

Kate
Morales

n̄v̄us
23rd biennale of sydney

The BIG Welcome

Erin Coates, *Alluvium* (still), 2020, video with sound, 9:30 minutes. Score composed by Stuart James, percussion performed by Louise Devenish. Copyright © Biennale of Sydney

MAJOR GOVERNMENT PARTNERS



PRINCIPAL PATRON



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MAJOR STRATEGIC PARTNER



We are so honoured to welcome you all here.

Take a moment right now to allow yourself to fully arrive. Allow the dust to settle in your mind. Bring your attention to your body, your breath, this present moment. You have arrived!

Welcome.

We welcome your excitement and your trepidation. Your clear inquiries and your big question marks. We welcome your wide eyes and open hearts right alongside your side eyes and cynicism/scepticism.

You are welcome here.

Your culture is welcome. Your ethnic origin is welcome.

Your race, your skin hue, accent, food preference, and all of the complexities that make up your cultural identity are welcome here. The histories, herstories, and experiences of your ancestors are honoured and welcomed.

We welcome you with all of the connections you bring in with you, the children in your lives, your partners, siblings, parents, the animals in your lives, and other loved ones in your communities.

You are welcome here.

We welcome your spiritual practice, your religious affiliation, the path you walk. However you hold that aspect of your life is welcomed.

Your love is welcome here. How you love, who you love, and your understanding of what love is are all welcome.



Image: Tank Stream Way, Four Minutes To Midnight, 2022

We welcome you in all of the ways your sexuality has evolved and is evolving.

We welcome you in all the ways your gender has evolved and is evolving.

We welcome you in your ignorance. We welcome you in your privilege. We welcome you in your grief. We welcome you in your guilt and shame.

You are welcome here.

We welcome the parts of yourself that you're still figuring out.

We welcome you in your roles as learners, activists, teachers, healers, feelers, intuitives, parents, caretakers, students, artists, witches, change agents, magicians, educators, and warriors.

We welcome you at whatever level of mental and physical wellness you are currently functioning. We welcome your introversion and your extroversion. We welcome all of the experiences that led you to this moment.

Thank you for surviving!

We welcome your wounds and scars. We welcome you at whatever level at which you are currently decolonising. We welcome you wherever you are in divesting from systemic patriarchy, white supremacy, ableism, and all other intersecting forms of oppression. We welcome you as you unlearn internalised anti-blackness and cultural norms that are not serving the health of our interconnected communities.

You are welcome here.



We offer gratitude to the four directions, the guardian spirits and ancestors of our lands, each of your sacred connections to the lands on which you were conceived, the lands that hosted your births, and the lands of your ancestors.

We welcome you to this gathering that, although across screens and distance, is a place where we sow the seeds of dreams. Let your roots sink into this nutrient dense soil below you, the soil that grows your food, the plants that breathe your air, the waters that nurture all life. Imagines your roots coming out through your feet, down through the floor, arriving into the subterranean aliveness of the Earth below you, growing wide and deep, intertwining yours with the roots of everyone else here, and joining the root system of all of the other living forms to which we are inextricably connected.

Settle in.

Welcome.

