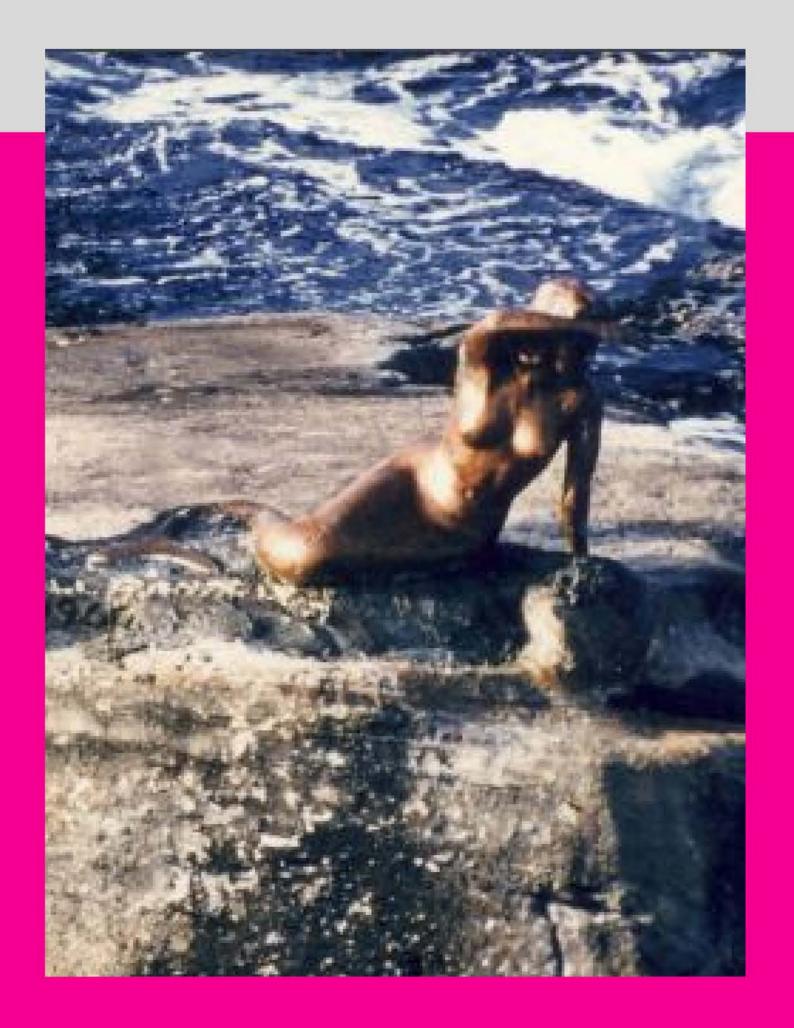


Pink Cactus

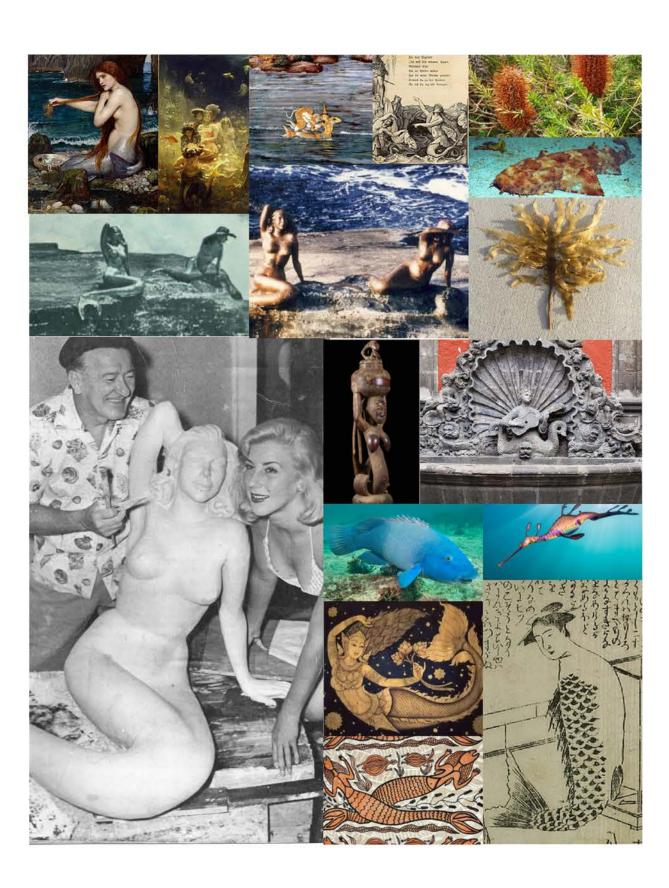
BONDI MERMAIDS PUBLIC ART EOI 2314 STAGE 2

Prepared for: Waverly Council



THE BONDI MERMAID

Concept & Design Statement



Concept Statement

Pink Cactus Bondi Mermaids Public Sculpture concept draws inspiration from ancient mermaid mythology with a modern twist utilising the local flora and fauna from the Waverly Shire. By employing Corten steel, our intention is to precisely juxtapose the contemporary allure of modern steel with the aged, weathered patina of rust, thereby creating a harmonious fusion that seamlessly merges elements of historical charm with a distinctly modern aesthetic. This deliberate choice allows us to weave together the narratives of the past and the present, crafting an evocative visual statement that embodies both nostalgia and innovation within the sculpture.

Design Statement

The Pink Cactus concept design for the Bondi Mermaids Public Art Project 2023 draws inspiration from a rich tapestry of global mythology and folklore, including narratives found within First Nations cultures. Influenced by the diverse local flora and fauna identified in the Waverley Councils Marine Environment document, this design concept reimagines these elements in a contemporary context, bridging ancient tales with the 21st century.

Through the representations of the global mythology surrounding mermaids, from the Hindu Golden Mermaid to the Njuzu mermaids of Zimbabwe, intertwined with folklore from Asia and European countries. This iteration of the Bondi Mermaid presents an opportunity to embrace a multicultural perspective, echoing the ongoing diversity of the area.

By infusing a modern interpretation with innovative materials, this concept aims to pay homage to the storied history of Bondi while offering enduring beauty and intrigue to Bondi Park for years to come. The incorporation of new modern materiality not only honors the local heritage but also contributes to the evolving narrative of this iconic symbol within the Bondi community.

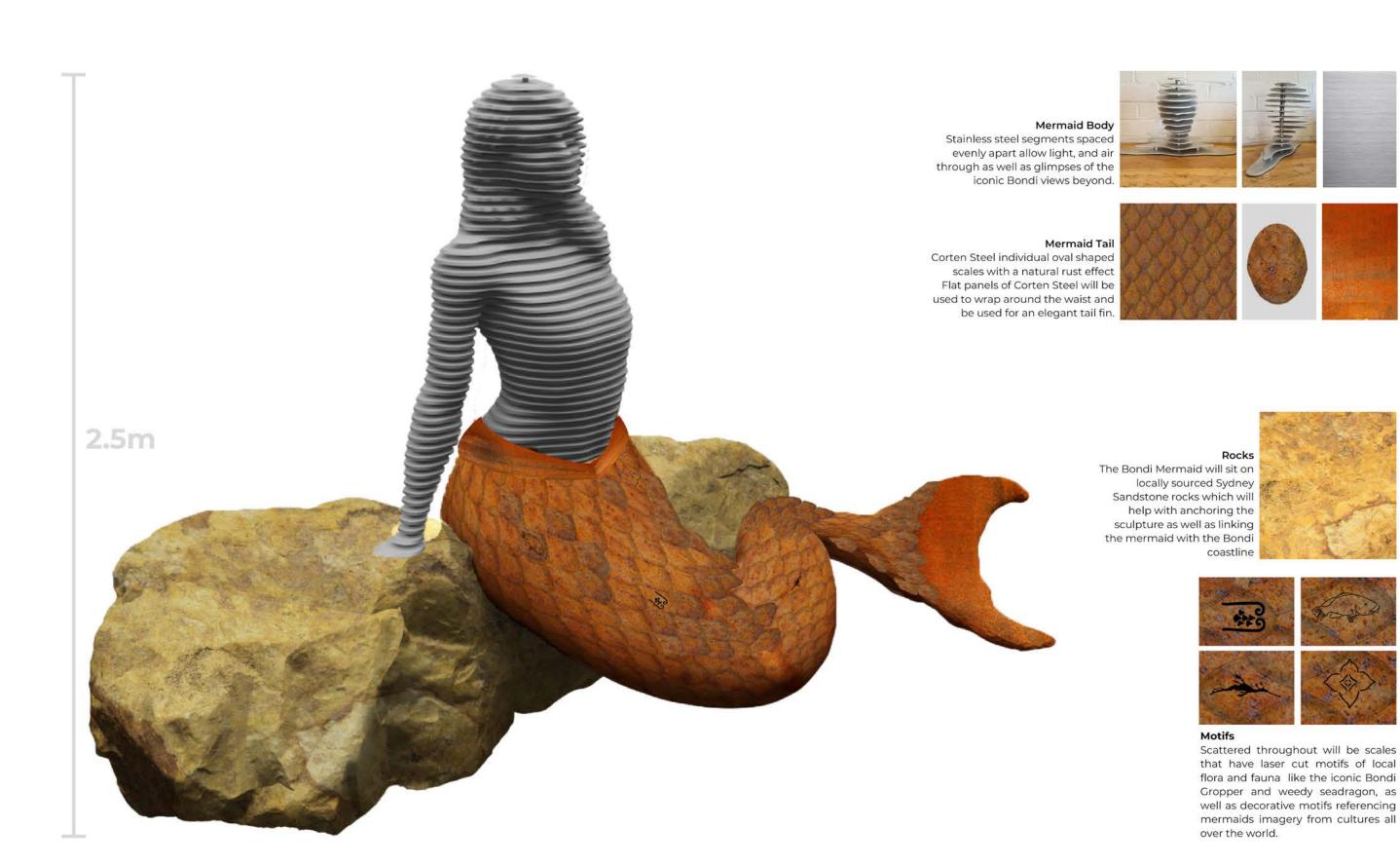
Social Engagement Statement

Our design for the Torso of the Bondi Mermaids has been carefully crafted to foster an immersive connection between viewers and the surrounding environment. The segmented structure of the mermaids' torso invites viewers to glimpse through the sculpture, allowing them to experience the vastness of the ocean and its surroundings, capturing the essence of the ocean breeze. Crafted from plasma cut stainless steel, the material will softly reflect sunlight, ensuring the sculpture harmoniously integrates into the southern end of Bondi Beach's landscape.

From afar, the sculpture's silver reflection presents itself as a mirage, intriguing viewers with the possibility of encountering a mermaid or questioning the boundary between reality and mythology. Standing at a height of 2.5 meters, the sculpture serves as a beacon, drawing visitors from various corners of the beach, inviting them to engage with the iconic Bondi mermaid through selfies, family portraits and social media

While the selfie culture prevails, our sculpture aims to inspire visitors to capture moments with the mermaid, framing themselves alongside the enchanting Bondi backdrop. However, beyond a mere photo opportunity, the mermaid's true essence lies in her posture—a serene, seated position, gazing toward the horizon. This pose echoes the tranquility and contemplation one experiences while pondering the vastness of the sea, inviting viewers to pause, reflect, and connect with the serenity of the oceanic vista. The sculpture serves not only as a visual spectacle but as a catalyst for introspection and a conduit for a deeper connection to nature and the essence of Bondi Beach.

















Signage We propose to have a sign placed nearby to engage the public by creating a "treasure hunt" of the motifs depicted on the Bondi





PPRK CACTUS

