

CLEAN UP OUR BACKYARD

Clean up our Backyard is a not-for-profit initiative launched by MARS Gallery in order to improve the surrounding street art off Chapel Street Windsor – backyard to the gallery and many local businesses on Chapel Street. The project aims to bring people to the area, attract tourists and encourage shopkeepers to take pride in local public areas.

We are inviting prospective International and Australian artists to submit expressions of interest for four potential wall spaces across the back end of the buildings facing Lincoln Place and the James Street Parking area. These walls vary in shape and scale and are attached to the properties of ten local businesses.

The project will be launched in aid of Skyline Education Foundation Australia, a charity that aims to facilitate education for talented young people who are financially and / or socially challenged. With this focus in mind, artists will be asked to produce a proposed artwork addressing what they believe to be the issues facing the youth of today.

In November 2019 a panel of judges, including MARS Gallery Director and Founder Andy Dinan, will select four artists and commission them to realise their proposals with each artist receiving \$10,000. Once completed, the commissions will be protected with a UV anti-graffiti finish in order to secure their longevity.

The completion of the project will be recognised through a launch hosted by MARS Gallery and Skyline Education on Saturday 4 April 2020. The launch will not only celebrate the addition of four new artworks to the City of Stonnington but also raise money for Skyline so they can continue supporting students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

This project has been made possible by the City of Stonnington Arts and Cultural Grant.

PROPOSED TIMELINE:

September 2019:	Invitation for artists to submit an Expression of Interest
10 November 2019:	Deadline for Expression of Interest submissions
22 November 2019:	Announcement of the four successful artists
10 March 2020:	Artists begin painting (3 ½ weeks realisation time)
1 April 2020:	Deadline for artwork completion
4 April 2020:	<i>Clean up our Backyard</i> launch event

PROJECT APPROACH EXAMPLES

We would like to cover the spaces fully, including any doors, roll-down garage covers, stairwells and bins, as shown in the images below.

We would be happy to discuss quotes for fabricating temporary surfaces in place of perforated railings / garage covers etc. with business owners and artists.

Artists will be encouraged to be experimental with materials and techniques and incorporate digital interaction and audience engagement into their proposals.



PROPOSED SPACES

MARS has formally invited local businesses whose shop front faces out onto Chapel Street. Once the four artists have been selected, they will each be allocated one of four areas overlooking the Lincoln Place public car park which may include multiple businesses. Allocation of multiple businesses or just one to make up a single area will depend on how much physical space the artist requires to realise their work.

Artists are encouraged to nominate in their application which businesses/areas they would like to work with. Successful artists are not guaranteed their nominated space so a degree of flexibility in this nomination is appreciated.

Below is the allocation of four areas. Final areas are subject to change and will be confirmed once artists have been formally selected.

(The location and images of these shop fronts have been included for reference purposes – the street-side shop fronts will not be available for the artworks.)

Footprint of areas:



[MARS]

Area 1 / Business 1: MARS Gallery

Approximate dimensions: 9 x 12m

About the space: The wall surface is polished concrete with three points of fracture where the wall curves slightly. The surface has a minimal amount of pre-existing graffiti.

Accessibility: Accessible with scaffolding or a cherry picker.



Gallery front:



Area 2 / Business 2: Hawker Hall

Approximate dimensions:

Wall 1: 2 x 12 m (small paned window)

Wall 2: 5 x 12 m (metal door, paned window, slatted garage door)

Wall 3: 5 x 12 m (staircase along outside wall)

Wall 4: 6 x 14 m (staircase joins wall, windows with metal bars, garage door)

About the space: The artist would have access to 4 separate red brick walls, varying in size. The walls are interrupted by some windows, a garage door and drainpipes. There is a minimal amount of pre-existing graffiti.

Accessibility: Walls accessible by ladder and scaffolding.



Street-side shop front:



Area 3 / Business 3: Punk Carla

Approximate dimensions:

Internal Wall: 18 x 14 m (note: sight-line cuts visible wall space down to 18 x 7 m)

Back Wall: 6 x 3 m

About the space: The section of wall forming the Hawker Hall building will be visible from outside and inside the venue. There will be a wall with a doorway in the centre. The building is still under construction and due to be completed by October 2019.

Accessibility: Internal Wall accessible by scaffolding or cherry picker and via adjacent roof area. On foot, using ladders, scaffolding, cherry picker.

Internal Wall:



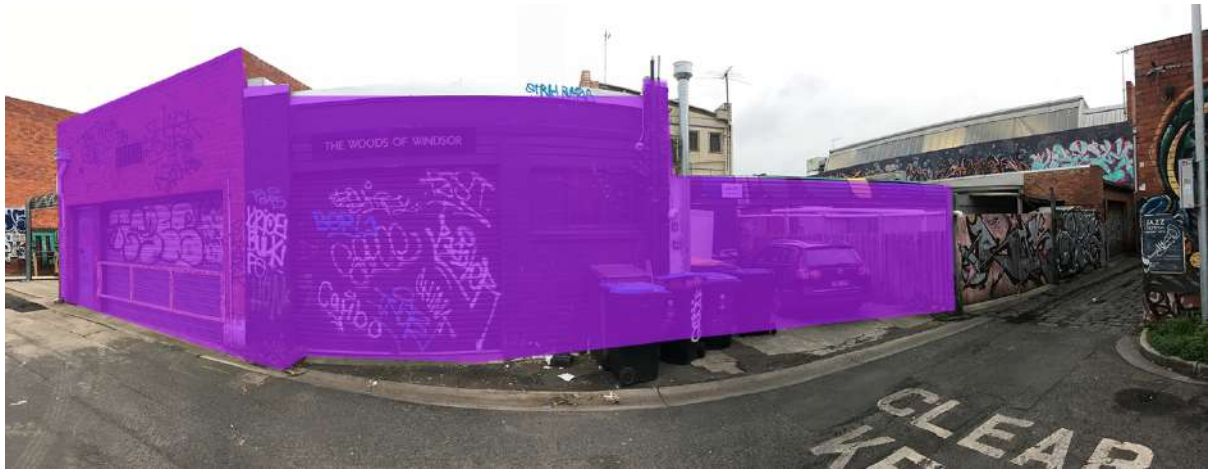
Back Wall:



Street-side shop front (current):



Area 4:



For the final proposed area the artist would have the opportunity to work across three business surfaces which together form one continuous flat face extending across the carport. This space includes transient elements as garage doors shift between being left open or closed throughout the day.

Area 4 / Business 4: Cisco's World of Coffee

Approximate dimensions: 7 x 4.5 m

About the space: The wall surface is mostly taken up by a corrugated garage front and door and surrounded by red brick. There is a yellow barrier over the garage front and a slatted vent set into the brickwork. There is some pre-existing graffiti.

Accessibility: On foot, using ladders, scaffolding, cherry picker.

Buisness 5:



Street-side shop front:



Area 4 / Business 5: Woods of Windsor

Approximate dimensions: 7 x 4 m

About the space: The wall is black painted brick and black painted corrugated garage door with some graffiti tagging. There is a business sign to be worked around and one set of windows.

Accessibility: On foot, using ladders, scaffolding, cherry picker.

Buisness 6:



Street-side shop front:



Area 4 / Business 6: Chacho's Windsor

Approximate dimensions: 6 x 3 m

About the space: This is a corrugated pull down garage door that is often rolled away making the space temporary. There is complete pre-existing graffiti.

Accessibility: On foot.

Business 7:



Street-side shop front:

