Welcome to Pacific Park

Pacific Park links the city with the beach, it is a beautiful place to gather.

"We all sit on Awabakal and Worimi land "Niirun Yalawa Awabakal and Worimi burrei".

The City of Newcastle (CN) Acknowledges its Local Government Area sits within the Country of the Awabakal and the Worimi peoples. We Acknowledge that Country for Aboriginal peoples is an interconnected set of ancient relationships. CN Acknowledges the custodianship of the Awabakal and Worimi peoples and the care and stewardship they have performed in this place since time immemorial.



This is the Night Spaces Project.

The project.

This project is an exercise in the concept that the more people in a space, the safer it will be.

The Henges.

Our light box configurations are a modern play on the ancient concept of a stone Henge. Arranged in a row, they invite exploration, play and discovery.

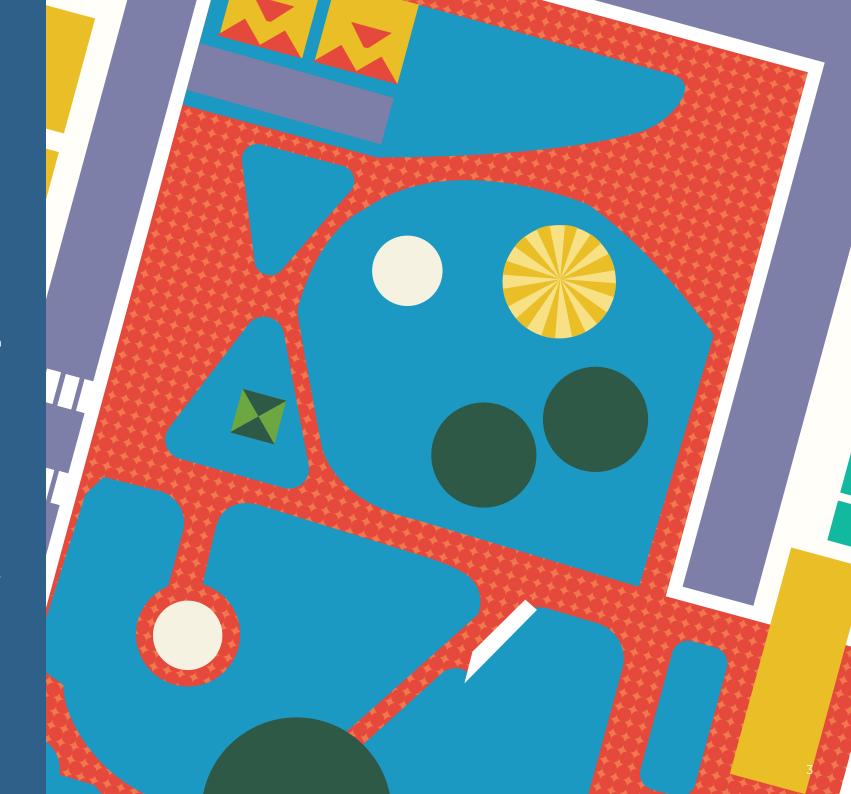
They illuminate the space and also display works of art drawn from the Newcastle Art Gallery collection.

This is only the beginning of the ways in which you can interact with the space through the Henge.

The Henges have been built in such a way that while they are modular, each location can have different experiences.

They also sleep.

When no one is nearby, or the batteries are low the Henge will sleep, demonstrating the finite resource of power and the importance of conserving supply.





Discovering abstraction

The works of art selected for Pacific Park explore the theme of abstraction within Newcastle Art Gallery's collection. Abstract art does not attempt to depict a visual reality, it uses shapes, colours, forms and gestural marks to communicate with the viewer instead.

All of the works of art selected hold layers of meaning and narrative. You will see artists referring to themes such as the Newcastle industrial environment, the ocean and riverways, and traditional homelands.

This selection features local artists James Drinkwater and Brett McMahon, female sculptural artist Hilarie Mais, and First Nations artists Daniel Walbidi and Mirdidingkingathi Juwarnda Sally Gabori. We hope these works serve as a reminder to find yourself in an array of forms and places.

John OLSEN *Life Burst* 1964 (detail) acrylic on plaster on hardboard, 3 panels 146.4 x 641.0cm Gift of the Sir William Dobell Art Foundation 1976 Newcastle Art Gallery collection Courtesy the artist

Can you find how to change the sounds?

Watch the artworks come to life.

Listen closely to hear the sounds of art come alive. See if you can trigger new sounds as you explore each henge. Use the ZapCodes you see around you to uncover more information on each artwork.

Experience augmented reality with your phone



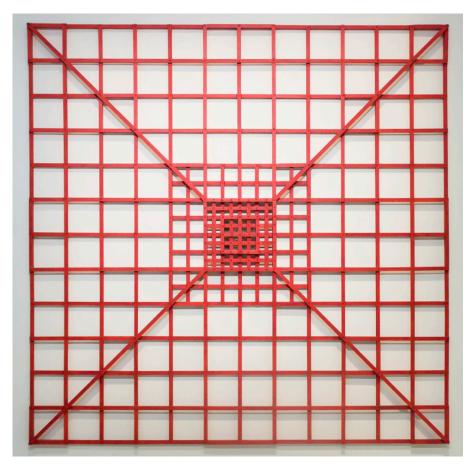






to discover more

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Hilarie MAIS Endgame II 1988 (detail) oil paint on wood, mirror 213.0 x 213.4 x 5.8cm Purchased 1988 Newcastle Art Gallery collection Courtesy the artist



Brett McMAHON *Canopy* 2006 (detail) oil on linen 236.0 x 190.5cm Gift of the artist through the Australian Government's Cultural Gift Program 2008 Newcastle Art Gallery collection Courtesy the artist



Jan BILLYCAN *Kirriwirri* 2008 (detail) acrylic on linen 120.0 x 60.0cm Gift of Bill and Megan Williamson through the Newcastle Region Art Gallery Foundation 2008 Newcastle Art Gallery collection Courtesy the artist and Short St. Gallery



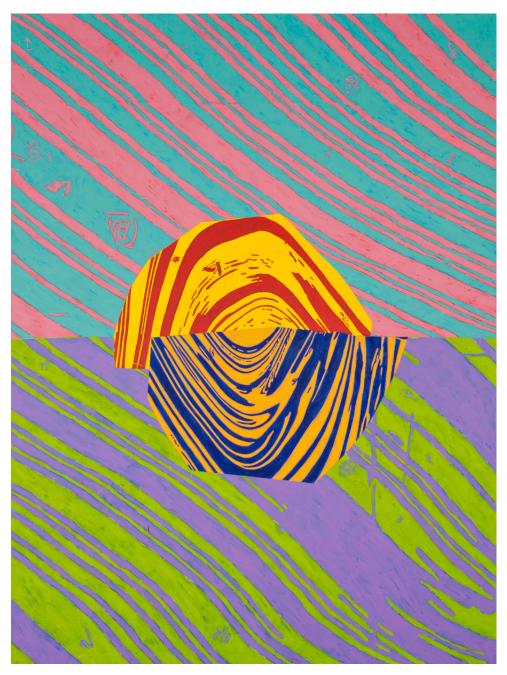
Mirdidingkingathi Juwarnda Sally GABORI *My Country* 2008 (detail) synthetic polymer paint on linen 198.0 x 101.5cm
Gift of Don and Justine Osborne through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program 2010
Newcastle Art Gallery collection © Mirdidingkingathi Juwarnda/Copyright Agency, 2021



Marion BORGELT *Strobe series no 4* 2007 (detail) oil on canvas 196.5 x 152.0cm Gift of the artist through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program 2010 Newcastle Art Gallery collection ©Marion Borgelt/Copyright Agency, 2021



Daniel WALBIDI *Winpa* 2006 (detail) synthetic polymer paint on linen 165.0 x 111.5cm Les Renfrew Bequest 2010 Newcastle Art Gallery collection Courtesy the artist and Short St. Gallery



Peter MALONEY *Equinox* 2012 (detail) acrylic on polyester 161.0 x 120.0cm Purchased 2013 Newcastle Art Gallery collection Courtesy the artist and Utopia Art, Sydney



Boxer MILNER TJAMPITJIN *Purkitji (Sturt Creek)* 2005 (detail) synthetic polymer paint on linen 150.0 x 75.0cm
Gift of Newcastle Art Gallery Foundation 2015 Newcastle Art Gallery collection
© Boxer Milner Tjampitjin/Copyright Agency, 2021

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James DRINKWATER VMI 4 2017 (detail) oil and collage on hardboard 172.0 x 134.0cm Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by James Drinkwater and dedicated to Vincenzo Drinkwater 2018 Newcastle Art Gallery collection Courtesy the artist

The Story of the Henges

The Henges have been built using sustainable products, utilising local suppliers wherever possible, solar powered and using a green concrete product. They may look simple but they are very smart in terms of design.

This project has been joint funded by City of Newcastle and NSW Justice and Communities, as part of the NSW Community Safety Fund. The intention is that, in known spots where safety is a concern, we can deploy the Henges to light the space and create activity.

The Henges were built under the New City Makers program, using interdisciplinary collaboration, user co-design and test-bed access in real-life environments.

Newcastle has a long history of innovation and resilience, and have emerged as a leading post-industrial smart city with a culture of makers, creatives and problem solvers.

Newcastle is the perfect environment to test which applications will be the most successful in solving urban challenges. The Henges are an outcome of this process concerned with understanding and solving problems that matter.

The building of the Henges has been a collaborative and local endeavour. Working with our partners Design Anthology, a local industrial design business, an idea has been turned into a physical and technological reality.

Newcastle Art Gallery has applied their creative eye and curated dedicated exhibitions for each deployment, utilising the vast collection of the gallery and reimagining it in a new context, for a whole new audience. FastLAB, at the University of Newcastle, applied creativity with technology, music and interaction, working with local business Saphi to create the bespoke light box.









Newcastle Art Gallery



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