biennaleofsydney

# YOUR INVITATION TO SYDNEY

## Support as a benefactor and join our Opening Week VIP program in Sydney, 6-10 March 2028



Artwork courtesy of Osvaldo Pitoé and The Mulka Project. Photograph: Daniel Boud.

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S WELCOME

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## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

Since its founding, the Biennale of Sydney has been a meeting place between Australia and the wider world, bringing artists, ideas and perspectives into conversation across borders and cultures. It has helped position Sydney as a place where the world comes together to encounter new ideas, and where artists from Australia and the Pacific can shape the global contemporary art conversation.

We can't wait to welcome you to Opening Week of the 26th Biennale of Sydney to share together an extraordinary week of art, culture and connection. From private artist studio visits and exceptional collections to intimate encounters with leading curators, exclusive performances and opening celebrations, this carefully curated VIP program offers a unique opportunity to forge meaningful relationships, engage with the ideas shaping contemporary art and experience Sydney's vibrant cultural landscape from an unparalleled perspective.



**Barbara Moore**
Chief Executive Officer

# ABOUT THE BIENNALE OF SYDNEY

## Established in 1973, the Biennale of Sydney is the leading free admission event for international artistic exchange in Australia and the Pacific.

For more than five decades, Australia's largest free admission festival centred on contemporary art has brought some of the world's most compelling artists and ideas to Sydney, championed Australian and global First Nations voices, and played an indispensable role in Australia's engagement with the world.

Situated on the land and waters of the Gadigal people, the Biennale of Sydney is enriched by 65,000 years of this continuous living culture. It is the third oldest biennial in the world, after Venice and São Paulo, and has commissioned more new work than any other institution in Australia, supporting the careers of over 2,500 artists from more than 130 countries.

Welcoming over 650,000 local, interstate, and international visitors to each edition, the Biennale is the premier forum for cross-border artistic exchange within a region encompassing eight Australian states and territories, New Zealand, the Pacific islands, and neighbouring parts of Asia.



Family Day with An.Other Collective, 25th Biennale of Sydney, *Rememory*, 2026. White Bay Power Station. Photograph: Ravyna Jassani.

# THE 26TH BIENNALE OF SYDNEY (2028)

**Low Kee Hong has been announced as Artistic Director for the 26th Biennale of Sydney (2028). Kee Hong is Creative Director of Factory International in Manchester, United Kingdom, and was previously Founding Director and General Manager of the Singapore Biennale.**



Photograph: Daniel Boud.

## A BIENNALE CELEBRATNG JOY AND DESIRED FUTURES

For the 26th Biennale, Low Kee Hong has announced a curatorial vision for Sydney, to be shaped by the pursuit of joy and desired futures. Here, the biennial is reimagined as a site to create new beginnings, where artists, dreamers and thinkers embark on ways of reconstituting societies and worlds that insist on hope, joy, and community.

*"My hope is to create an edition that feels generous, proposing new ways of assembly and rebuilding communities and celebrating our capacity for joy in these challenging times. The 2028 Biennale will embrace participation and discovery, inviting people from all walks of life to share in the experience."*

Low Kee Hong, Artistic Director,

## MULTIDISCIPLINARY AND SPECTACULAR

Kee Hong's Multidisciplinary Biennale will bring together artists from across Australia and around the world to develop projects across disciplines, putting visual art into conversation with music, architecture, performance, literature, philosophy, food, fashion, and nature, expanding the range of possible encounters and experiences, with an exhibition of contemporary art at the core.

Kee Hong is also Creative Director of Factory International at Aviva Studios, the most significant cultural institution to open in the U.K. since the Tate Modern in 2000. He was previously Founding Director and General Manager of the Singapore Biennale and held Artistic Director positions at institutions in Singapore and Hong Kong.

# BECOME A BENEFACTOR

**Philanthropy founded the Biennale of Sydney. It continues to fuel our work, elevating artistic voices and bringing contemporary art to diverse audiences. Join a legacy of impact and become a benefactor of bold ideas and global dialogue through art.**

## INSIDE THE BIENNALE

Enjoy an exclusive Benefactor Preview Tour and invitation to the Lights On opening celebration. Gain access to the VIP Opening Week program, featuring curator-led tours, private artist studio visits and exclusive collection viewings.

## BE PART OF THE CONVERSATION

Forge meaningful connections with artists, curators, collectors and cultural leaders, while gaining an insider's perspective on the projects and ideas your support helps bring to life.

## SHAPE WHAT COMES NEXT

Champion bold artistic voices, inspire cultural exchange and help shape a lasting legacy that extends far beyond each Biennale.

## MAKE ART POSSIBLE

Join a global community of cultural leaders, with opportunities to participate in exclusive Australian and international art travel programs*. Associate Benefactors can also direct their support towards a chosen artist project and enjoy a personal meeting with the artist and a Biennale curator.

## YOUR GENEROSITY, RECOGNISED

Receive a personal letter of thanks from our Chief Executive Officer, alongside recognition across Biennale publications, exhibitions, honour walls and our website.

**Be a part of something extraordinary. Make an impact that endures.**



Bennefactor Tour and Lunch, 24th Biennale of Sydney, Ten Thousand Suns, 4 March 2024, Artspace, Sydney. Photograph: Katje Ford.

# EXCLUSIVE OPENING WEEK PROGRAM

## PROVISIONAL ITINERARY

### Monday 6 March

**Experience our full-day benefactor preview tour by luxury coach**

Hop onto our much-loved and longstanding benefactor preview tour, an exclusive first-look experience of the Biennale, taking in all exhibition venues by luxury coach. Meet the artists as you encounter their works and enjoy curatorial introductions from Artistic Director Low Kee Hong. Included as a key benefit for all benefactors, the day includes a complimentary continental breakfast, buffet lunch and an intimate evening drinks reception.





Bennefactor Tour and Lunch, 24th Biennale of Sydney, Ten Thousand Suns, 4 March 2024. Artspace, Sydney. Photograph: Katje Ford.

### Tuesday 7 March

**Uncover Sydney's vibrant grassroots contemporary art scene**

Join the Biennale of Sydney curatorial team for select artist studio visits in Sydney's urban neighbourhoods of the Inner West, before sharing an intimate lunch with some of the most influential leadership voices among our artistic community. Discover exciting and dynamic artist-run spaces over the course of the afternoon, before heading to one of the 26th edition's more unconventional exhibition locations for its opening receptions.

**Late night:** continue the festivities with cocktails and canapés in the extraordinary setting of a private art collection, with spectacular views across Sydney's urban landscape.




VIP Preview, 25th Biennale of Sydney, Rememory, March 13, 2026. White Bay Power Station. Photograph: Ravyna Jassani.

## Wednesday 8 March

### Meet the movers and shakers of the Australian gallery scene

Attend private gallery viewings in the thriving art precincts of Darlinghurst and Chippendale, before gathering to experience the best of Sydney's gastronomical scene over lunch with key gallery directors and leaders from the Australian art market. Continue the day with an exclusive glimpse into the creative world of Brett Whiteley, enjoying a private tour of his historic Surry Hills studio. Conclude your day by attending an exclusive performance from the Biennale's captivating festival programming.




'Lights On' Opening Night, 25th Biennale of Sydney, Rememory, March 13, 2026. White Bay Power Station. Photograph: Ravyna Jassani.

## Thursday 9 March



'Lights On' Opening Night, 25th Biennale of Sydney, Rememory, March 13, 2026. White Bay Power Station. Photograph: Ravyna Jassani.

### Encounter contemporary practices enriched by 65,000 years of continuous culture

Join First Nations artists for in-depth presentations of their work at a key exhibition venue, accompanied by Bruce Johnson Mclean, Fondation Cartier First Nations curatorial fellow. Taste traditional ingredients over lunch, joined by Bruce, Kee Hong and participating artists, before joining First Nations curators at the Art Gallery of New South Wales to tour the museum's spectacular collections of contemporary Aboriginal art.

## Friday 10 March

### Relax and celebrate as your memorable week in Sydney comes to an end

Conclude your unforgettable week in Sydney with an exclusive day trip to Bundanon Art Museum, nestled in the picturesque landscape of regional New South Wales, complete with breakfast and lunch. Return to Sydney for an elegant evening of celebration at the Biennale's principal institutional opening reception, featuring remarks from senior government and cultural leaders.



Benefactor Preview Tour, March 9, 2026. Penrith Regional Gallery. 25th Biennale of Sydney, Rememory. Photogrpah: Jay Patel

# BENEFACTOR BENEFITS

| Your Benefits | Benefactor<br>AU $6,000+ | Associate<br>AU $12,500+ |
|---|---|---|
| **OPENING WEEK** | | |
| Exclusive Benefactor Preview Tour - 6 March 2028 | ✓ | ✓ |
| Eligibility for Opening Week VIP Program – 7–9 March* | ✓ | ✓ |
| Invitation to Lights On opening celebration | ✓ | ✓ |
| **RECOGNITION** | | |
| Acknowledgement across Biennale communications, exhibitions and publications | ✓ | ✓ |
| Personal letter of thanks from the Chief Executive Officer | ✓ | ✓ |
| **ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCES** | | |
| Eligibility for international art travel programs* | ✓ | ✓ |
| Eligibility for Australian art travel programs* | ✓ | ✓ |
| Tax-deductible giving in eligible jurisdictions | ✓ | ✓ |
| **PERSONALISED PATRONAGE** | | |
| Support an artist project of your choosing, guided by a bespoke curatorial proposal | ✗ | ✓ |
| Exclusive one-on-one meeting with your supported artist and a Biennale curator | ✗ | ✓ |

| Opening Week VIP program | | |
|---|---|---|
| | **First Funders' Rate** | **Standard Rate** |
| **PROGRAM FEE** | AU $2,500 | AU $3,250 |
| **ELIGIBILITY** | Join as a benefactor before 1 March 2027 | Eligible benefactors |
| **DATES** | 7–9 March 2028 | 7–9 March 2028 |
| **FLIGHTS AND ACCOMODATION** | Not included | Not included |
| **TAX DEDUCTIBILITY** | Not eligible | Not eligible |

*Additional costs apply. International tax deductibility is available only in eligible jurisdictions through Chapel & York, subject to applicable requirements.

# IMPACT AND REACH OVERVIEW 2026

**657,930**

People visited the 25th Biennale of Sydney.

**18%** Visitors from outside of Sydney

**7%** International visitors

**12.8m** digital reach

**450** media clippings

**173** international clippings

**277** domestic clippings

**449** Artists

**83** Exhibiting artists and collectives

**366** Musicians and performers employed

**219** Artworks

**58** New artist commissions

**37** Countries and territories were represented by artists participating in the Biennale.

**20** Locations

**1,030** Events and experiences

**254** School Visits

**9,115** Number of Students

# SECURE YOUR PLACE

| COST SUMMARY | |
|---|---|
| **Benefactor levels** | **Contribution** |
| Benefactor | from AU $6,000 |
| Associate | from AU $12,500 |

| OPENING WEEK VIP PROGRAM | |
|---|---|
| **First Funder's rate** | **Standard Rate** |
| AU $2,500 | AU $3,250 |
| Join as a Benefactor by **1 March 2027** | Avaliable to eligible Benefactors |

## PAYMENT INSTRUCTIONS

Please complete your payment to:

**Biennale of Sydney Ltd - Westpac Banking Corporation**
**BSB: 032-032**
**Account Number: 192429**
**Swift Code: WPACAU2S**

Please label: **"BOS benefactor"** and your last name

Remittance advice: finance@biennaleofsydney.com.au / Booking advice: tomr@biennaleofsydney.com.au

Opening Week VIP Program fees are additional to Benefactor contributions. Flights and accommodation are not included. Program fees are not tax-deductible.

# CONTACT DETAILS

**For bookings and enquires, please contact the Biennale of Sydney development team.**

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Ngurrara Artists, Ngurrara Canvas II, 1997. Presentation at the 25th Biennale of Sydney was made possible with generous support from the Oranges & Sardines Foundation. Courtesy of the artists and the Ngurrara Canvas Management Group (NCMG) © Ngurrara Artists.