



MIDLAND
REDEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY

Midland Redevelopment Authority

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Midland Redevelopment Authority

public Art

Midland Redevelopment Authority artworks

Public art has the capacity to transform places, objects and memories; it can help define a sense of place, facilitate a bridge between past and future, and present vernacular culture to the wider world.

Recognising the important role of public art in successful urban renewal, in 2001 the Midland Redevelopment Authority (MRA) began a program of commissioning artworks to be integrated into the built environment.

The MRA manages a 256 hectare site located on the eastern side of the metropolitan area of Perth. Included within this area are part of the Midland town centre, the Meat Industry Authority's saleyards and the historic former Midland Railway Workshops.

The Railway Workshops were a dominant force in local and state-wide economics throughout the 20th century. They were the centre of social and community life for generations of workers, and many people within Western Australia continue to hold a deep emotional attachment to them.

Designed by the celebrated Western Australian engineer, C.Y. O'Connor, the colossal scale of the Workshops is counterbalanced by elegant detailing in the brickwork and carpentry. Their closure in 1994 was the end of an important era.

The redevelopment of this site heralds an equally important new era. The vision for Midland is for a sustainable regional centre recognised for its cultural diversity and growing opportunities in commerce, education and the arts.



The mix of new streetscapes, public open spaces and contemporary architecture coexisting with remarkable heritage buildings and facilities offers artists wonderful opportunities to explore ideas relating to site, scale, and social identity.

The intention is to reach out to both local residents and visitors with distinctive and unique artworks that reflect on Midland's past and future.

This publication celebrates the MRA's art projects up to December 2005.

