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Biennale of Sydney opens White Bay Power Station to the public for the first time in over 100 years



Image: 24th Biennale of Sydney Artistic Directors Cosmin Costinaș and Inti Guerrero at White Bay Power Station. Photo by Joshua Morris.

Sydney, Australia: White Bay Power Station has been revealed today as the first location for the 24th Biennale of Sydney, marking the first time the revitalised site will open its doors to the public in over 100 years. The 2024 edition, titled *Ten Thousand Suns* is curated by Artistic Directors Cosmin Costinaș and Inti Guerrero, and will be presented across Sydney from 9 March – 10 June 2024.

Chief Executive Officer of Biennale of Sydney Barbara Moore said: "We are thrilled to be hosting the first major event at White Bay Power Station. Admission is free. We are presenting some of the best contemporary art from around the world and across Australia, with a robust program of music and food too, and we can't wait for you to experience it. For 50 years, the Biennale of Sydney has brought people together to think about and talk about the world we live in, infusing art into the very fabric of Sydney and rejuvenated public spaces across the city. In March, we swing the doors to White Bay Power Station wide open, and we can't wait for you to be part of it."

Minister for the Arts John Graham said: "The Biennale of Sydney at White Bay Power Station will be a major event on the international stage and will draw people from all over the world to view the work of some of the best local, national and international artists in a magnificent new space, with free admission for all.

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"The event will harness Bays West's rich First Nations, multicultural and industrial histories into the iconic location, serving as a world-class destination for people visiting Sydney."

Chief Executive of Placemaking NSW Anita Mitchell said: "Placemaking NSW is delighted to have secured Biennale of Sydney as the first free public activation at the site.

"The opening of White Bay Power Station is the first step in the transformation of the Bays West precinct in line with the Bays West Place Strategy."

Minister for Planning and Public Spaces Paul Scully said: "White Bay Power Station was powering Sydney's trams and dominating the harbour skyline before the Harbour Bridge and then Opera House captured our attention.

"While planning is underway for its long-term future, we are taking this opportunity to let the community immerse themselves in the site, through a program of events and activations, starting with the Biennale of Sydney."

Key Dates

31 October - Program highlights and full locations announcement
5 March 2024 – Media Preview
6-8 March 2024 – Vernissage (Professional Preview)
9 March – 10 June 2024 – Biennale of Sydney open to the public Admission is free.

For further information on the Biennale of Sydney, please visit biennaleofsydney.art.

For more information on White Bay Power Station visit <u>https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/plans-for-your-area/state-significant-precincts/the-bays/bays-west/white-bay-power-station</u>

Ends

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ABOUT THE BIENNALE OF SYDNEY

The Biennale of Sydney is a leading international contemporary art event. It plays an indispensable role in Australia's engagement with the world, and a meaningful role in the life of the nation. For almost 50 years, the Biennale has been a unifying force in the Australian arts sector, embedding boldly creative art exhibitions and experiences in the everyday life of Sydney and putting the artistic excellence of Australia front and centre on the world stage. The Biennale of Sydney has commissioned and presented exceptional works of art by more than 1900 national and international artists from more than 130 countries. The Biennale of Sydney is committed to free access for all.

ABOUT WHITE BAY POWER STATION

The NSW State Heritage-listed White Bay Power Station will soon bring new energy to Sydney and Australia as it opens its doors to the public for the 2024 Biennale of Sydney.





Placemaking NSW has undertaken extensive remediation and conservation works to repurpose White Bay Power Station as an arts, cultural and community hub.

White Bay Power Station will become a focal point for the transformation of the <u>Bays West</u> precinct into a connected and vibrant new area for living, working and recreation.