

Vision & Goals

Key Dates

1957

Jorn Utzon wins Sydney Opera House design competition (January)

1959

Work begins on Stage 1 – building the foundations despite Utzon's protest that plans were not finalised (March)

1966

Jorn Utzon resigns (February)

1973

First guided tours of Sydney Opera House (July)

First performance in Sydney Opera House – Australian Opera performed Prokofiev's War and Peace in the Opera Theatre (September)

Opening Ceremony and Royal Concert with HRH Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh (October 20)

1979

Concert Hall Grand Organ completed (May)

1999

Opening of The Studio – new venue for contemporary performing arts (March)

Jorn Utzon is re-engaged and appointed design consultant to the Sydney Opera House (August)

2000

Sydney Opera House Producers Unit established (October)

2002

Sydney Opera House Utzon Design Principles published (May)

2003

Sydney Opera House Conservation Plan published (June)

State Heritage Listing achieved (December)

2004

Backstage Tour launched (April)

Utzon Room opened – first venue at Sydney Opera House designed by Jorn Utzon (September)

Recording Studio opened (October)

2005

National Heritage Listing achieved (July)

2006

Asian Language Tour launched in Japanese, Korean, Mandarin (January)

Colonnade opened by HRH Queen Elizabeth II – designed by Jorn Utzon, it is the first change to the exterior of the building since its completion in 1973 (March)

2007

World Heritage Listing achieved (June)

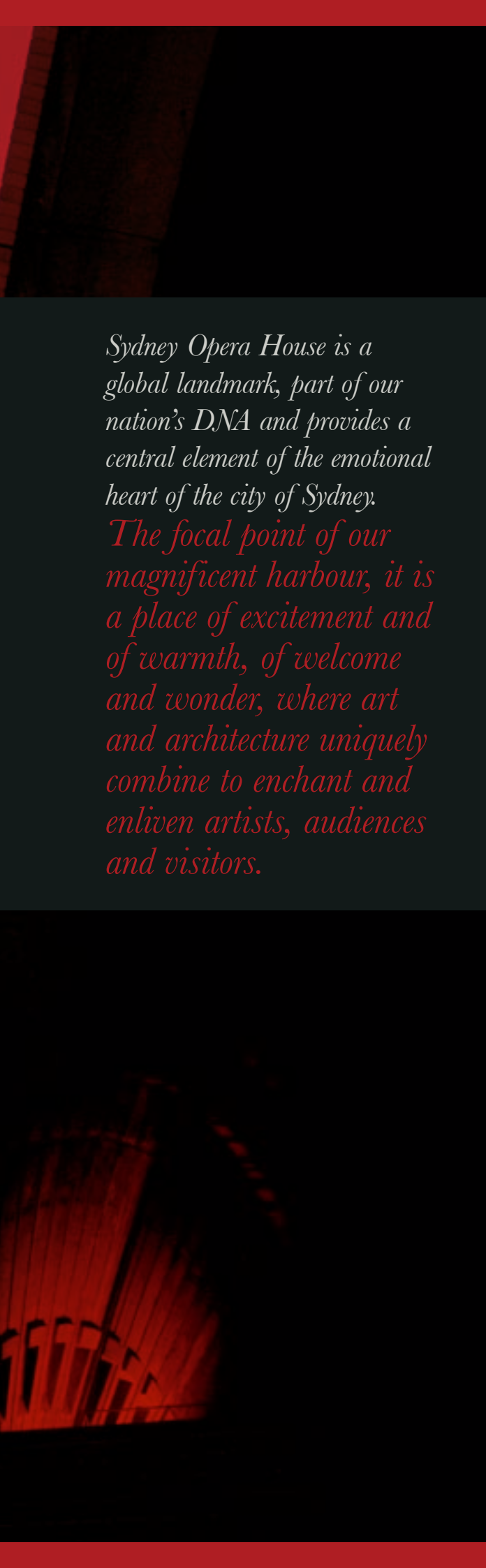
The Essential Tour launched (October)

2008

Visionary Sydney Opera House architect, Jorn Utzon dies peacefully in his sleep (November)

2009

Western Foyers fully refurbished (July)



Sydney Opera House is a global landmark, part of our nation's DNA and provides a central element of the emotional heart of the city of Sydney. The focal point of our magnificent harbour, it is a place of excitement and of warmth, of welcome and wonder, where art and architecture uniquely combine to enchant and enliven artists, audiences and visitors.

Who We Are

As one of the busiest performing arts centres in the world, Sydney Opera House provides over 1,500 performances each year. With seven primary venues: the Concert Hall, Opera Theatre, Drama Theatre, Playhouse, The Studio, Forecourt and Utzon Room, 'the House' offers audiences an opportunity to experience the best from every performing art form.

The experience is broadened with a 'must-visit' harbour-side precinct that offers dining, shopping and entertainment opportunities.

One of the most popular visitor attractions in Australia sees more than 7 million people visiting the site each year. Some 1.2 million people attend performances and over 318,000 people take a guided tour to explore the magic inside one of the most recognised buildings in the world. Sydney Opera House is State, National and World Heritage listed.

As a performing arts centre, Sydney Opera House promotes and supports many performing arts companies, including the four key resident companies Sydney Symphony, Opera Australia, Sydney Theatre Company and The Australian Ballet as well as other many other important Australian companies and artists.

Sydney Opera House also has increased the profile and reach of its own programs, with more than 700 performances a year that offer an eclectic mix of artistic and cultural activities for all ages from the educational through to the experimental.

Our Focus

Vision

To be the most distinguished and prominent performing arts centre in the world.

Mission

To be a home for international calibre performing artists, whose works resonate with audiences around the world.

To be the best host, welcoming, engaging and inspiring every visitor through compelling experiences, each and every day.

Brand

Our Brand Essence is 'Where imagination takes you'.

Goals

Sydney Opera House has five key goals:

1. Artistic Excellence.
2. Innovation in Community Engagement.
3. Audience Accessibility.
4. A Contemporary and Sustainable Bennelong Point.
5. Knowing Our Business.