

MEDIA RELEASE

28 January 2014

Moreton Bay, David Malouf and Hollywood costumes star at Museum of Brisbane in 2014

A fascinating mix of exhibitions featuring new and newly-discovered objects and artworks of local, national and international significance will make Museum of Brisbane, on the roof of City Hall, a must-visit destination in 2014.

Museum of Brisbane Director Peter Denham said 2014 would be an exciting year with a mix of local, national and international exhibitions.

"In 2014 we are delighted to be working with a high-calibre of artists and collaborators to share the many intriguing stories of Brisbane. The Museum is excited to showcase our city in a worldwide context, exploring Hollywood in Brisbane and celebrating internationally acclaimed authors and artists," Mr Denham said.

Opening on 14 February, *The many lives of Moreton Bay* uncovers untold stories of the Bay's epic history, from its confronting past including a leper colony and prison, Indigenous history, through to the modern intersection of conservation, industry and tourism, in the Bay today.

This monumental social history exhibition includes the amazing find of an 1878 painting by a convict on St Helena Island that is currently changing many assumptions about the former prison, as well as work by acclaimed artists such as Ian Fairweather and Ralph Wilson.

In the year of his 80th birthday, the Museum celebrates internationally acclaimed Brisbane author David Malouf. The exhibition sees a group of contemporary artists including Noel McKenna and Karla Marchesi create new works based on the writing of the award-winning author, to which he in turn will respond to in writing. *David Malouf and friends* opens in May.

For the first time in Australia and in a Brisbane-only exclusive, an incredible private collection of more than 100 original Hollywood costumes, worn by stars including Fred Astaire, Judy Garland, Grace Kelly and Elizabeth Taylor as well as props and collectibles from the 1930s to 1950s, will be showcased from November.

Sourced from a single Brisbane collector, *Costumes from the Golden Age of Hollywood* celebrates the classic films of the era, and some of Hollywood's most famous and enduring stars.

The Museum's *Document* program – an ongoing series of exhibitions that uncover how artists, photographers and observers view and record Brisbane's landscape, history and culture - will include the powerful *Captured: Early Brisbane photographers and their Aboriginal subjects* in March and the stunning *Moreton Island: Euan Macleod* in July.

Captured, curated by Michael Aird, explores the work of four early Brisbane photographers and offers an intriguing insight into exchanges between European settlers and the Brisbane Aboriginal community from 1860 to 1890. Showcasing 46 original carte des visites and more than 170 reproductions, the exhibition also includes a reimagined photography studio of the era.

Moreton Island: Euan Macleod features a series of paintings of Moreton Island by the prolific painter - a perfect companion to *The many lives of Moreton Bay*. Macleod's enigmatic work centres on human interaction with the natural world and provides a unique perspective on

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Moreton Island's rich and abundant landscapes.

Lord Mayor Graham Quirk said residents and visitors would be impressed by the quality of Museum of Brisbane's exhibitions in 2014.

"These exhibitions will attract hundreds of thousands of people to the Museum and further cement Brisbane's status as a creative city offering world-class cultural experiences," Cr Quirk said.

Museum of Brisbane Chairman Sallyanne Atkinson AO said Museum of Brisbane has made a huge impact in 2013 since reopening on the rooftop of City Hall in April, with more than 250,000 visitors.

"In 2014, we hope even more audiences will enjoy this program of exhibitions that will educate, inspire and entertain, while revealing fascinating aspects of our city's culture and identity," Ms Atkinson said.

The many lives of Moreton Bay: 14 February - 12 October 2014

Captured: Early Brisbane photographers and their aboriginal subjects: 14 March - 22 June 2014

David Malouf and friends: 16 May - 23 November 2014

Euan Macleod: 4 July - 12 October 2014

Costumes from the Golden Age of Hollywood: 7 November 2014 - 26 April 2015

Museum of Brisbane is open daily from 10am to 5pm on Level 3 of Brisbane City Hall. Admission is free. Visit www.museumofbrisbane.com.au for more information.

ENDS

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