



Australian Skaters, Musicians and Artists Hit China in Landmark Cultural Exchange

Skate of Mind tour connects young Australians and Chinese communities through skateboarding, music and digital art

A unique people-to-people exchange between Australian and Chinese young people kicks off on 14 May as the Skate of Mind tour begins a ten-day journey through Hong Kong, Guangzhou, and Shanghai.

Running from 14 to 23 May, the tour brings together Australian skateboarders, musicians and digital artists to deliver community workshops and events in partnership with Chinese skate schools and Olympic athletes — building genuine friendships through a shared love of skateboarding and creative expression.

Developed by Big hART, the project taps into skateboarding's status as the world's fastest-growing sport — a culture with its own universal language that crosses every national border.

The tour will visit skateparks in Hong Kong, travelling to skateparks in Guangzhou, before wrapping up with a week-long residency in Shanghai — bringing Australian and Chinese musicians, digital artists and skateboarders together to collaborate and create.

Community workshops throughout the tour will focus on skateboarding skill-sharing, music and digital art, with content captured for online audiences to extend the project's reach far beyond the communities visited.

The China tour is the first leg of a broader pilot program supported by the Australian Government and the National Foundation for Australia-China Relations, with an Australian tour of the Northern Territory and Tasmania to follow in August 2026.

Our skate team includes:

Nixen Osborne (SLAM Skate of the Year 2026)

Liv Lovelace (SLAM New Gen of the Year 2026, Olympic Competitor 2024)

Felicity Turner (World Skateboarding Tour World Cup Kitakyushu Women's Street Qualifiers)

Shaun Boucher (Skater)

Ben Currie (Skater)

Sam Larkins (Skater)

Locky Rankin (Skater/Community Producer)

Sabine Bester (Digital Artist & Social Media)

Ben Douneen (Videographer)

Riley Walker (Photographer)

Lincoln Smith (Producer)

About Skate of Mind

Skate of Mind is a touring collective of skaters, filmmakers, photographers, and artists. Through community events, workshops, and immersive arts experiences in regional communities, we promote youth mental health and social cohesion—using skateboarding as a bridge. The Skate of Mind 2026/27 Tour aims to build connection between Australian and Chinese young people through skateboarding, music and film.

About Big hART

Big hART is one of Australia's most established arts for social change organisations, making art, building community, and driving positive change for over 35 years.

China Media enquiries: Andrew Guan Mu, Kickerclub, guanmu@gmail.com



Australia Media Enquiries, Christina Donoghue

E: chris@bighart.org M: 0405013357

W: bighart.org



Australian Government



NATIONAL
FOUNDATION FOR
AUSTRALIA-CHINA
RELATIONS

澳中基金会