

media release

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***Walking through a Songline* exhibition set to dazzle in Darwin**

Follow in the steps of the Seven sisters and experience the immersive nature of a songline in this multi-sensory digital installation hosted by the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT).

This dramatic digital experience based on Songlines, or Dreaming Tracks, maps the routes of Ancestral beings as they travelled across Australia, creating the land and its people.

Based on a component of the National Museum of Australia's internationally acclaimed exhibition, *Songlines: Tracking the Seven Sisters*, this iteration is an Aboriginal-led exhibition developed in 2017.

Visitors to *Walking through a Songline* at MAGNT Darwin can explore this pop-up light installation in which they will experience the nexus between ancient knowledge and new technology.

This exhibition invites the visitor to journey along the epic Seven Sisters Dreaming tracks, through art, Indigenous voices, innovative multimedia and other displays.

Marcus Schutenko, MAGNT Director said "We are very excited to host the National Museum of Australia's pop-up version of this national touring exhibition. *Walking through a Songline* amplifies MAGNT's vision to share Aboriginal art with everyone who walks through our doors.

We are the very first cultural and scientific institution to showcase the immersive installation in this purpose-built marquee. Visitors can expect to be treated to an illumination of the foundational history of the Australian continent as told by artists, custodians and traditional owners."

Margo Neale, Senior Indigenous Curator and Head of Indigenous Knowledges at the National Museum, said "While this highly acclaimed and much-in-demand exhibition tours internationally we must keep an essential part of it, the beating heart, here in Australia.

"We need to remind all Australians, that although this story has ancient origins, it has critical contemporary relevance and uses contemporary technology as well as more conventional art forms," Ms Neale said.

"If you want to call yourself Australian and share this continent with us, you need to know your story about the creation of this continent and its history beyond 240 years," Ms Neale said.

Angela Hernandez, director of Mosster Studio which created both the original digital installation and the new pop-up version, said "*Walking through a Songline* is a transformative experience that gives visitors the sensation of walking through songlines themselves."

Walking through a Songline opens at the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory from 12 March – Sunday, 26 June 2022 and is free entry.

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