



Photo supplied by the Corridor Project

CASE STUDY

BIG LITTLE HISTORIES CANOWINDRA NSW

Big Little Histories is an amazing local example of achieving so much more than just curating content or an experience but it demonstrates how creativity and can bring so much more to telling and sharing a story.

THE WONDER OF GONDWANA
A Journey into Ancient Australia



**DESTINATION
MARKETING
STORE**

CASE STUDY

BIG LITTLE HISTORIES CANOWINDRA NSW

An example of an experience that moves Curate to Create.

Big little Histories of Canowindra was a singular, multi art-form, 3-day event that interweaved four significant local histories across multiple sites in the regional NSW town of Canowindra. The local histories featured included those of the Devonian period; First Nation; Bushranger; and agricultural activity; culminating in an extraordinary community driven event held at the historic Railway Precinct.

Site-specific works included multimedia projections, performance & visual art plus Indigenous language soundscapes.



All images supplied by the Corridor Project



Critical components

- Community collaboration, participation & ownership - during 2015 & 2018, the communities of the Central West, including farmers, graziers and Indigenous Australians from around Canowindra, shared their stories with the Corridor Project team, allowing the team to produce a significant compilation of documented local oral histories, reflecting a rich variety of viewpoints. This community participation was central to the making and experiencing of this production & its ultimate success.
- Authentic storytelling & emotional connection - an array of sensory techniques were used to tell these local stories. Local oral histories were played throughout the event allowing audiences to hear these accounts from the locals themselves. Photographs of locals were also used to enhance the storytelling. Very powerful ways to engage and connect the audience in a meaningful way to the place, its history and its people. You certainly wouldn't need to be a local to feel the power & emotion of stories presented in this way.
- Technology to enhance story-telling & the visitor experience - the town's grain silos were lit up with animations to give them the appearance of giant aquariums, housing some of Canowindra's earliest residents such as the Grossi and the Mandageria Fairfax, which were fish who lived in the area 360 million to 370 million years ago. Even the use of this relatively simple projection technology helped to create a more engaging & immersive experience for visitors.
- Creative activation of spaces - various sites were used around the town including throughout the rail precinct in Canowindra.
- Legacy & ongoing community benefit - oral & photographic histories are now preserved for ever. The event also breathed new life into the historic railway precinct, which the community hope will be the beginning of a new era for the precinct & area.