

The Secret Lives of Costumes with Queensland Ballet

The fascinating life cycle of costumes from design, creation, performance, touring, exhibition and, finally, conservation is revealed by Queensland Ballet's Wardrobe Production Manager and Resident Designer Noelene Hill and Collections Coordinator Meg McKavanagh at Museum of Brisbane on Friday 2 February.

Costumes are garments of intricate detail and dramatic beauty, they are also heavy-duty work wear required to withstand extreme wear and tear.

Presented as part of *Mao's Last Dancer the exhibition*, The Secret Life of Costumes will give the audience with an insight into Ms Hill's creative processes, the technical requirements of construction and the demands placed on a costume by a life on stage.

Ms Hill will also discuss the international network of costume loans across companies that results in many outfits staying on the stage for more than two decades. A great example are the Romeo and Juliet costumes worn by Li Cunxin and wife Mary Li (nee McKendry) in 1990 with Houston Ballet, which remain in use with Tulsa Ballet but are currently on show in *Mao's Last Dancer the exhibition*.

Ms McKavanagh will share her expertise on the collecting, archiving and conserving of costumes as objects of historic and artistic significance.

To book and for more information visit museumofbrisbane.com.au

Media Contacts

Jill Martin | Marketing Manager | M: 0414 283 130 | E: Jmartin@museumofbrisbane.com.au

About Museum of Brisbane

Museum of Brisbane brings our city's vibrant art, culture and history to life through our exhibitions, workshops, tours, talks and children's activities.

Located in City Hall, the Museum is part of the living history of the city, examining how Brisbane and its people change over time and how our individual and collective stories reveal our character and create our identity. We are also the keeper of City Hall's rich heritage, and visitors can experience a bird's eye view of Brisbane from the top of the iconic Clock Tower on one of our popular tours, as well as learn the stories behind City Hall during an insider's tour of the 90-year-old building.

Museum of Brisbane is an avid supporter of the city's artists, designers and artisans. We are dedicated to transforming their artistic vision into a stunning reality through our exhibitions and artist-in-residence programs. The work of Brisbane's artists, designers and chefs can also be found at the Museum Shop which stocks a bespoke range of jewellery, fashion accessories, home-wares, design objects, books, artworks and gourmet food products.

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MUSEUM OF BRISBANE
LEVEL 3, CITY HALL,
KING GEORGE SQUARE

PO Box 12162 George Street Brisbane Q 4003
ABN 52 098 223 413

T: 07 3339 0800
E: info@museumofbrisbane.com.au
W: museumofbrisbane.com.au

