

MEDIA RELEASE
24 March 2017

From Mao's Last Dancer to Brisbane's love affair with food Museum of Brisbane reveals new exhibitions for 2017

Museum of Brisbane has revealed a world-first; *Mao's Last Dancer the Exhibition: A Portrait of Li Cunxin* will open in December.

Mao's Last Dancer the Exhibition: A Portrait of Li Cunxin will chronicle the incredible life of Brisbane resident and international star of the ballet world, from poverty in Communist China to best-selling novelist and subject of an award-winning film.

This revealing world-first exhibition will explore Li's journey from the punishing training of Madame Mao's Beijing Dance Academy to becoming one of China's most celebrated dancers, his dramatic defection to the USA and more, through never-before-seen interviews with family and colleagues, original objects, personal documents and a stunning collection of performance footage.

The Museum, which occupies a unique rooftop home on the roof of City Hall, will also open new exhibition *Tastes like Sunshine* in August.

Tastes like Sunshine will explore the flavoursome side to our city's abundant food story. The exhibition will feature new installations by acclaimed artist Elizabeth Willing, alongside other significant contemporary Brisbane artists - creating a sensory and interactive experience. Visitors will be able to explore our culture, history and relationship of food.

These announcements bring the number of new Museum of Brisbane exhibitions for 2017 to four, following the official opening of [Sit. Pose. Snap. Brisbane Portrait Photography 1850 - 1950](#) and [Robert Andrew: Our mutable histories](#) last night.

All four 2017 exhibitions will have a series of public programs to accompany them including talks and tours by artists, curators, collectors and immersive and fun kids' activities.

Director Renai Grace said the Museum was Brisbane's meeting hub, a place where locals and visitors alike could find out what made the city tick.

"Whether it's our most famous residents who took a long path to get here, or our gorgeous homegrown produce, the influences that shape our identity are rich and diverse," Ms Grace said.

"Our job is to share Brisbane's abundance of culture, art and history, to bring it to life not just through exhibitions but through experiences, workshops, tours, talks and activities that will appeal to kids and adults from all walks of life. We hope everyone can enjoy our 2017 program of events."

From today, Museum of Brisbane will extend its opening hours on Friday evenings until 8pm. Visitors can now enjoy all the Museum has to offer for longer on Fridays, including current exhibitions, sunset Clock Tower tours, a cash bar and craft workshops.

MUSEUM • OF • BRISBANE

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For more information visit museumofbrisbane.com.au

2017 Schedule of exhibitions

3 March - 16 July 2017

[Robert Andrew: Our mutable histories](#)

24 March - 30 July 2017

[Sit. Pose. Snap. Brisbane Portrait Photography 1850 - 1950](#)

18 August - 12 November 2017

Tastes like Sunshine

1 December 2017 - 20 May 2018

Mao's Last Dancer the Exhibition: A Portrait of Li Cunxin

Robert Andrew: Our mutable histories is presented by Museum of Brisbane and supported by Museum Partner Gadens.

Sit. Pose. Snap. Brisbane Portrait Photography 1850 - 1950 is presented by Museum of Brisbane and Hutchinson Builders.

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