

Cardinia Shire Council

Expression of Interest

Public Art Commission

Ranges Ward

Submissions close 5pm, Sunday 27th May 2018

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# INTRODUCTION

# *Cardinia Shire Council*

Cardinia Shire is diverse across all of its communities. From the hills to the plains, Cardinia Shire has a wide range of natural and built environments. Comprising 1,280 square kilometres of land, Cardinia Shire is situated 50 kilometres south-east of Melbourne and is one of eight ‘interface councils’ forming the perimeter of metropolitan Melbourne and providing a transition between urban and rural areas. Cardinia Shire is experiencing some of the fastest population growth in Australia. The population is located in three distinct areas: the hills, southern rural sub-regions, and the growth area (which encompasses Pakenham).

In 2012, Council adopted the reviewed Cardinia Shire Council Public Art Policy, outlining Council’s commitment to the ongoing provision of public art within the Shire through:

* incorporating public art into the urban and natural landscape through adopting a ‘whole of Council’ approach to planning, selection and maintenance of public art
* developing a high quality, progressive and varied public art collection through best practice Artist commissioning and selection processes
* encouraging community connection and belonging, through the development of public art that is relevant to the community.

## *Public art commission and artists residency*

Cardinia Shire Council is extending an invitation to suitably experienced artists to submit an expression of interest for the development of two public artworks to the value of $78,000. The commission will include an artists residency/ community engagement component in the concept development phase valued at an additional $4,500. Two artworks are to be designed and situated along the walking tracks joining Emerald and Cockatoo.

This document will provide a broad outline of the project and conditions to be met, and advise applicants of the information required for an Expression of Interest (EOI) submission to be considered for short-listing.

# SELECTION PROCESS

Artists responding to the project brief will be ranked according to the evaluation criteria set out in this document. From these one artist will be selected to engage with the community through an agreed residency model and to develop several concepts. The selected artist will be paid a concept development/ residency fee of $4,500 and will be required to engage with the community and the sites to develop the concepts. Artists will be required to consult with Council’s Conservator prior to submitting their concepts (at Council’s expense). A final concept with marquette/s (or equivalent) will then be presented at a meeting with Council’s Public Art Selection Committee.

The selection committee will select its preferred concept using the selection criteria detailed in **Section 9** of this brief. The selection panel may choose not to commission any of the concepts submitted if they do not meet the selection criteria.

**The selection panel’s decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.**

# PROJECT BUDGET

Each shortlisted artist will receive a residency and concept development fee of $4,500 to undertake community engagement and concept development. Whilst community engagement is a requirement, artistic control remains with the artist at all times.

The successful artist will then be commissioned to implement their project proposal to the value of $78,000 for both works.

This amount is in addition to the concept development/ residency fee and is to cover all costs associated with the project from concept approval through to the handing over of the work (commission acceptance), including all applicable costs relating to: materials, labour, fabrication, artists’ fee, agents fee, insurance, landscaping and lighting etc.

# PROJECT TIMELINES

Indicative project timelines (milestones to be negotiated with selected Artist/s):

* Expressions of Interest April 27- May 27
* Appoint Artist June
* Residency/ concept development July- September
* Final concept presentations and selection October
* Fabrication November- May 2019
* Installation May 2019
* Official Launch 1-2 months after installation

**\*** Please note timelines are flexible however installation of work must be completed within the 2018/19 financial year.

# TARGET AUDIENCE

The residents of Emerald and Cockatoo will be the direct beneficiaries of the work, along with Puffing Billy commuters, visitors and tourists and users of the Emerald/ Cockatoo walking trail. More information can be found in the township strategies at: https://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/directory/16/strategies\_policies\_and\_plans/category/33

# 5 SITE DETAILS

### Site specific work

The project seeks a site specific work, meaning that the concepts proposed and the successfully selected public art work will have a direct relationship with, and be in response to, the physical, symbolic, cultural, ecological, psychological, social and political environment in and around the location of the artwork.

### The site

The walking trail between Emerald, Cockatoo and Gembrook has been identified by residents as an area that could house a public art trail and artistically link the three towns. The community has plans to activate sites along the trail in the future with temporary nature based art installations. The purpose of this commission is to create two sculptural works along the Emerald and Cockatoo stages of the trail (a previous work has already been commissioned for the Gembrook township.)

For the purposes of this commission the ‘site’ is limited to the walking trail through Nobelius and Emerald Lake Park and the walking trail through Cockatoo Township.

Final positioning will need to be determined in conjunction with Council representatives and landholders.

# 6 INTERPRETIVE VALUES AND THEMES

The strength, success and longevity of this project lies in establishing meaningful connections with local residents and visitors. The aim is that this site specific work will increase the vitality and richness of community experience in the area.

Artists are encouraged to devise relevant thematic approaches and to consider how they would meaningfully engage the community (target audience) in the concept development phase if shortlisted.

# 7 MATERIAL SELECTION

Although concepts are not required at this stage, artists are requested to identify their preferred medium/s and materials for the project. The materials selected must be durable given that ephemeral projects are outside the scope of this project and final work will become part of Council’s public art collection.

# 8 RESIDENCY/ COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

It is a requirement that the artist spend considerable time at the site during the concept development phase. Three venues have been identified as potential spaces the artist can utilize during the residency phase: the Ash Wednesday Bushfire Memorial Education Centre in Cockatoo, the Emerald Lake Park Environment Centre and the Nobelius Heritage Museam in Nobelius Park. Artists are required to submit a community engagement/ residency plan for the concept development stage of the project. The residency model is intended both to provide the artist with an opportunity to engage with the site and community in situ and also to provide the community with an opportunity to engage with the arts and creative processes. We acknowledge the diversity of artistic practices, and invite the artist to propose a model that best suits their individual practice, this may include test sites for ideas, workshops, site interventions, meet the artist talks as examples. Whilst the residency is intended primarily to take place during the concept development phase, the artist may also propose further community engagement through the duration of the project if desired.

NB: this is a non- accommodated residency

# 9 EOI SELECTION CRITERIA

Artists’ proposals will be measured against the following criteria:

* Proposed community engagement/residency plan
* appropriateness of the thematic approach
* ability to deliver the project
* Artistic merit

‘Community engagement’ will encompass:

* experience in community engagement and or artist residency
* a clear process of community engagement and how it will influence the final concept.

The ‘ability to deliver the project’ will encompass:

* proven experience and evidence of past projects
* a clear and feasible project plan and demonstrated success in meeting agreed project timelines
* a clear and feasible project budget and proven success in working within agreed budgets
* material selection.

# 10 REQUIREMENTS OF THE ARTIST’S EOI PROPOSAL

You must provide the following in your proposal:

* well articulated description of the proposed community engagement process
* well articulated residency model;
* well articulated thematic approach
* evidence that the site has been researched
* indication of the preferred materials
* outline of the method of approach from research to resolution
* estimated time schedule for making and installing the work with key dates to facilitate progress payments.
* images of past work
* an estimated budget or example of a budget from a previous work

# 11 SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

* Walking trail maps

# 12 FURTHER INFORMATION

For any further information or to arrange a site visit prior to submitting please contact the Project Manager:

Jadah Pleiter, Cultural Development Officer

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