Internationally acclaimed exhibit and media design studio to lead the creative renewal of the Hyde Park Barracks Museum

Sydney Living Museums announces the appointment of the internationally acclaimed, multi-award-winning exhibit and media design specialists Local Projects to lead a major reinterpretation of the Hyde Park Barracks Museum.

The recipient of over 100 major international design awards, Local Projects is one of the world’s leading agencies in redefining visitor engagement within public spaces. Their expertise lies in bringing together architecture, technology and design, pushing the boundaries of human interaction to create emotional storytelling and memorable experiences.

“Local Projects emerged as the leading candidate from a highly competitive tender selection process, for their sensitivity and understanding of the Hyde Park Barracks, its history and importance as a UNESCO World Heritage-listed site,” said Mark Goggin, Executive Director, Sydney Living Museums.

Sydney Living Museums undertook extensive audience research to inform the Hyde Park Barracks Museum Master Plan.

“According to our research, audience expectations and appetite for dialogue have developed from simply seeking information to wanting active participatory experiences,” said Mark Goggin.

“At the heart of Local Projects’ design concept are bold new ideas with cutting-edge technology, placing the narrative at the centre of the experience, bringing history to life and transforming the museum into an immersive and deeply meaningful journey for visitors.”

“We are delighted to have such a distinguished design team working on this project, bringing their immense creativity and skill to this important renewal of one of Australia’s oldest living museums.”

The Hyde Park Barracks Museum redevelopment will be the first time Local Projects has worked on a UNESCO World-Heritage listed site and their first project in Australia.

“Our goal for this reinterpretation is to create a cohesive experience that incorporates multiple points of view of the people who inhabited the Hyde Park Barracks over the years and of the people impacted by their arrival – engaging the many themes this site touches on: displacement, migration captivity, freedom, exploitation, hope and greater opportunity,” said Jake Barton, Principal and Founder, Local Projects.
Among Local Projects’ portfolio of completed works are:

**Turning Visitors into Designers – Cooper Hewitt Smithsonian Design Museum**
Transforming visitors from observers into originators.

**A Museum of Collective Memory – National September 11 Memorial and Museum**
The story of September 11 told through the voices of those who experienced it.

**New York at Its Core – Museum of the City of New York**
The first permanent exhibition in this city museum’s 94-year history brings the past, present, and future of New York City to life.

**Please Touch the Art – Cleveland Museum of Art**
Reinventing Cleveland’s most popular museum by changing the way visitors interact with the art.

**An American Oral History Archive – Storycorps**
The largest collection of oral histories compiled in the USA.

Local Projects’ international awards include the Cannes Gold Lion for Creative Data; the National Design Award, MUSE Award for outstanding achievement in Galleries, Libraries, Archives and Museums (GLAM); International Design & Communications Awards for museums and cultural organisations; Design & Art Direction Awards; International Interactive Design Awards; AIGA Design Effectiveness Awards; and SEGD Dynamic Environments Awards.

The Hyde Park Barracks Museum’s renewal is expected to be completed by mid-2019, to mark the building’s 200th anniversary.

A new online resource explores the history of the Hyde Park Barracks and its inhabitants: slm.is/convict-sydney

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