



BIG hART SKATEBOARDING PROJECT TO LIGHT UP THE CUTAWAY AT BARANGAROO

The artistry of skateboarding will take centre stage at **Barangaroo** this year, when Big hART brings its exhilarating **SKATE** project to the Cutaway.

From February to July, **Big hART** will transform the Cutaway, an expansive concrete space the size of thirty tennis courts, into an underground creative space where skateboarders, musicians and digital artists collaborate to develop a new show called SKATE.

SKATE will be a ground-breaking new theatre work, combining the artistry of skateboarding and the universal language of rhythm. The fusion of music, projection and movement, using responsive technology, will create a breathtaking sensory experience.

Skateboarders from across Sydney of all ages, styles and skill levels will be invited to experience the making of SKATE, with regular open skate jams, demos, a children's skateboarding program and interactive workshops culminating in public showings of the theatre spectacle in development.

"We are delighted to welcome Big hART, Australia's leading arts and social change organisation, to Barangaroo to celebrate the art, passion and technique of skateboarding," said Sandra Bender, Executive Director, Activation and Precinct Management at Barangaroo Delivery Authority. "Skateboarding is one of the world's fastest growing sports and will debut at the Tokyo Olympics in 2020. We look forward to welcoming skateboarders from across Sydney to the Cutaway to collaborate on this adrenaline-charged creative project."

Scott Rankin, CEO of Big hART and Executive Director of SKATE, said: "The intent of SKATE is to take the artistry of skateboarding into new territory, not only creating a show that will tour worldwide, but also enable skateboarders to become drivers of change for disadvantaged communities. Big hART is thrilled to be partnering with the Barangaroo Delivery Authority on this exciting project."

Skateboarding has been a major focus in Big hART's work with young people for twelve years. The organisation has worked with skaters in various social impact programs from early projects in Tasmania, to the famed White Night events at Melbourne skate parks, to a recent creative development in Melbourne in 2017. Big hART is Australia's leading arts and social change organisation, having worked in over 50 disadvantaged communities for over 25 years and won 45 awards. SKATE is underpinned by a social impact investment strategy which will see all profits from the production re-invested in disadvantaged communities across the country.

Barangaroo is one of the most significant waterfront urban renewals projects happening in the world today. Covering 22 hectares, the project has already delivered the spectacular Barangaroo Reserve on Sydney Harbour, as well as a thriving commercial and dining district. The Barangaroo Delivery Authority oversees public art, cultural activities and public programs within the precinct. From large-scale, immersive experiences during Sydney Festival to Australia's longest running independent design market Finders Keepers, Barangaroo hosts a program of vibrant cultural experiences that explore big ideas and celebrate the rich history of the site on which Barangaroo stands.

More information at skate.bighart.org or follow us on Facebook @SKATEtheproject or Instagram @skate_bighart #SKATEtheCutaway



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