

Expression of Interest – Lead Artist

Unknown Journeys Exhibition (working title)

Request for EOI – Lead Artist

Project Title: Unknown Journeys Exhibition (working title)
Contact: Fatima Almeida & Dave Thomson
Email: arts@cardinia.vic.gov.au
Closing time: 9:00AM
Closing date: MONDAY 24 JUNE 2019
Lodgement: Via email to arts@cardinia.vic.gov.au

INTRODUCTION

Cardinia Shire is diverse across all of its communities. From the hills to the plains, the Shire has a wide range of natural and built environments. Comprising 1,280 square kilometres of land, it 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).

Cardinia's Shire's major cultural facility, the Cardinia Cultural Centre is currently undergoing a \$9 million redevelopment, adding a technologically leading contemporary art gallery and artist rehearsal studios to the existing facility.

Cardinia Shire Council is extending an invitation to experienced artist(s) who may wish to be shortlisted for the design and development of a digital exhibition – the opening exhibition in the new gallery at the Cardinia Cultural Centre (CCC).

This document will provide a broad outline of the project and conditions to be met, and advise applicants of the information required to be considered for short-listing.

1 CARDINIA CULTURAL CENTRE PROFILE AND CONTEXT

Cardinia Cultural Centre is undergoing a redevelopment to refurbish parts of the existing building and add new sections to the facility.

Following a Masterplan that was created for the centre, this redevelopment stage includes:

- A new art gallery including the opportunity for contemporary, digital and new media art to feature
- New artist rehearsal studios
- A new façade with a second entry to the building
- An expanded foyer + new amenities and meeting rooms

These additions will provide Cardinia Shire residents with the opportunity to experience a wide range of artistic performances, exhibitions and activities, and provide the region's artists with a central hub for their creative practice.

2 PROJECT PROPOSED CONCEPT

The 'Unknown Journeys' exhibition will be the signature feature of Cardinia Cultural Centre's re-launch and will help to set a new direction for how Cardinia Shire engages with both the community and professional artists.

The exhibition will be an engaging and interactive representation of cultural diversity within Cardinia Shire, utilising current residents and their diverse stories as content. This content will manifest as a digital arts installation, which may include multi-disciplinary and/or experimental arts (sound, video and light) aspects. The work will be installed in the new 22m x 9m gallery, with 16 channel spatial sound system, flexible data projection capability, 8 moveable walls/screens and central-spine rigging capability.

The concept of the artwork will include a range of life journeys from Cardinia Shire residents living across the Shire – including residents from each of the three distinct Ward areas:

1. Central Ward described as the 'urban growth zone' where six new families move to the area daily
2. Ranges Ward described as 'the hills district' rich with arts, markets and stunning outdoor spaces
3. Port Ward described as 'the agricultural belt' with 32 small towns stretching down to Western Port Bay

With 150 nationalities now represented locally, 'Unknown Journeys' is intended to reflect the diverse residents of Cardinia Shire – weaving together these stories which make Cardinia Shire so culturally rich and unique. The digital art/multimedia installation will allow Cardinia Shire's residents to connect, learn, engage and think anew about their local communities.

3 PROJECT BENEFITS

- Highlighting Cardinia Shire's arts program in the broader community through a digital art installation
- Connecting Cardinia Shire's residents through personal stories and digital arts
- Showcasing the cultural diversity of Cardinia Shire
- Community pride
- Professional artists working with Cardinia Shire's communities to produce and create a meaningful exhibition
- Providing a unique digital arts experience for Cardinia Shire's communities and beyond.

4 PROCESS AND WORK OUTLINE

1. Selected lead artist will work with relevant council officers to identify between 9 to 15 residents that represent a broad cross section of Cardinia Shire's demographics and geographical regions.
2. Lead artist, with administrative assistance from relevant council officers, will interview (including documentation/recording) these residents as primary material for the exhibition.
3. Lead artist will work with an immersive arts production company (tbc) to prepare the primary material for exhibition.
4. Lead artist will oversee the installation of the exhibition in collaboration with the above company and relevant council officers.
5. Lead artist will deliver explanatory/interpretive content, artist talks and workshops in conjunction with the exhibition.

5 PROJECT TIMEFRAME

ITEM:	WORK TIMEFRAME:
Expressions of Interest	May - June
Finalise Artist/s	June
Community Engagement and Content Collection (Steps 1&2 above)	July
Exhibition Content Finalised (Step 3 above)	August
Exhibition Installation (Step 4 above)	Mid-September
Official Launch	Friday 20 September
Talks and Workshops	Sept – Feb (intermittently; to be negotiated)

6 PROJECT BUDGET

The successful artist(s) will be commissioned to deliver the project; with payment to the value of \$12,000 ex GST.

This amount is to cover all costs associated with the project from concept approval through to the delivery of the exhibition including community engagement, recording stories through photography/video/ storytelling, collating stories and content, designing and developing of the exhibition, delivery of exhibition. Council will separately procure an immersive arts production company to assist the Lead Artist with Steps 3 and 4 and relevant council officers will also provide assistance throughout the project.

7 SELECTION PROCESS

A shortlist will be compiled from those artists who best meet the selection criteria below. It is anticipated that there will be 2-3 artists shortlisted and invited to attend an interview.

8 EOI SELECTION CRITERIA

- Experience working on social engagement projects
- Skill as an interviewer/documenter of people and their stories
- Skills in sound recording and production; photography and videography
- Examples of previous work that demonstrates the above 3 criteria – please also include recent CV
- Ability to deliver the project to the timeframe and budget
- A short statement (up to 500 words) outlining your artistic approach to the brief, including the social research/collection; and its manifestation as a digital, immersive exhibition (images may be included)

9 ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS

- 2-3 professional referees
- Current relevant insurance and licenses including public liability, police check and working with children check

10 FURTHER INFORMATION

For any further information please contact Project Managers:

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Name: Dave Thomson
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