

Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday 4 February 2021

***Curiosity Brisbane* transforms the city with a packed program of science, art & tech**

From interactive and immersive installations to thought-provoking conversations, ***Curiosity Brisbane*** has unveiled an intriguing program of curious events and ideas that will spark inspiration from 12 to 28 March.

The 17-day celebration of science, art and technology transforms Brisbane into a world of discovery with more than 60 Curiocities across four precincts; the City Botanic Gardens, South Bank, South Brisbane's Cultural Precinct, and the Brisbane CBD.

Curious visitors of all ages can explore, create and play with the physical and digital *Curiocities*, including 28 never-before-seen installations created by artists and makers from across the state and around the globe.

Curiosity Brisbane includes the popular ***World Science Festival Brisbane*** from 24 to 28 March, launches the inaugural ***Curious Conversations*** series, hosted by *Master of Curious Conversations Benjamin Law*, unveils the winners of the ***Queensland Schools Challenge*** and welcomes GOMA's two-night ***The Motorcycle Up Late*** event on 19 and 20 March.

The world-class 2021 program reflects Queensland's place as a global hub for science, technology, innovation and the arts.

Curiosity Brisbane is presented by the Queensland Government, through Tourism and Events Queensland and the Department of Tourism Industry Development and Innovation, and Brisbane City Council, through Brisbane Economic Development Agency.

Minister for Tourism and Innovation and Minister for Sport Stirling Hinchliffe said ***Curiosity Brisbane*** would return from 12 to 28 March this year with a blockbuster line-up.

"Curiosity Brisbane is back bigger and better than ever in 2021," Mr Hinchliffe said.

"This is a one-of-a-kind event. It's designed to capture imaginations as our great city is transformed by more than 60 installations known as 'Curiocities' across four precincts at the City Botanic Gardens, South Bank, South Brisbane's Cultural Precinct and the Brisbane CBD.

"Almost half are world and national premieres, making Brisbane the first place you can experience them. It is also fantastic to see local artists involved in the creative processes of 14 of the Curiocities," he said.

Mr Hinchliffe said with state's borders now open to most domestic travellers, the 17-day event was the perfect time for interstate visitors to book an extended Queensland holiday experience.

KEY EVENT

 **World Science Festival Brisbane**
PRESENTED BY QUEENSLAND MUSEUM

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The Courier Mail

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"Curiosity Brisbane is expected to bring around 325,000 curious visitors into Brisbane and contribute \$14 million to the local economy," Mr Hinchliffe said.

"This year's event features new initiatives, including a series of Curious Conversations hosted by Benjamin Law and a Queensland Schools Challenge, with six schools from across the state taking part.

"Queenslanders have done a magnificent job with COVID-19 which means we can host events like Curiosity Brisbane that support jobs for Queensland's economic recovery.

"The Palaszczuk Government's It's Live! In Queensland events calendar for the first half of 2021 is estimated to generate more than \$215 million, demonstrating the importance of destination events," he said.

Brisbane Lord Mayor Adrian Schrinner said *"Curiosity Brisbane showcases Brisbane's world-class science, innovative and creative expertise, bringing together a mix of local and national innovators and makers to create the exciting trail of more than 60 Curiocities."*

"There's a Curiosity for everyone of all ages awaiting to be explored, from South Bank to the City Botanic Gardens, and I especially encourage everyone to keep watch for the installation that's stationed on board one of our CityCats," he said.

Curiosity Brisbane's line-up of more than 60 interactive and immersive Curiocities was curated following a global expression of interest, and includes:

- 28 making their world premiere
- two making their Australian debut
- 14 created by Queensland artists and makers
- 12 created by Brisbane makers and artists
- six created by primary and secondary students as part of the *Queensland Schools Challenge*
- one located on a CityCat.

The Curiocities are spread across four precincts on a 6.5km walking trail throughout the City Botanic Gardens, South Bank, South Brisbane's Cultural Precinct and the Brisbane CBD.

CITY BOTANIC GARDENS

- Evanescent
- Pocket Cosmos
- Future Cities Future People
- Virtual Footprints
- Enchanted Tropics
- Trace, Touch, Feel The Brisbane River
- Maiwar AR
- The Party Button
- The Residents

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SOUTH BANK

- Engines of Eternity: Galing
- The Immersive Guitar
- Wave Machine
- Chatterbox
- Vortibles
- Platonic Volumes & Cosmologies
- Floating Nature
- Colour Me Beautiful
- James The Rat King
- Maiwar AR
- The Party Button
- Microbiota

SOUTH BRISBANE CULTURAL PRECINCT

- James The Rat King
- Maiwar AR
- The Magic of Mycelium
- The Living Lantern
- Now You See Me
- Photosynthesis Ballet: Florescentia
- STORM (Stochastic Translator of Resonant Morphology)
- The Dancing Water Fountains (Isis District State High School)
- Hope (Ferny Grove State High School)
- Polyethylene Reef (Trinity Bay State High School)
- The 3 Towers (Payne Road State School)
- Curiosity Blooms (Dalby South State School)
- What if we worked together? (Leichhardt State School)

BRISBANE CBD

- 8-Bit Brisbane
- Shoal
- Bees Being
- Artificial Ecology
- Maiwar AR

An interactive map detailing the locations of each boundary-pushing and imagination-sparking *Curiosity* can be viewed at curiositybrisbane.com

Curiosity Brisbane Executive Producer Theresa Famularo invited visitors of all ages to explore and engage with the free digital and physical attractions drawn from science, technology, engineering, arts and maths (STEAM).

"These incredible Curiocities represent a unique opportunity for visitors to tap into the creativity and imaginations of world-renowned placemakers, right here in Brisbane," Ms Famularo said.

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"In 2021, visitors can view Brisbane as it was before settlement, hear about the City's fascinating history of pandemics and plagues and glimpse the future as they build a digital ecosystem.

A delegation from each of the six winning *Queensland Schools Challenge* entrants will bring their *Curiosity* to Brisbane, explore *Curiosity Brisbane* and receive exclusive behind-the-scenes tours, in partnership with *World Science Festival Brisbane*.

The *Queensland Schools Challenge* builds on school-based activities, including *City of Science*, that are a popular part of the successful *World Science Festival Brisbane*.

Queensland Museum Network CEO Dr Jim Thompson said the *World Science Festival Brisbane* program will deliver more than 120 events for all ages across the five days.

"We will be taking science out of the labs and to the streets of Brisbane with family-friendly outdoor programs demonstrating the pure fun of science," Dr Thompson said.

"There will also be a mix of digital programming alongside, fast-paced, thoughtfully crafted, content-rich panel discussions featuring the world's best minds in science."

In celebration of *The Motorcycle*, the Gallery of Modern Art's a world-exclusive exhibition, *Curiosity Brisbane* will host a special two-night event, *The Motorcycle Up Late*, on Friday 19 March and Saturday 20 March.

Enjoy exclusive after-hours access to the leading exhibition from 6pm to 10.30pm and be entertained by a full-throttle line-up of live music including **The Hi-Boys**, **Tia Gostelow**, **WAAX** and DJs **Black Amex**, **Lori Lee** and **Sweaty Baby** on 19 March and **JK-47**, **Tex Perkins**, **VOIID** and DJs **Eamon Sandwith**, **Paolo** and **Patience Hodgson** on 20 March.

The Motorcycle Up Late also features Newstead Brewing Co pop-up bars and dining at GOMA Bistro, Bodhi Tree Bar, Foyer Bar and River Room Bar.

Tickets start at \$22 with two-night passes also available.

Making its debut in 2021 is *Curious Conversations*, a FREE, ticketed series of thought-provoking conversations with creators, makers, scientists and engineers from 13-27 March.

Writer and broadcaster **Benjamin Law** is the inaugural *Master of Curious Conversations* and will guide visitors as they immerse themselves in a world of ideas and conversations.

He will accompany First Nations storyteller **Brett Leavy** in a Virtual Time Machine; explore a hyper-connected underworld with a trio of artists and naturalists; reduce, reuse and recycle with architect and designer **Guillaume Crédoz**; pair musicians with engineers; and discover the science of theatre with **Dead Puppet Society**.

See the full *Curiosity Brisbane* program and register for *Curious Conversations* at curiositybrisbane.com

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For the World Science Festival Brisbane program and tickets, visit worldsciencefestival.com.au

To purchase tickets to *The Motorcycle Up Late*, visit gagoma.qld.gov.au/whats-on/events/up-late/the-motorcycle-up-late

The Queensland Government, through Tourism and Events Queensland and the Department of Tourism Industry Development and Innovation, and Brisbane City Council through the Brisbane Economic Development Agency, is proud to support Curiosity Brisbane, which features on the It's Live! in Queensland events calendar. Your perfect next event is in Queensland where live events combine with the most incredible destinations, and life is beautiful one day, perfect the next.

A selection of HI Res imagery is available for download [here](#).

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ABOUT CURIOCITY BRISBANE | 12 - 28 March 2021 | curiositybrisbane.com

Let your imagination roam free! Curiosity Brisbane is a 17-day celebration of science, art and tech, where new possibilities play and big ideas collide. From 12 to 28 March 2021, explore a packed program of interactive installations and events, including the World Science Festival Brisbane and The Motorcycle Up Late at GOMA, and watch as the city around you is transformed into a world of discovery.

ABOUT WORLD SCIENCE FESTIVAL BRISBANE | 24 – 28 March 2021 | worldsciencefestival.com.au

World Science Festival Brisbane explores and celebrates the entanglement of science and art through a curated program of thought-provoking conversations, inspiring theatrical and cinematic experiences, interactive workshops and engaging demonstrations. Originating in New York, Queensland Museum Network secured an exclusive licence to host World Science Festival in the Asia Pacific from 2016–21. The only global extension of this hugely popular initiative, World Science Festival Brisbane reinforces Queensland Museum's position as a leader in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education and engagement.

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