

sculpture **50** by the sea

CELEBRATING 50 EXHIBITIONS IN AUSTRALIA & DENMARK 1997 - 2022



Messages of support received
to celebrate 50 exhibitions

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The *Sculpture by the Sea, Cottesloe* exhibition, held in March 2022, marked the 50th Sculpture by the Sea exhibition held at the following locations in Australia and Denmark:

- 23 *Sculpture by the Sea, Bondi* exhibitions on the Bondi to Tamarama coastal walk since 1997;
- 18 *Sculpture by the Sea, Cottesloe* exhibitions staged on Cottesloe beach since 2005;
- Four *Sculpture by the Sea, Aarhus* exhibitions staged in Denmark in 2009, 2011, 2013 and 2015; and
- Five exhibitions held in the 1998 Sydney Olympic Arts Festival, 'A Sea Change', held in Albany (WA), Bondi (NSW), Darwin (NT), Noosa (QLD); and Tasman Peninsula (TAS), with the Tasman Peninsula exhibition staged again in 2001.

Messages of congratulations and ongoing support were received from around the world to mark the occasion of a half century of exhibitions, expressing what Sculpture by the Sea has meant to them – both from a personal perspective and on behalf of the people, places and artists they represent.

This document contains some of the messages received from artists, art historians, politicians, curators and gallery Directors from Australia, China, Denmark, New Zealand and Japan, including past and present Mayors of Aarhus, Waverley and Cottesloe.

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MESSAGES OF SUPPORT RECEIVED TO CELEBRATE 50 EXHIBITIONS

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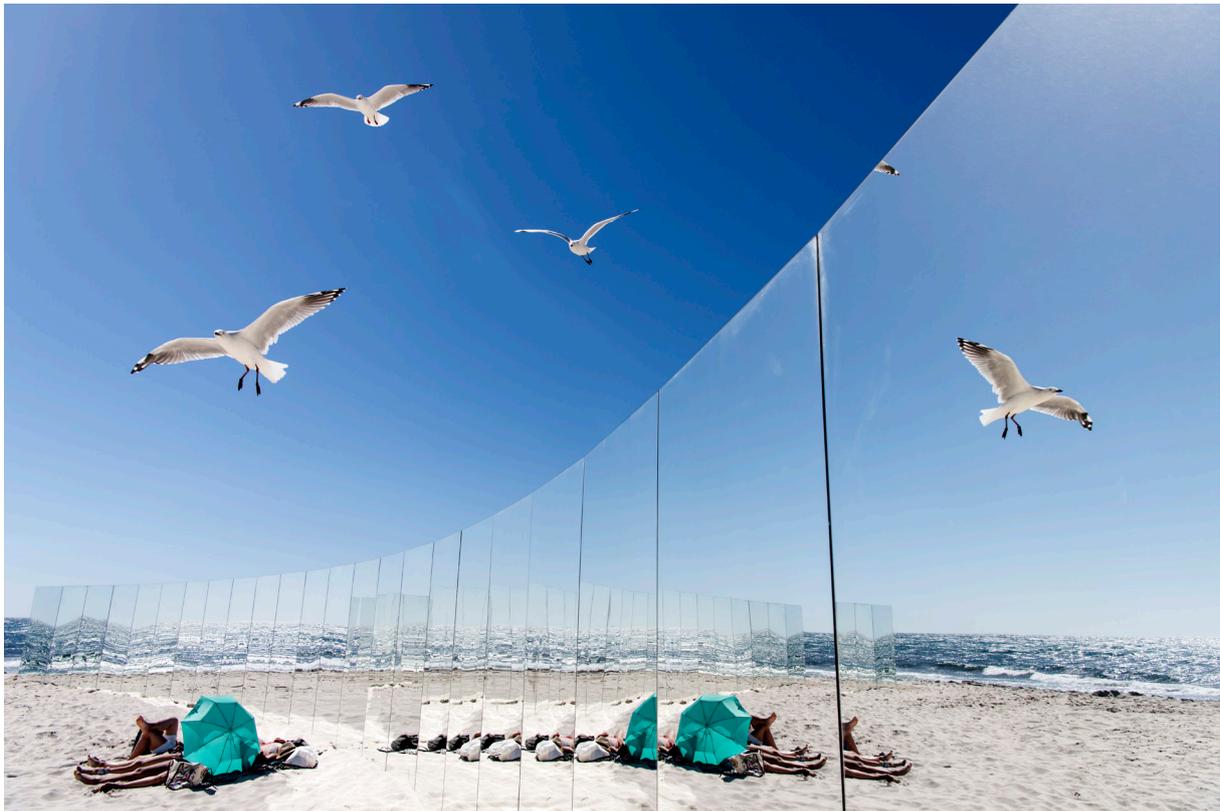
“ Celebrating exhibition number 50 is a milestone so congratulations and many happy returns from Denmark. Sculpture by the Sea is such a unique open air sculpture exhibition, with people from all over the world enjoying the outstanding opportunity to see what is happening in the international scene of contemporary art. The sculptures interact with different types of nature – sandstone cliffs, the blue ocean, the roaring surf, sandy beaches in Australia and even the light green foliage of the Danish beech tree forest.

I really love watching people of all age groups when they discuss the different sculptures – parents with their children, grandparents with their grandchildren, teachers with their students, friends etc. We salute this wonderful cultural exchange between artists and our nations and hope there will be many more in the years to come and that Sculpture by the Sea might return to Aarhus or somewhere else in Denmark soon – we miss it! ”

HANNE BACHE

PRESIDENT THE FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY OF DENMARK,
AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

Lene Desmentik (Denmark), 'Rollercoast', *Sculpture by the Sea*, Aarhus 2009. Photo Peter Jensen



“ How great was 2004–2005

1. Jennifer Hawkins was crowned as Miss Universe.
2. The Beach Boys, or what was left of them, performed on Cottesloe Beach. The party was gate crashed by a girl in a red bikini, complete with goggles and a snorkel, who swam ashore to the cheers of the crowd.
3. And Sculpture by the Sea came to Cottesloe Beach.
4. The Rottnest Swim and Sculpture by the Sea have enhanced the national and international reputation of our beautiful Cottesloe Beach.
5. I have enjoyed my involvement with Sculpture by the Sea and send my best wishes to all involved in this wonderful event. ”

THE HON COLIN J BARNETT

PREMIER OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA 2008–2017

Johan Gjode (Denmark), 'The Desert Island', *Sculpture by the Sea*, Cottesloe 2018. Photo David Dare Parker



“ Congratulations on a half century of Exhibitions.

I have so many happy memories of so many of them, including many on Bondi’s spectacular and dramatic natural canvas and many at wonderful Cottesloe with the sun sinking slowly into the Indian Ocean.

Iconic excellence!

What a ride it has been! Transformative for so many and uplifting for all (and “all” now runs into the many, many millions)! Quite extraordinary!

Well done to all who have been involved over the last 25 years.”

THE HON ANDREW BELL

CHIEF JUSTICE OF NEW SOUTH WALES

LIFE GOVERNOR & FORMER CHAIR, SCULPTURE BY THE SEA

Cave Urban (NSW, Australia), ‘Save Our Souls’ *Sculpture by the Sea*, Bondi 2014. Photo Gareth Carr



“ The positive impact of Sculpture by the Sea on Bondi each year is invaluable.

Our cliffs and beaches are turned into a spectacular art gallery appreciated by thousands of people including many, many school children both local and from across NSW. The boost to local businesses runs into the many millions and the media coverage over the last two and a half decades is a major factor in the international reputation of the Bondi coastal walk.

We have missed the exhibition desperately during COVID. ”

SALLY BETTS

MAYOR OF WAVERLEY 2008–2011 & 2012–2017

Nicole Larkin (NSW, Australia), 'Dynamics in Impermanence', *Sculpture by the Sea, Bondi* 2016. Photo R Indrawan



“ I have been a regular visitor and supporter of Sculpture by the Sea since it first arrived on our West Australian shores in 2005. This annual event epitomises the very best of Australian arts and culture, past and present. The West Australian exhibition is set against the stunning backdrop of one of our best-known locations – Cottesloe Beach. I join with the thousands of visitors who have marvelled at the creativity of the exhibitors and the magical atmosphere created with stunning sculptures nestled between the Norfolk Pine Trees and the clear blue water of the Indian Ocean.

I join you in celebrating the 50th exhibition of Sculpture by the Sea – the national exhibition that brings together local communities, families and our talented Australian artists.”

THE HON JULIE BISHOP

FOREIGN MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA 2013–2018

Kevin Draper (WA, Australia), 'Canopy', *Sculpture by the Sea*, Cottesloe 2006. Photo L Beaumont



“ Congratulations from Aarhus to Sculptures by the Sea on celebrating 50 exhibitions. We are glad that Sculpture by the Sea is kept alive and is still relevant and interesting after so many years. The diversity of the sculptures, the harmony with nature and not least the healthy walks along the beach and the forest were positive experiences for many people. We are still reminded of the exhibitions in Aarhus when seeing the half a dozen sculptures by artists from around the world that stayed in Aarhus as part of our permanent outdoor public collection.”

JACOB BUNDSGAARD

MAYOR OF AARHUS

DENMARK

2011–PRESENT

Ron Robertson-Swann OAM (NSW, Australia), 'Inner Sanctum', *Sculpture by the Sea, Aarhus* 2015. Photo Clyde Yee



“ The Australian Olympic Committee congratulates Sculpture by the Sea on 50 exhibitions in Australia and Denmark.

We are delighted to have provided the catalyst to grow the fledging exhibition, when after the first one day only exhibition in Bondi in 1997, the Sydney Organising Committee for the Olympic Games commissioned five Sculpture by the Sea exhibitions around Australia as a key part of the 1998 Olympic Arts Festival in the lead up to the 2000 Sydney Olympics. These took place in Albany (WA), Bondi (NSW), Darwin (NT), Noosa (QLD) and the Tasman Peninsula (TAS).

I am very proud of the role that the Olympic Movement has played in this wonderful Australian success story.”

JOHN COATES AC

PRESIDENT AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC COMMITTEE 2011–2022

VICE-PRESIDENT INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

Donna Marcus (QLD, Australia), ‘Growth’, Sydney Olympic Arts Festival, Noosa exhibition 1998. Photo D Armstrong



“ Congratulations for the 50th Sculpture by the Sea! I wholeheartedly respect your achievement.

For the last 35 years, I have transformed the remote islands of the Seto Inland Sea in Japan to a place where people could live with hope and renewed energy brought by art.

We believe in the power of art. Let's create a new era together building a society where art is the vital infrastructure.

Once again, I wish you a successful Sculpture by the Sea 2022! ”

SOICHIRO FUKUTAKE

FUKUTAKE FOUNDATION
JAPAN

Haruyuki Uchida (Japan), 'Merry Gate', *Sculpture by the Sea*, Cottesloe 2020. Photo Clyde Yee



“ In modern society, more tolerance for diversity and connection to others are required than ever before.

Through *Sculpture by the Sea*, we Japanese have learned other ways to put into practice these importance concepts across national borders.

We would like to express our deepest respect and admiration for the long-standing activities of this exhibition, which bring many benefits to the world.”

TAKURO KUROKOUCHI

CHIEF CURATOR

THE HAKONE OPEN-AIR MUSEUM

JAPAN

Ken Unsworth AM (NSW, Australia), 'There's Many A Slip', *Sculpture by the Sea*, *Cottesloe* 2014. Photo J Seng



“ Sculpture by the Sea is Waverley’s best cultural partnership. By providing this free outdoor exhibition, people – and especially school children – who might never visit an art gallery are drawn to this stunning setting where they enjoy exploring sculpture and expanding their understanding of the possible. Congratulations to Sculpture by the Sea for sharing its vision with Waverley Council. ”

MORA MAIN

MAYOR OF WAVERLEY 2005–2006

COUNCILLOR 1999–2012

James Dive & The Glue Society (NSW, Australia), 'Hot With A Chance of a Late Storm', *Sculpture by the Sea, Bondi* 2006.
Photo L Beaumont



“ Sculpture by the Sea has become one of Waverley’s best loved events and I congratulate the organisation on their 50th exhibition.

The evolution of the event from the first held in 1997 in Bondi has been wonderful to witness. The now iconic sculpture walk brings visitors from far and wide to delight in the placement of works of art in the special natural environment of the Waverley coastline.

I look forward to Waverley Council’s ongoing collaboration with Sculpture by the Sea and to continue to welcome residents and visitors to a world-renowned exhibition, at a world-famous location. ”

PAULA MASSELOS

MAYOR OF WAVERLEY

2019–PRESENT

Stephen Marr (NSW, Australia), ‘The Optimist’, *Sculpture by the Sea, Bondi* 2012. Photo Marianna Massey



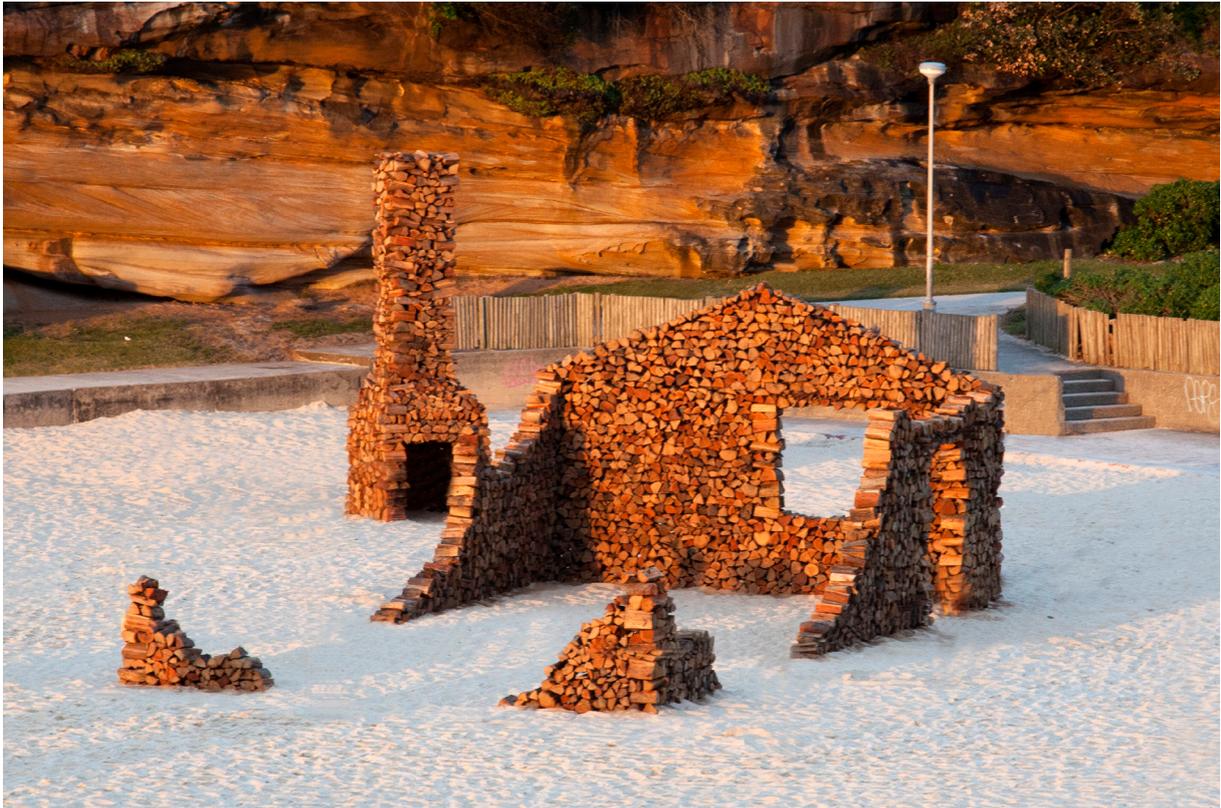
“ A heartfelt congratulations to Sculpture by the Sea. What an achievement to be celebrating your 50th exhibition. I personally had the pleasure of experiencing Sculpture by the Sea in Sydney when I lived in Bondi (a favourite walk along the coast path when Sculpture was on) and of course in Aarhus, Denmark, in 2013 and 2015. It was a fantastic sight to see all the beautiful works along the coast south of the city here. The exhibition had great popular support across its four iterations from 2009 to 2015, and it was much visited, especially by the locals. Sculpture by the Sea has always stood out with its broad appeal as an example of how to bring art out into new surroundings and amongst people. Congratulations again.”

REBECCA MATTHEWS

DIRECTOR AROS MUSEUM

AARHUS, DENMARK

Phil Price (New Zealand), 'Nucleus', *Sculpture by the Sea*, Aarhus 2011. Photo Clyde Yee



“ Just a brief note to convey my congratulations on the 50th exhibition! Sculpture by the Sea has done it yet again at Cottesloe this year with a wonderfully diverse range of sculpture. Sculpture by the Sea’s impact on the development of Australian sculpture has been profound.”

KEN SCARLETT OAM

ART HISTORIAN AND CURATOR
MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

Marcus Tatton (TAS, Australia), 'The Ruin', *Sculpture by the Sea, Bondi* 2011. Photo S Burns



“ My personal congratulations on your 50th exhibition. When you, David, a ‘babe in woods’ on this type of thing, put the proposition for a sculpture festival along the cliff walk to Barbara Armitage and myself, we thought that it sounded an intriguing, if potentially difficult undertaking. However, your enthusiasm and obvious energy and commitment were infectious, and as Waverley Councillors we were keen to get on board and realised that there may be some in our community who could not see the benefit of this type of event, but you (largely) won them over.

Over time it has become a major event on the Waverley (indeed Sydney!) cultural calendar. There is something fundamentally democratic about public art exhibited in a setting that is quintessentially Australia ... Bondi. The hundreds of thousands, who take the walk and view the artworks testify to the genius of the idea.

Wishing you the best for the next 50 (or more) exhibitions. And looking forward to your return to our beautiful Bondi to Tamarama walk. ”

PAUL PEARCE

MAYOR OF WAVERLEY 1997–2004

Norton Flavel (WA, Australia), ‘Just Another...’, *Sculpture by the Sea, Bondi* 2016. Photo Clyde Yee



“ I was delighted as Mayor of Cottesloe in 2005 to welcome Sculpture by the Sea to Cottesloe for the first time and to start the Town of Cottesloe sculpture collection which now has 20 public artworks.

It has been tremendous to watch the exhibition grow into a major international event with artworks from around the world enjoyed by many thousands of people every day, especially the throngs at sunset. ”

ROB ROWELL

MAYOR OF COTTESLOE 2003–2005

Britt Mikkelsen (WA, Australia), 'Oceanface', *Sculpture by the Sea, Cottesloe* 2015. Photo J Seng



“ When I think about the last Sculpture by the Sea exhibition in Aarhus with more than 500,000 visitors from all over Denmark and Scandinavia it makes me very satisfied and happy and I really want you to come back to Aarhus.
I am looking forward to seeing you.”

KARIN SALLING

THE SALLING FOUNDATION

&

CHAMBERLAIN TO HRH QUEEN MARGRETHE II OF DENMARK

Eiiln & Keino (Finland), 'Integration - Interruption', *Sculpture by the Sea*, Aarhus 2013. Photo Clyde Yee



“ As a former Mayor of Waverley Council, it gives me great satisfaction to observe the tens of thousands of people who visit our coastline each year during Sculpture by the Sea. It is a delight that they come for art where they usually come for recreation. The sculptures change ones perception of the magnificent coastline and it is this that appeals to many visitors and residents. Thanks David and team. ”

INGRID STREWE

MAYOR OF WAVERLEY 2007–2008

COUNCILLOR 2004–2017

Philip Spelman (NSW, Australia), 'Ylang Ylang', *Sculpture by the Sea, Bondi* 2003. Photo Jack Bett



“ I am delighted that the 50th Sculpture by the Sea will begin.

When we hear of 4,007 artworks by 1,558 artists from 75 countries, we feel that the depth of the history of 50 exhibitions.

I think each of the 1,558 artists has a deep impression of Sculpture by the Sea in their individual careers. The very many people who visited the exhibition have been amazed by their sculptures.

About 10 sculptors from Japan exhibit each time, with more than two dozen Japanese sculptors having exhibited in total. There are over one hundred of sculptures by Japanese sculptors in new homes across the sea. The majority of them are in public and private spaces throughout Australia. That Sculpture by the Sea has been built up in the midst of unexpected international challenges, such as the Lehman shock and the Covid wreck is testament to its strength.

Now during this time of war we can see Sculpture by the Sea is truly the paradise of peace.”

KEIZO USHIO

ARTIST, JAPAN

42 SCULPTURE BY THE SEA EXHIBITIONS

Keizo Ushio (Japan), 'Oushi Zokei', *Sculpture by the Sea, Bondi* 2016. Photo J Wyld



“ I have had the pleasure and privilege of being involved with Sculpture by the Sea since its inception, and with David Handley for a period before that when he worked for my film production company in Auckland. From small beginnings at Bondi, Sculpture by the Sea has grown exponentially across Australia and in Denmark. It has been tremendous seeing this Festival of Sculpture going from strength to strength, getting more vigorous and more diverse - both as to the artists’ origins and their works. Above all, it has given a major boost to artists creating imaginative sculpture of a high international standard. The New Zealand sculptors we have helped participate in the celebration at Bondi have gone-on to have successful careers worldwide, which speaks volumes about Sculpture by the Sea’s global reach as well as its local importance. The Festival is an inspiration and a gold-standard for such exhibitions across Oceania and beyond. I congratulate all who have played a part in the extraordinary story of Sculpture by the Sea and wish you continuing success in the future. I, for one, certainly look forward to relishing amazing results for years to come.”

SIR JAMES WALLACE

WALLACE ARTS TRUST, NEW ZEALAND

Morgan Jones (New Zealand), ‘The Sun Also Rises’, *Sculpture by the Sea, Bondi* 2019. Photo Charlotte Curd



“ Congratulations to Sculpture by the Sea for its 50th exhibition.

I believe there are a lot more to come.

I have been fortunate to have exhibited 10 times in Sculpture by the Sea in Cottesloe, Bondi and Aarhus. The exhibition has been very important for myself and many of the leading sculptors in China.

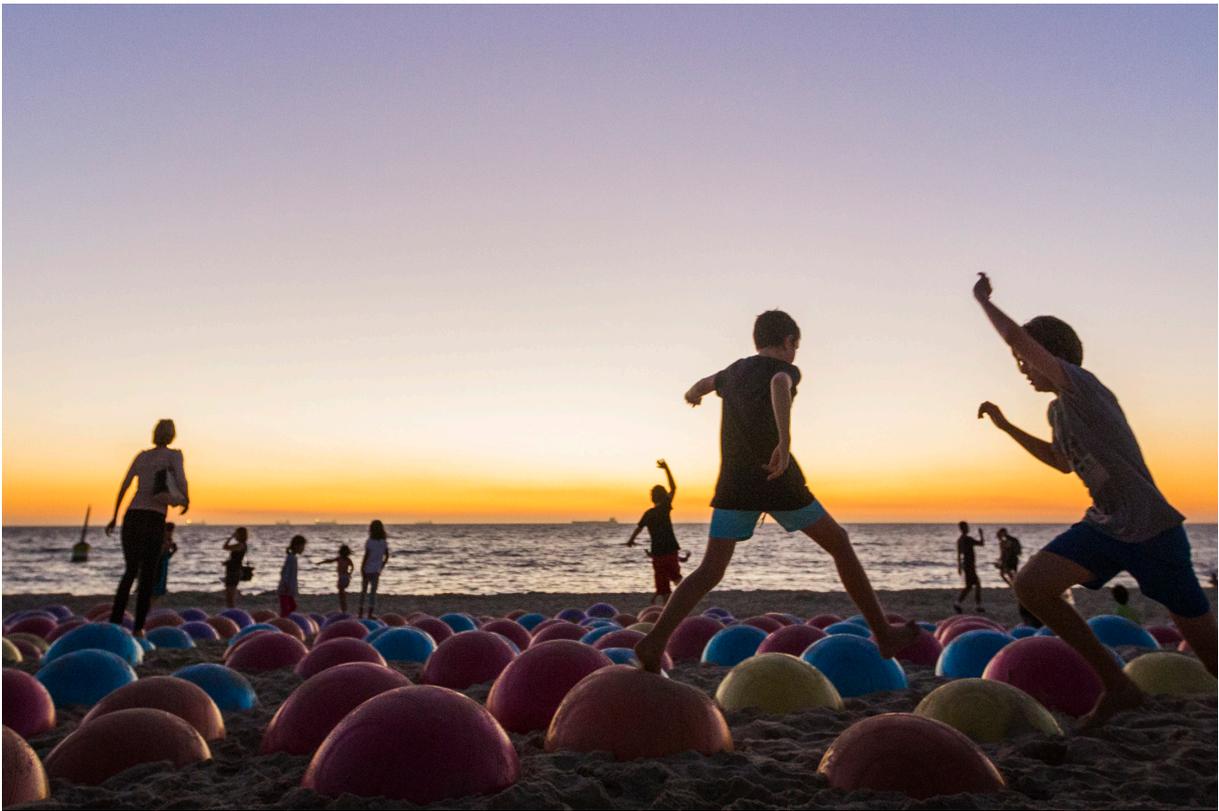
Its impact on art and beyond will last long into the future.”

CHEN WENLING

ARTIST, CHINA

10 SCULPTURE BY THE SEA EXHIBITIONS

Chen Wenling (China), 'Red Memory Smile', *Sculpture by the Sea*, Cottesloe 2011. Photo V Dalles



“ Cottesloe takes enormous pleasure in welcoming *Sculpture by the Sea, Cottesloe* to our beach each year.

The intimate setting between Mudurup rocks, the heritage pines, the Teahouse and the terraces is the perfect showcase for the sculptures, visited by thousands of people from overseas, interstate and across Perth every year. We are immensely proud of our association with the event and how the event helps to define Cottesloe.

Australians love nature and they love art – Sculpture by the Sea combines the two into a fabulous exhibition for everyone to enjoy.”

LORRAINE YOUNG

MAYOR OF COTTESLOE 2021–PRESENT

Warlukurlangu Colab (WA, Australia), ‘Waterdreaming’, *Sculpture by the Sea, Cottesloe* 2015. Photo J Wyld