstrum (AUS)

Plecstrum encourages participants to become sound and light performers by strumming or plucking a series of over-sized strings to generate a range of soundscapes and visual patterns.

PTOLEMi (AUS)

PTOLEMi is an abstract representation of the cultural values and artistic practices of the 'iGeneration' who are defined by their love of electronic communication. The architectural installation swirls along the edge of Campbells Cove and offers visitors immersive experiences through the use of embedded sensors and interactive sound, video and graphics technology.

Scales of Production (AUS)

Scales of Production seeks to reanimate the ghosts of the old Hickson Road finger wharves that, for more than one hundred years, lay at the heart of Sydney's working harbour. Harvesting the energy of the waves to power shadow puppets, *Scales of Production* silhouettes the activity of moving cranes along the sides of the finger wharf.

Sentiment Cocoon (Canada, UK and Germany)

The *Sentiment Cocoon* is an interactive installation that seeks to capture and express human sentiment through the medium of light. A simple interface allows participants to express how they feel by how they touch. These interactions are then transformed into pulses of light that travel throughout the cocoon.

Shadow Wall (AUS)

Shadow Wall aims to subvert the concept of sinister, night-time shadows by rendering them in a blaze of colour and movement. The installation uses three-dimensional mapping to capture the scene before it and then renders what would normally be dark shadows into multi-coloured silhouettes that light up as they mirror the movements of passing visitors.

Silent Island (AUS)

Silent Island is an immersive digital environment that is completely free of noise pollution, even though it is located in the middle of a busy, public space. As visitors step inside the silent structure they are deprived of the sounds of the surrounding public space, yet experience them visually as projected light patterns.

Sound Bubble (AUS)

Sound Bubble is a huge, transparent inflatable cube that is equipped with an artificial brain that senses when visitors approach, and reacts in a seemingly intelligent fashion by sending out particles of light and audio sound effects.

Spectrum (NZ)

Spectrum transforms a part of the urban environment into a bright, engaging community space using colour, movement and a line of multicoloured rods. When visitors interact with the rods by tilting them just 20 degrees away from their upright position, the colours change, transitioning across the spectrum.

Spice Winds (AUS and The Netherlands)

Situated in the historical Bligh Park, 25 illuminated wind indicators move in unison as they respond to the power of the wind, lighting up each other, nearby viewers and the surrounding environment.

Sweep (NZ)

One hundred carbon-fibre stems swing gently with the breeze at *Sweep*. From a distance, the installation appears to move softly and gracefully from side to side. Up close, all sense of harmony is

dispelled and the towering rods move ominously above and around visitors, beaming different colours and swaying individually.

Tectonic (AUS)

Suspended above Sydney's Kendall Lane, *Tectonic* is a constantly-moving light installation constructed from 1,500 recyclable, plastic bottles filled with tonic water. Chemical reactions between the quinine in the tonic water and invisible ultraviolet rays cause the sculpture to emit a glowing, blue light at night.

The 4th State (AUS)

The crackling, buzzing sound of 150,000 volts fuels this mesmerising celebration of the fourth state, plasma. As electricity runs through a series of wires that snake through the installation, plasma is released as jagged bolts of dazzling white light that hum and buzz and crack.

The Human Touch (AUS)

The Human Touch is a metaphor for human connection where a giant chandelier hangs over Well's Courtyard in The Rocks, and responds to the touch of visitors by glowing brighter when people make contact with each other.

Treehugger (AUS)

Treehugger is an interactive installation that turns a simple hug into an explosion of light and sound. Visitors are invited to hug the organic structure of a living tree, setting off a vibrant audiovisual display that is completely unique to the characteristics of each person's hug.

Tri.os (AUS)

Tri.os is a joyful, interactive installation that encourages people to have fun together by interacting with six, cute triangular-shaped cartoon characters projected on a large screen. Each character comes alive when human participants use their own movements to control the on-screen action.

Under Foot (AUS)

Under Foot celebrates the blending of light that occurs when the warm, rich tones of an Australian sunset interact with the colours and textures of the sandstone pylons of the Sydney Harbour Bridge. The resulting artwork highlights the everyday foundations of Sydney's landmarks and the materials from which the city is built.

UNFURLII (Lebanon and NZ)

Visitors will love meeting the *UNFURLII* - shy, luminescent creatures that unfurl like a fern to relax and coil up when approached. Made of simple, translucent bars of light, *UNFURLII* flex and twist in response to wind and weather, and retreat by curling up when visitors reach up to them.

Underwater Forest (AUS)

Underwater Forest celebrates the beautiful maritime industrial architecture in Sydney's Walsh Bay. The installation illuminates the Australian tree trunks that support the iconic wharves, celebrating the beauty of the intricate patterns and textures of this 'underwater forest'.

U-Tube (AUS)

U-Tube is an interactive sculpture made from thousands of sliding tubes that, when approached, takes visitors to an imagined 'science-fictional' world. As visitors approach the portal, an array of lights and sounds will be activated, responding to the movements of the individual in a 3D dimension.

Vastitude (AUS)

Vastitude is a playful and engaging light installation that interacts with visitors through social media, encouraging users to send words or phrases through a dedicated social media portal, which are then interpreted and translated into colours, speed and animation.

Vein (AUS)

Celebrating the mysterious properties of crystal quartz, the artwork arranges a 'vein' of giant, crystalline forms into a multi-faceted seam of light that runs along the underside of Greenway lane, reframing our perceptions of The Rocks landscape.

Vision^(Reflection) (AUS)

Through illumination effects and projected animations, *Vision^(Reflection)* explores that space where vision and reflection collide and encourages participants to question their perceptions and to observe their everyday life, and the world around them, in a different way.

Wormhole Galaxy (AUS)

Visitors of all ages are invited to enter the *Wormhole Galaxy* portal to enjoy a pinball-style, collaborative game experience. Played in a futuristic, three-dimensional space, players can collect bonus points by working together to trigger animated designs hidden in hot spots within the game.

You Spin Me Right Round (AUS)

You Spin Me Right Round hijacks urban streetlights and releases their potential for facilitating impromptu disco breaks. As visitors wander through three locations around the Vivid Light walk precinct, from Walsh Bay to The Rocks, they will have the option to spin circular discs connected to existing streetlights, setting mirror balls turning and disco lights flashing along the street.

Visit www.vividsydney.com to see the Vivid Sydney Light Walk map and installation locations.

Note to Media: Please see detail on Vivid Sydney Precincts, including Darling Harbour, Martin Place, Chatswood and Central Park, in separate Vivid Sydney Precinct Backgrounder document available on the Vivid Sydney Media Centre (www.vividsydney.com/media-centre).

Media Contacts:

Katie Lettice, Red Agency

M: 0405 470 925

E: katie.lettice@redagency.com.au and/or vivid@redagency.com.au

Kate Campbell, Destination NSW

M: 0418 126 211

E: kate.campbell@dnsw.com.au

Melissa Wilson, Destination NSW

M: 0419 093 882

E: Melissa.wilson@dnsw.com.au

Media Centre: www.vividsydney.com/media-centre

About Vivid Sydney

Vivid Sydney is the world's largest festival of light, music and ideas, which for 23 days - from 27 May to 18 June 2016 - transforms the Harbour City with its colourful creative canvas.

In 2015 Vivid Sydney attracted a record 1.7 million attendees. Now in its eighth year, Vivid Sydney is owned, managed and produced by Destination NSW, the NSW Government's tourism and major events agency. Vivid Sydney features large scale light installations and projections (Vivid Light); music performances and collaborations (Vivid Music including Vivid LIVE at the Sydney Opera House); and creative ideas, discussion and debate (Vivid Ideas), all celebrating Sydney as the creative hub of the Asia-Pacific. For more information visit www.vividsydney.com.