

# Nocturnal 2012 – Project Brief

## Background

Each year since 2006 a light and public art based winter event has been a feature in central Dandenong. This presentation of contemporary projections and temporary installations has been delivered in association with internationally renowned projection artist Ian de Gruchy, Walker St Gallery, RMIT and Chisholm Institute. The focal points have combined the façade of an eight storey building in central Dandenong, and a myriad of smaller sites and gritty locations along streets laneways and car parks in close proximity to the main street, Drum Theatre and Afghan Bazaar Cultural Precinct.

Each year a highlight of the program is an after dark public art walking tour which takes in multiple sites and brings people face to face with the artists behind the works for an expanded experience of the installations. This initiative is created in partnership with Chisholm Institute and RMIT Public Art as a platform for experimental light based projects.

Nocturnal shares a relationship with the Light in Winter Festival at Fed Square through a shared program of short films screened in Greater Dandenong and at various sites throughout Fed Square in June.

## Scope – Small Ephemeral Projects

Light or sound based public art projects (using solar, battery or mains power)

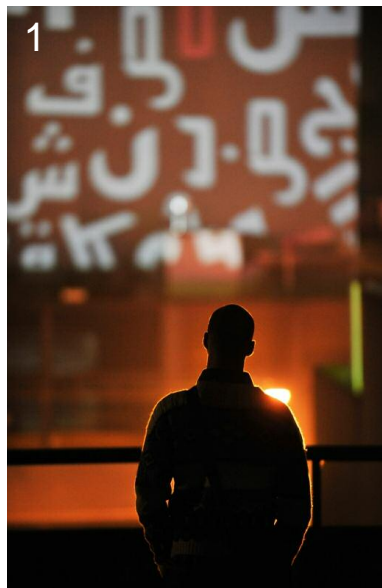
Projects that contribute to after dark animation of the city in winter  
Minimally invasive projects with resolved installation requirements & power source

Exploring or communicating ideas relevant to the theme 'car park'  
All works must be suitable for ongoing display over a two week period  
Projects that are interactive or engage with local audiences and the general public are encouraged

Materials for projects must be self funded as they form part of RMIT / Chisholm course work.

## Theme – 'Car Park'

This theme is open to broad interpretation however there is a deliberate connection to Dandenong's association with car culture stemming from early industries such as car manufacturing at General Motors Holden and the city's suburban car centric context. Artists can interpret the car park theme through an interrogation of space /structure through ideas such as circulation, levels, layers, form and height. Alternatively ideas around journey, tracking to and from, and moving can be considered in relation to the car park as a zone that people enter as part of their working or daily life.



1. Projection image by Reeham Hakem (background) 2010
2. 'Baby Blues' by Renata Slusarski 2010
3. 'Built to Spill' Michael O'Dwyer 2010

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## Sites

A number of sites in central Dandenong have been preselected for students/artists to analyse and respond to. They combine sites that are fully exposed to the weather and others that are more protected and enclosed.

Sites include; Ewart Lane, Thomas Street car park (internal spaces), unnamed laneway on the southern side of Thomas St car park, environs surrounding Walker St Gallery. Students may consider other sites between those formally nominated, along Thomas / Walker Street.

Projects that are of a roving nature, interactive or form part of a mobile / moving concept are also invited. These have proved a popular and successful part of previous years events for their value in engaging with the general public.

## Night Walks

As a primary feature of Nocturnal there will be two organised night walks held for the general public to attend. The night walks follow a designated route to ensure all works are seen and experienced. These popular and important walks provide a guided encounter with all the ephemeral light based projects and opportunity to meet the artists and learn more about the works. The night walks typically attract over 100 people per night and are a highlight of the Nocturnal program;

The 2012 night walks will occur on **Thursday 7 June, and Thursday 14 June 2012**

## Constraints and Practical Considerations

Proposals must resolve how the work will be lit through use of battery, solar or mains power

All concepts must be safe and not obstruct daily activities of pedestrians and vehicles

All projects must be easy to install and remove, minimally invasive and not require complex engineering solutions.

Proposals should factor in the impact of ambient light/street lighting.

Projects should factor in expected weather conditions (wind and rain), as they will be realised in the middle of winter

Projects that occur at heights greater than 1.5 metres will need to be installed by a qualified installer (Council will assist with approved projects)

Proposals requiring a nightly on/off operation must be resolved via a timer or nominated switch based system.



4. Public Assembly fore ground, Rowena Martinich background 2009

5. Projected image by Tom Aluzar 2011

6. 'Multilingual' by Sansern Rianthong 2011

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## Submission Requirements – Small Ephemeral Projects

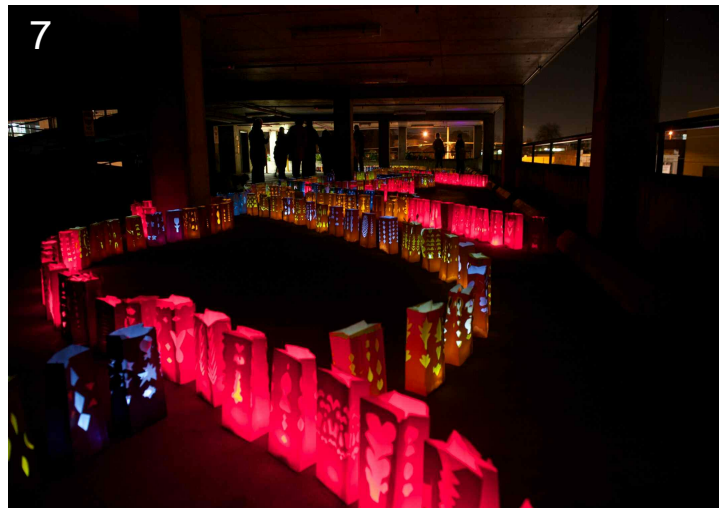
Quality visuals that clearly show the intended work and the location it is intended for including where possible photo shopped images of the work in situ  
A clearly written description that explains the project concept and how it addresses the theme  
An outline of the materials used to make and secure the work and an outline of the installation requirements and the works durability  
Information on the period of display and any operational requirements  
Nomination of a specific site /location for the work – be specific  
Identified method of generating light /sound or accessing power  
Project title and full contact details of the artist submitting  
\* Course co-ordinators are involved in selection processes

## Support Available

Permission for the installation of artworks within agreed sites  
Trade assistance (electrician) for works operating from mains power  
Inclusion in the marketing and promotion of an established annual event (invites/posters/media releases/paid advertisements)  
Professional advice and support through project co-ordination  
The opportunity to realise innovative ephemeral public art projects as part of a broader winter public art program  
Professional documentation and quality images of individual artworks

## Key Dates and Timelines 2012

27th March	RMIT lead site visit / site analysis
20th April	Deadline small project concepts from RMIT & Chisholm short films
24th April	Student proposals assessed by panel
1st May	Deadline Art Almanac ad
8 May	Small projects selected and announced
Mid May	Invites and program/map distributed
20 May	Deadline short films to the theme 'auto'
30-31 May	Installation of all works
1st June	Nocturnal projects ready for 2 weeks viewing
7th June	Nocturnal night walk (1)
14th June	Nocturnal night walk (2)
15th June	Nocturnal concludes



7. 'A Night of 1000 Lights' produced by Anu Patel made by the community 2011



Further information and support is available over the phone or via email  
Contact - Jenny Pemberton-Webb, Place Manager, City of Greater Dandenong  
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