

9 May 2022

***Curiosity Brisbane* returns to ignite imagination and inspire discovery in 2022**

Ignite your curiosity this winter as Brisbane transforms into an urban oasis of science and art when ***Curiosity Brisbane*** returns from 24 June to 10 July 2022.

A key pillar of World Science Festival Brisbane programming, *Curiosity Brisbane* will energise the cultural heart of Brisbane city with a world of discovery over 17 days of immersive science, art and technology, inspiring curious minds of all ages during the Queensland winter school holidays.

Award winning artists, scientists, engineers, designers, students and storytellers have created 20 physical and digital installations, known as *Curiosity Artworks*, that will challenge and delight visitors of all ages.

From giant bird nests, Antarctic icebergs, shapeshifting wildlife, the courtship rituals of an Australian spider, a robot's stream of consciousness plus many more, the artworks will bring scientific concepts to life.

Spread across South Bank and South Brisbane's Cultural Precinct along a free, 5km walking trail, visitors will have the chance to get outdoors and explore this multi-sensory experience that encourages you to think, feel, listen, and question. *Curiosity Brisbane* artworks will also be brought to life through a series of workshops and talks with the artists.

The anticipated annual spectacle is presented by Queensland Museum Network as part of World Science Festival Brisbane and was rescheduled after flooding events impacted its planned delivery in March this year.

Queensland Museum Network CEO Jim Thompson said exploring the installations of *Curiosity Brisbane* is an extremely engaging and thought-provoking way for people to consider some of the biggest and bravest ideas shaping our world.

"In March, in the wake of the serious flooding events, we shifted World Science Festival Brisbane online to deliver a virtual program. Thousands of people joined us online and I am now delighted that the curious minds of Brisbane and beyond can come together in person to walk the trail and feel the energy and creativity of *Curiosity Brisbane*," Dr Thompson said.

Minister for the Arts Leanne Enoch said connection and collaboration between art and science is at the heart of the World Science Festival Brisbane.

"*Curiosity Brisbane* is a creative platform to showcase the power of combining art, science and technology," Minister Enoch said.

"The imaginative minds behind these curiosities come from a tapestry of artistic backgrounds including sound artists, engineers, multimedia artists, lecturers, and gamers, coming together to tell their stories and present their ideas.

FEATURING

“Visitors have the opportunity to interact with selected *Curiosity* artworks using their smart phones and to view the installations from different perspectives by meeting the artists.

“The Queensland Government has committed \$9 million for the World Science Festival Brisbane from 2022 to 2024 to engage Queenslanders with hands on science and to grow our reputation as a leader in delivering exciting cultural events.”

Brisbane artist, academic and *Curiosity Brisbane* Curator Jay Younger said visitors can expect to be delighted by a surprising mix of artworks, waiting to be discovered by curious minds.

“*Curiosity Brisbane* is a world-class experience, featuring creations from prominent Australian artists in the field of art, science and technology who are at times in direct scientific collaboration,” Jay said.

“As a key part of World Science Festival Brisbane programming, it was devastating to see *Curiosity Brisbane* postponed earlier this year due to the flood. The delay has done nothing but heighten our excitement in highlighting the important and wonderful relationship between art and science that is the key feature of *Curiosity Brisbane*.

“I am also thrilled for the students who have been working so hard with our artists though the *Curiosity Schools Challenge* to be able to see their impressive creations showcased to the public.”

Highlights include **Georgie Pinn**’s *OCHE/ECHO*, a part interactive sculpture, part giant storyteller at South Bank’s Riverside Green that uses live generative animation, high-end facial capture technology and projection-mapped storytelling to help people put themselves in the picture.

At the State Library Green, **Carol McGregor** creates a space for physical reflection in *Acknowledging Place*; a large-scale sculpture of Cottonwood Tree leaves in the colours of the Aboriginal flag where people gather for artist led creative activations focusing on the Aboriginal history of this place.

Luminous Threads by **Kirsten Baade** combines the artisanal craft of embroidery with modern fibre optic technology that changes colour and intensity at Queensland Museum’s Whale Mall.

Composer **Erik Griswold** joins forces with social scientist **Rebecca Cunningham** to create *Sounding Tides* at Riverside Green, a kinetic sculpture that translates 40 years of data into sound and asks whether we can hear the climate changing.

Other artworks explore the intersection of art and science by pairing electronic music with the mating call of frogs; filmmaking with DNA extraction; and ancient ocean biology with augmented reality and science fiction.

In further sciency celebration, the iconic *Night of the Nerds* will also run as part of a World Science Festival Brisbane program, for two sessions on Saturday 2 July 2022 at Brisbane’s iconic Powerhouse.

Hosted by Mark Humphries, World Science Festival Brisbane’s *Night of the Nerds* will see two all-star teams of scientists, tech heads and funny people battle through a series of challenges in the ultimate nerd showdown. Tickets will be available at worldsciencefestival.com.au from Monday 16 May 2022.

FEATURING

Tourism and Innovation Minister Stirling Hinchliffe welcomed the rescheduling of *Curiocity Brisbane* to June.

“*Curiocity Brisbane* is a unique and very popular event with the city’s visitors and tourism operators,” Mr Hinchliffe said.

“Last year, *Curiocity* contributed more than \$2 million to Brisbane’s visitor economy benefitting accommodation and transport providers, cafes, restaurants and tourism experiences.

“Brisbane’s warm winter weather is also great time of year for visitors to discover the many tourism experiences on the city’s doorstep from the stunning Moreton Bay Islands to the world-famous Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary.”

Brisbane Lord Mayor Adrian Schrinner said the exciting mix of science with outdoor art installations would encourage locals and visitors of all ages to explore Brisbane.

“Brisbane is known for its spectacular weather all year round, especially our winters, so this is the perfect time to explore the installations,” Cr Schrinner said.

“With new dates coinciding with the school holidays, *Curiocity Brisbane* will also be a fun and engaging way to keep the children entertained by exploring the wonders of science, art and technology.

“After a tough start to 2022, I know we are more than ready to feel the energy that *Curiocity Brisbane* will bring to South Bank Parklands and the city’s cultural precincts.”

Keep up to date with *Curiocity Brisbane* news and World Science Festival Brisbane program information by subscribing for updates at worldsciencefestival.com.au

CURIOCITY BRISBANE 2022 **Artworks and Artists**

BOTANICAL GARDENS, GOODWILL BRIDGE, South Bank and CBD

- *City Symphony* - QMF and Textile Audio
TRAIL Sites located at City Botanic Gardens, Goodwill Bridge, Queensland Gardens and Queen Street Mall.
- *CurioCreatures (QR code- Collect them all)* - Alinta Krauth & Jason Nelson (EphemerLab)
TRAIL Collect all 15 across South Bank, the Goodwill Bridge, and Queen Street Mall

SOUTHBANK

- *Mirage Project (Iceberg)* - David Burrows & Australian Antarctic Program
- *OHCE/ECHO* - Georgie Pinn with guest creators MacGregor State High School
- *Sounding Tides* - Erik Griswold & Rebecca Cunningham
- *The Wandering Birds Have Returned to the River (Even Bernice)* - Seth Ellis & Michelle Vine with guest creators Lota State High School
- *Amphisonic* - Panos Curos
- *The Origins of Art I and II* - Maria-Fernanda Cardoso
- *DE-CAY-dence* - Donna Davis

FEATURING

- *Communing With Robots* - Peter Thiedeke
- *In the Air* - Priscilla Bracks & Gavin Sade (Music: Greg Jenkins and Gavin Sade)

CULTURAL PRECINCT

- *Baidam Tithuyil* - Brian Robinson
- *Acknowledging Place* - Carol McGregor
- *Soft-Body Adapters* - Kellie O'Dempsey
- *CURIOCITY EcosysSTEAMs* – Dalby South State School
- *TIMEE22* – Isis District State High School
- *Luminous Threads* - Kirsten Baade
- *93% Human / Breathwork* - Helen Pynor
- *Self-talk is our superpower!* – Blackall Range Independent School
- *Cooyinnirra in Flames* – Boonah State School

For further information, images or interviews please contact:

Nat Ogbourne, Aruga

E: nat@aruga.com.au / M: 0437 836 649

Queensland Museum media team – media@qm.qld.gov.au

We acknowledge the First Peoples – the Traditional Owners of the lands where we live and work, and we recognise their continuing connection to land, water and community. We pay respect to Elders – past, present and emerging – and acknowledge the important role Aboriginal Peoples and Torres Strait Islanders continue to play within the World Science Festival Brisbane and Queensland community.

World Science Festival Brisbane 2022 is presented by Queensland Museum Network with support from Queensland Government and Strategic Partners Tourism and Events Queensland and Brisbane Economic Development Agency.

ABOUT WORLD SCIENCE FESTIVAL BRISBANE (WSFB) | worldsciencefestival.com.au

Queensland Museum Network holds exclusive licence to host World Science Festival in the Asia Pacific – the only global extension of this initiative, and WSFB has attracted more than 800,000 attendances and \$36 million into the Queensland economy since 2016. WSFB reinforces Queensland's position as a knowledge economy and ignites new and challenging discussions about Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) so that more and more people experience the value, impact and wonder of science.

ABOUT CURIOCITY BRISBANE | 24 June – 10 July 2022

Since 2019, Curiosity Brisbane has sparked inspiration and innovation, transforming our city into an interactive place to "explore, create and play". Curiosity Brisbane showcases physical and digital installations for visitors to discover and explore and in 2022, is delivered as part of WSFB, presented by Queensland Museum Network.