



MEDIA RELEASE
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SONGLINES TO HELP LIGHT-UP FESTIVAL

The Con's *Songlines* installation has been confirmed as an integral part of the Smart Light Sydney festival's **Light Walk**, expected to attract thousands of visitors in May and June.

The 10 metre high and five metre round red cylinder was created as part of the Conservatorium's **Open Day** in March, and emanates musical sounds as prevailing winds "caress" three giant Aeolian Harps acoustically placed inside the structure.

It was officially opened by the NSW Minister for the Arts, **The Hon Virginia Judge**, and the Lord Mayor of Sydney, **Clover Moore MP**.

A new low energy power source will be fitted to allow bright, altering shades of red, blue, yellow and green.

Minister Judge and Lord Mayor Moore were so impressed with the installation they supported an initiative for it to be included on the route of the nightly Light Walk, which will be conducted from **26 May to 14 June** - starting from Observatory Park to Circular Quay and the MCA, up to The Con and then onto the Opera House.

Smart Light Sydney is a major component of the inaugural **VIVID** creative arts festival, showcasing concerts and other live music, new technology, nightscapes, symposia and exhibitions.

A feature event called **LICHT** will see musicians from The Con perform for the first time in Australia extracts from the controversial electronic orchestral music of German composer Karlheinz Stockhausen in two nights of free entertainment that will also include talks by Richard Toop, the world's most eminent Stockhausen scholar.

Songlines, created by Sydney architect **Joe Snell**, was inspired from Bruce Chatwin's interpretation of Indigenous Australian's ancient invisible pathways told in song.

"*Songlines* is a handsome addition to the Sydney streetscape, and is another example of the great creativity of our artists," commented Minister Judge.

Clover Moore said: "*Songlines* is a welcome and refreshing addition to Sydney's urban art. It looks stunning, is perfectly placed outside one of the world's best music institutions and by using the winds to create music it is environmentally sustainable as well as technically beguiling."

The Dean and Principal of The Con, Professor **Kim Walker**, said *Songlines* is "an attractive addition to the incredible and dazzling lighting designs created for the Light Walk and signals to the community at large that the Conservatorium is a place of welcome for everyone."

Conservatorium benefactor, **Mary Turner**, whose funding assisted the development of *Songlines*, said: "It is very clever and intriguing, and says something brilliant about young minds at work."

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