



14 November 2022

Media Release

From koi to canines

Following the success of the partnership with Adelaide Festival to bring *Cupid's Koi Garden* to Mount Barker this year, Mount Barker District Council has supported a proposal to bring an event similar in size and scope to the district in 2023.

Melbourne based art studio, ENESS, who created *Cupid's Koi Garden*, will be returning to Mount Barker as part of the 2023 Adelaide Festival with *Lost Dogs' Disco*.

With lights, music and a spectacular size, this new inflatable installation is suitable for audiences of all ages, and celebrates the important place of dogs in our lives.

Mt Barker Council's acting general manager planning and community, Alison Hancock said: "Major events such as these position the Mount Barker district as an emerging tourist and cultural hotspot for high quality events and internationally regarded art productions.

"We are expecting there to be a lot of interest in *Lost Dogs' Disco* from residents but also from visitors from elsewhere in the state."

To further attract people to the event, the council is planning a range of complementary activities in and around Keith Stephenson Park and connecting it to Mount Barker's central business area.

Chamber Landscapes at UKARIA Cultural Centre will also continue to be supported by the council in 2023. Celebrating its seventh year, the Chamber Landscapes program is entitled *Poème*, and explores the relationship between music and text.

The council will spend \$80,000 from its existing economic development operating budget on the two events. \$70,000 is for the Adelaide Festival sponsorship package with an additional \$10,000 for other costs such as event infrastructure and marketing.

"By partnering with the Adelaide Festival again next year, Council has an economy of scale advantage in bringing these events with a world class reputation to the Mount Barker community, Ms Hancock said.

"Arts productions like these are a key to highlighting the vibrancy and beauty of Mount Barker and bringing visitors to our district,"

“They also inspire the local arts and creative sector, helping artists showcase their unique qualities, improve lifestyle, increase a sense of wellbeing and add to the vitality of the region.”

Lost Dogs’ Disco will be at Keith Stephenson Park for the Adelaide Festival from Wednesday 8 March to Monday 13 March 2023.

Chamber Landscapes at UKARIA Cultural Centre will run from Friday 10 March to Sunday 12 March 2023.

Details about *Lost Dogs’ Disco* and Chamber Landscapes can be found on the Adelaide Festival website: adelaidefestival.com.au.

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