

FRIDA KAHLO: THE LIFE OF AN ICON

Visual Story



Sydney
Festival
2023

What is a Visual Story?

Visual stories are written in an easy to follow and accessible format and are used to prepare a person for and increase the predictability of a new environment or situation.

This helps bring familiarity to a process and to reduce anxiety and stress.

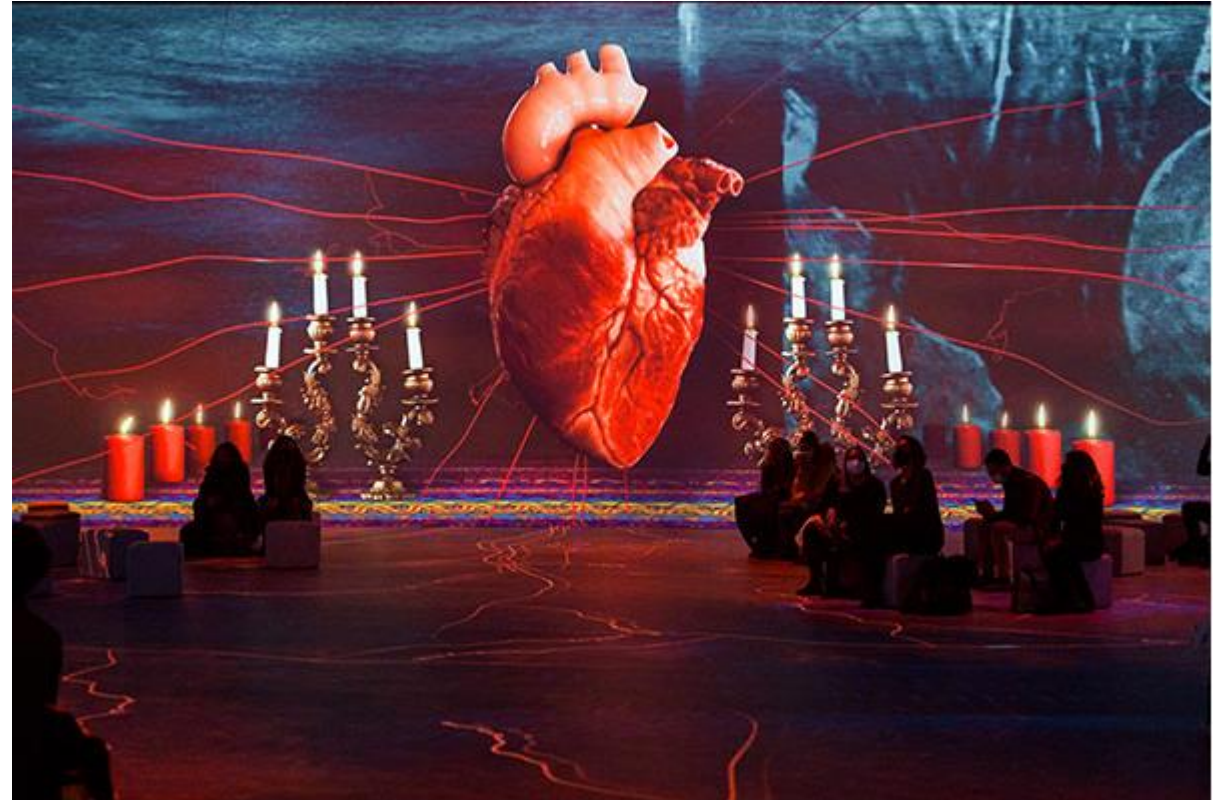
About Frida Kahlo: The Life of an Icon

This exhibition helps visitors to better understand Frida Kahlo and her life. It does this by using:

- historical photos
- original films
- 360 degree projections
- virtual reality
- costumes

The exhibition was co-created by the Frida Kahlo Corporation and the renowned Spanish digital arts company Layers of Reality.

Frida Kahlo: The Life of an Icon is part of Sydney Festival 2023 program. It is the first time that this exhibition has been shown in Australia.



About Sydney Festival

Sydney Festival is a city-wide celebration of culture and creativity. From the streets to the beach, in stately theatres and in secret basements, it animates locations across Greater Sydney with a free and ticketed program of theatre, music, dance, visual art and live performance.

We welcome all visitors to Sydney Festival events and are committed to making the festival a safe and accessible space for everyone.

I can find out more accessibility information about Sydney Festival on the website:

www.sydneyfestival.org.au/accessibility



About Frida Kahlo

Frida Kahlo created some of the most famous artworks in history. Frida's style of art is called "Magic Realism." Magic Realism is a term used to describe artworks which mix elements of real life with the fantastical, mythological and dream-like.

Frida was Mexican and very proud of her culture. Throughout the exhibition I will see lots of Mexican symbols and culture in her art.

Throughout Frida's life she faced many challenges, which provoked her to think deeply about the world.

Today her art has become a symbol of strength. I can walk around the exhibition and think about how her paintings make me feel.



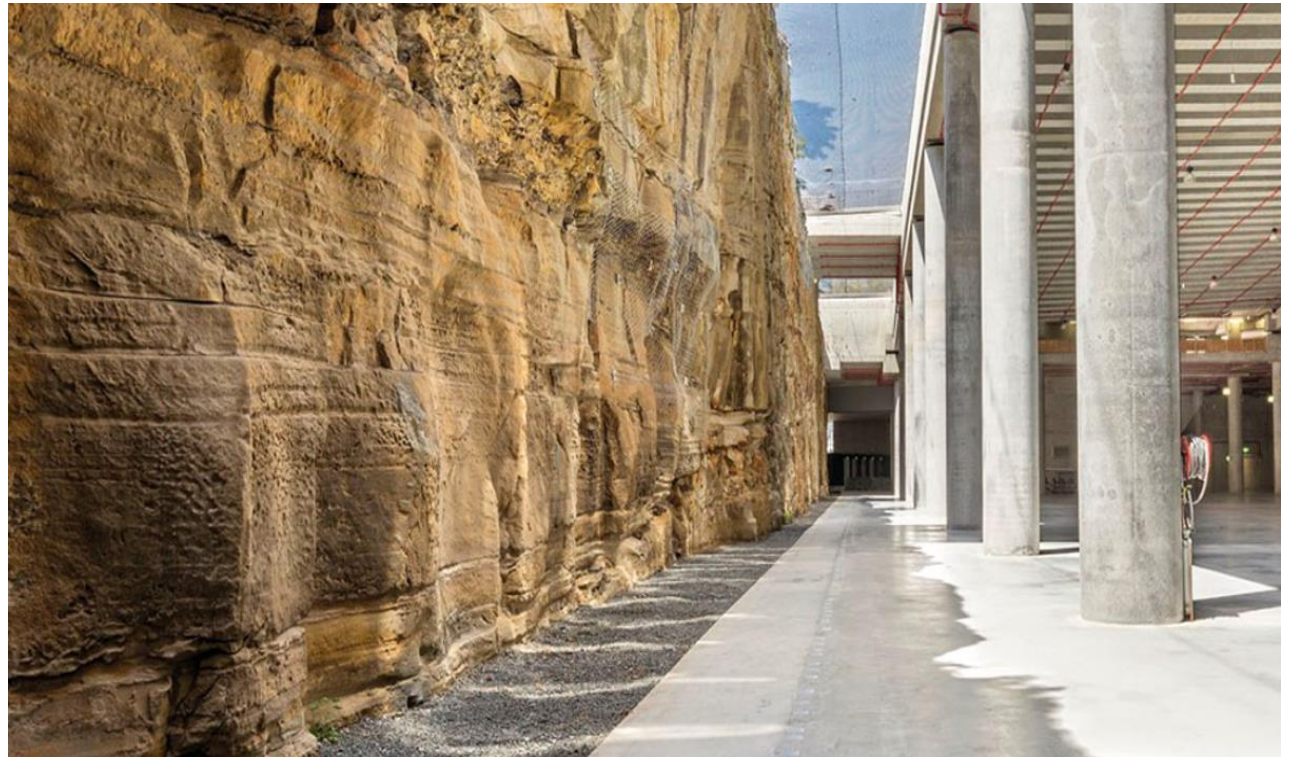
About the Venue

The exhibition will be at the Cutaway in Barangaroo.

The Cutaway is a large underground space for public events.

It is wheelchair accessible and has a lift and other accessible amenities, including accessible toilets.

I can call 1300 966 480 or email barangaroo.info@infrastructure.nsw.gov.au for more information.



When is the exhibition open

The exhibition runs from the 4th of January to the 7th March 2023

JANUARY

Monday to Saturday 10am – 8pm

Sunday 10am – 6pm

FEBUARY and MARCH

Tuesday 12pm – 8pm

Wednesday to Saturday 10am – 8pm

Sunday 10am - 6pm

Relaxed Sessions

Relaxed sessions are available on:

28 January 2023

At 10am / 10:15am / 10:30am

25 February 2023

10am / 10:15am / 10:30am

During the relaxed sessions:

- the music will be turned down
- there will be relaxed behavior expectations, and staff will show understanding
- There will be less people allowed to book tickets, to reduce crowding



How to book my ticket

I can book my ticket on the Sydney Festival website here:

<https://tickets.sydneyfestival.org.au>

When I book into a session, that means I have a set amount of time to travel through the exhibition. I must be on time as I can only enter during my session time. Each session run for 90 mins.

First I will select the date I want on the calendar. Next I will select a time slot.

Available times are highlighted in green.

The screenshot shows the ticket booking interface for Sydney Festival 2023. At the top, there's a navigation bar with a link to 'EXPLORE' and a 'Go to event page' button. The main section is titled '1. SELECT A DATE' and features a calendar for January 2023. The calendar shows dates from 1 to 31, with the 4th highlighted in green, indicating it's available. Below the calendar, there's a legend: a green dot for 'Available', a purple dot for 'Selling Fast', and a grey dot for 'Allocation Exhausted'. The next section is '2. SELECT A TIME', which is divided into 'MORNING', 'AFTERNOON', and 'EVENING' sessions. Each session displays a list of time slots. Available slots are highlighted in green, while unavailable slots are greyed out. For example, in the morning session, 10:45am and 11:15am are available, while 10:00am, 10:15am, 10:30am, 10:45am, 11:00am, 11:15am, 11:30am, and 11:45am are unavailable. In the afternoon session, 12:15pm, 12:30pm, 12:45pm, 1:00pm, 1:15pm, 1:30pm, 1:45pm, 2:00pm, 2:15pm, 2:30pm, and 2:45pm are available, while 12:00pm is unavailable. In the evening session, 5:00pm, 5:15pm, 5:30pm, 5:45pm, 6:00pm, 6:15pm, 6:30pm, 6:45pm, 7:00pm, 7:15pm, 7:30pm, and 7:45pm are available, while 5:00pm is unavailable.

tickets.sydneyfestival.org.au/WebPages/EntaWebShow/ShowCalendar.aspx

EXPLORE

Go to event page

1. SELECT A DATE

JAN 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Available Selling Fast Allocation Exhausted

2. SELECT A TIME

MORNING

10:00am	10:15am	10:30am	10:45am	11:00am	11:15am	11:30am	11:45am
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AFTERNOON

12:00pm	12:15pm	12:30pm	12:45pm	1:00pm	1:15pm	1:30pm	1:45pm	2:00pm	2:15pm	2:30pm	2:45pm
3:15pm	3:30pm	3:45pm	4:00pm	4:15pm	4:30pm	4:45pm					

EVENING

5:00pm	5:15pm	5:30pm	5:45pm	6:00pm	6:15pm	6:30pm	6:45pm	7:00pm	7:15pm	7:30pm	7:45pm
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What to expect

When I visit the exhibition, I will make my way through 9 different rooms, it takes about 90mins to see the whole exhibition.

The lighting in hallways and some rooms is quite dark. This is to help see the artworks better.

The lighting in some rooms can be quite bright, or will move when I interact with it.

Some things I will see and hear are:

- an artwork called “ The Incident.” This is a video and it has a content warning because there is a car crash in it.
- a soundtrack throughout the exhibition. Some rooms will have sound effects relevant to the artwork.
- a projection room where the images react to my movement
- a colour-in activity which I can scan, and it will be displayed on the wall
- a VR experience with headset and headphones that lasts for 10 mins

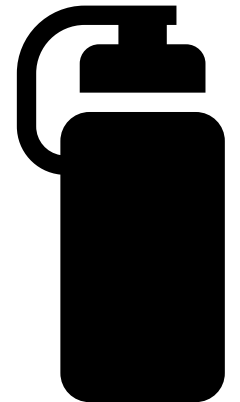
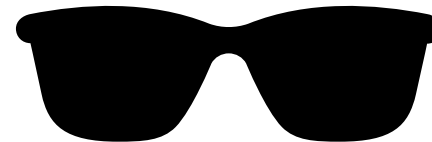
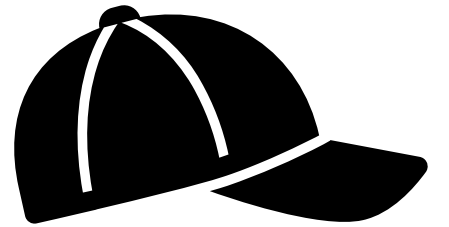
I can learn more by looking at the website:

<https://www.sydneyfestival.org.au/events/frida-kahlo-life-of-an-icon>

Things that I can bring

I can bring some things that help me feel calm and safe. These might include:

- Noise cancelling headphones
- Sensory items
- Sunglasses
- Water bottle
- Mobile Phone
- Comfortable shoes for walking
- Money for food/drink and gift shop

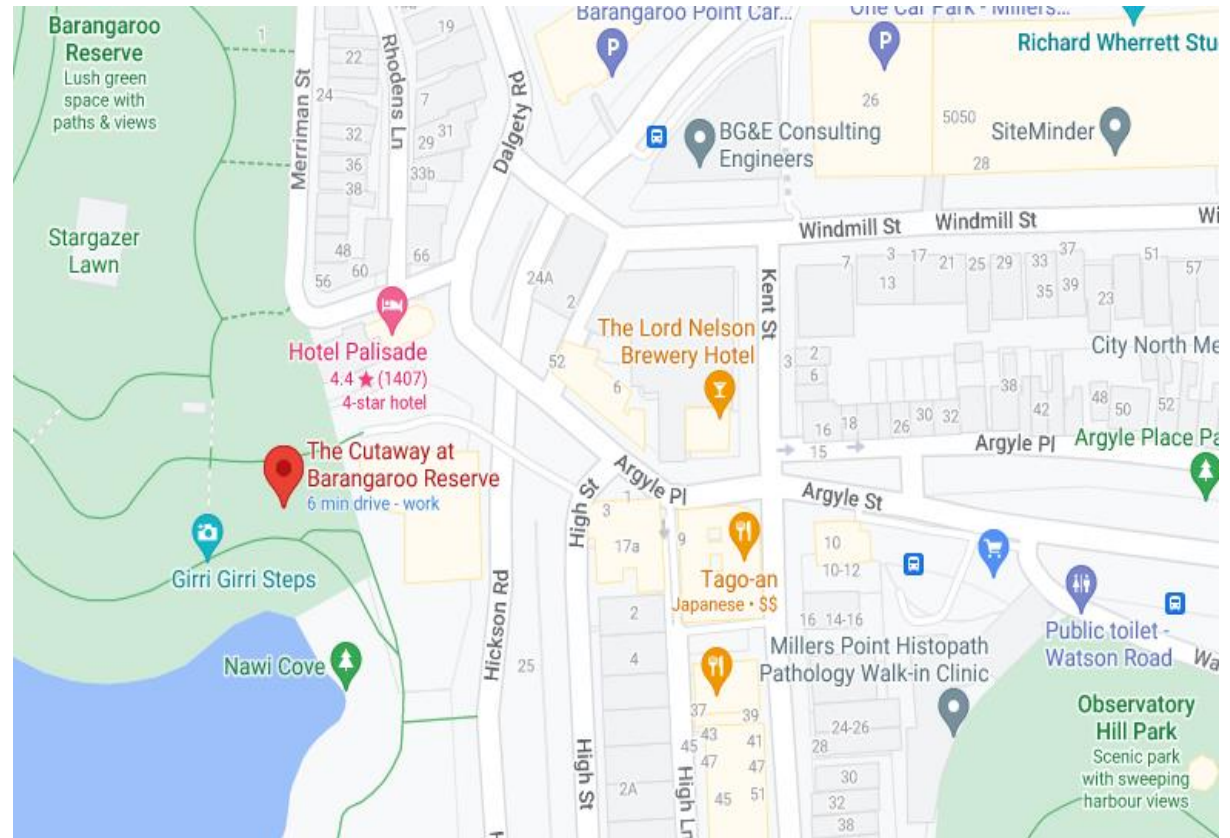


Getting there

The exhibition is located at:
Barangaroo Cutaway
1 Merriman St,
Barangaroo NSW 2000

I can get to The Cutaway by
train, bus, walking, taxi
or by car.

**Public transport is suggested
due to traffic and changes in the
city.**



Public transport

TRAIN

I can travel to Barangaroo Reserve by getting off at Wynyard or Circular Quay stations.

After I get off the train, I can follow the walking directions on the next page.

I can find more train information [here](#).

BUS

I can catch a bus from Town Hall station, or Millers Point.

When I arrive at Town Hall I can catch the 311, 324 and 325 bus to Barangaroo Reserve.

When I arrive at Millers Point I can catch the 311 bus which stops at Hickson Road, providing access to The Cutaway, Barangaroo.

I can find more bus information [here](#).

Walk

WALK FROM WYNYARD STATION

I can walk from Wynyard Station.

I will follow the signs to **Exit 4** and walk in the **Wynyard Walk** tunnel.

Next I will Exit at Napoleon Plaza. Then I will take the sign-posted detour via Barangaroo foreshore promenade (Wulugul Walk).

This walk is about 1.1km long from the Wynyard Station Exit.

WALK FROM CIRCULAR QUAY

I can walk from Circular Quay. This walk is about 1km and is fully accessible.

First I will walk past the front of the **Museum of Contemporary Art**. Next I will turn left up Argyle Street and walk up a small hill through the **Argyle Cut**.

Next I will walk past the Lord Nelson Hotel and Palisade Hotel.

Finally I will enter the Reserve via either Munn Street or Bettington Street.

By Taxi or Rideshare

I can get a Taxi or Rideshare (e.g. Uber) to The Cutaway

The best taxi drop off point is Merriman Street. From that drop off point I can make my way into Barangaroo reserve. Then, I can take the lifts down to the reception area of the exhibition.



By car

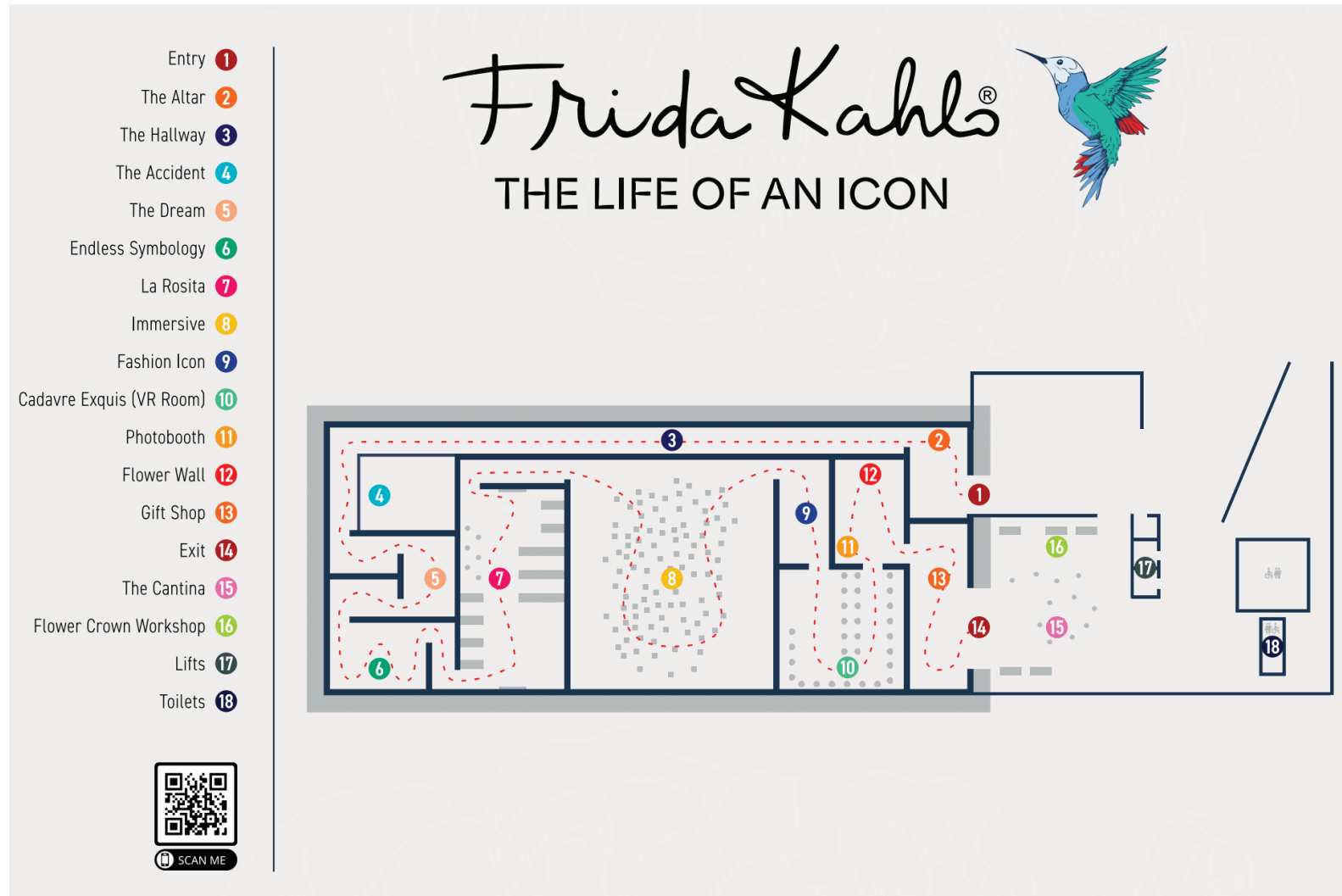
If I'm traveling by car I should allow extra travel time, because of changes to the roads in the CBD.

The fastest way is to take the tunnel which links with the Sussex St Bridge and the Napoleon Bridge to Barangaroo Reserve.

I can park at “Care Park” which is a public car park beneath Barangaroo Reserve.

- The car park has 300 spaces
- There are 8 accessible car parks on level B1
- I can get directions and current parking rates [here](#)

Map of Frida Kahlo: Life of an Icon exhibition precinct



Food and Drink

I can buy food and drinks from the Cantina before I enter, or after I exit the exhibition. There is a limited range of Mexican food available, and I can sit at the table and chairs provided.

I must not bring any food into the exhibition. I can bring drinks in, but I must finish them or throw them away before I enter the La Rosita room. This is to keep the artwork clean and safe.

I can also access more food options at Barangaroo shopping district only four minutes from Wynyard Station.



Check In

To enter the exhibition, I will need to wait in the queue. If I have trouble waiting in a queue, I can tell the Front of House staff member that I need to use the accessible lane. This will make the process faster for me.

A Front of House Staff member will scan my ticket. I can either show my ticket on my mobile device, or I need to make sure that I print my ticket at home before I come.

The Front of House Staff member will be there to answer any questions I have about the exhibition or venue.

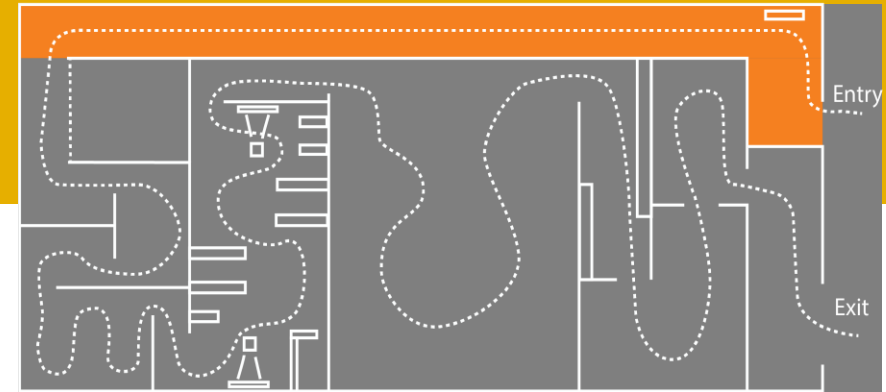


Altar and Corridor

When I enter the exhibition, I will see an altar dedicated to Frida. An altar is a place that is used to show respect to people who have died.

After I see the altar, I will walk down a long hallway.

The altar and the hallway are made to help me think about who Frida is and what she was like.



Predicted Duration – 13 minutes



1

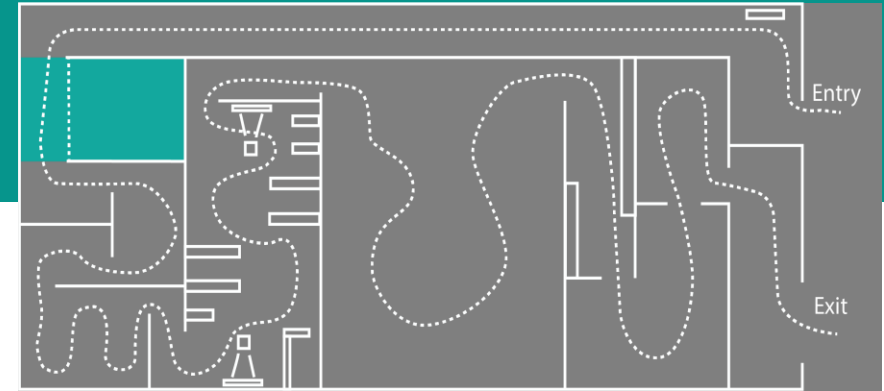
THE INSTANT

I will see an audio video artwork called “The Instant”

CONTENT WARNING this video shows a car crash, and has sounds of breaking glass.

If I am not comfortable with this theme or sound, I can walk through the room more quickly and leave.

The video is made with lots of layers to make it seem three dimensional.



Predicted Duration – 5 minutes



2

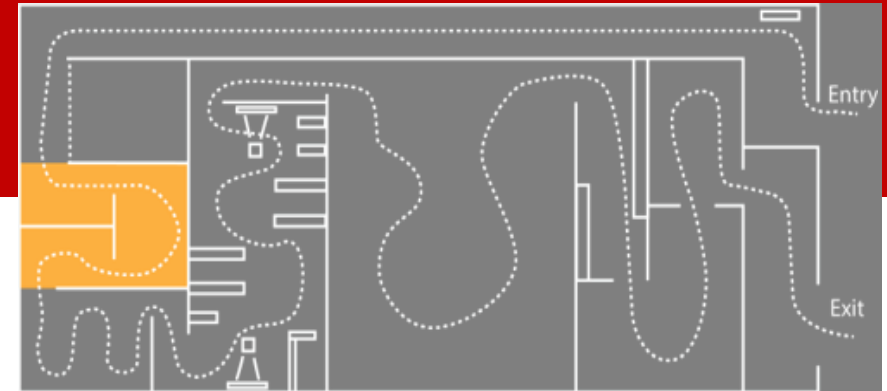
The Dream

Frida Kahlo made lots of her artworks when in her bed. This helped with her imagination.

I can choose to face the mirror opposite the artwork, and pretend that I am in the bed.

The artwork is made using artificial intelligence. It shows representations of the cycle of life, and living with illness.

CONTENT WARNING due to the focus on the cycle of life, this artwork shows female anatomy



Predicted Duration – 5 minutes



3

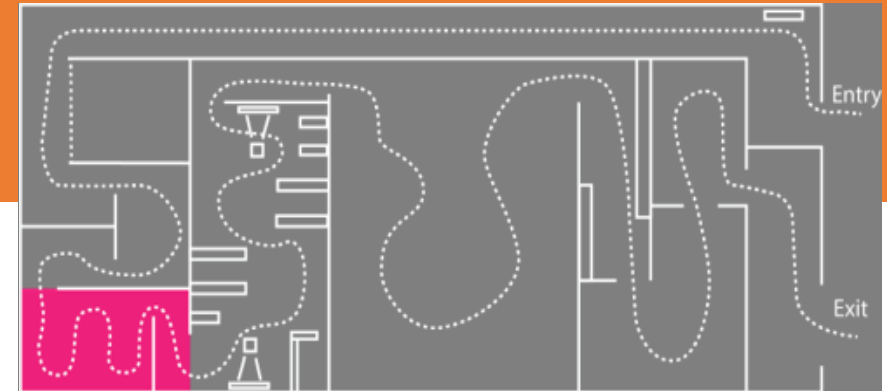
Symbology

Symbology is an interactive audio visual artwork. When I move my body the artwork will move in response. This is because there are motion sensors that respond to my movement.

The artist wants me to have fun and play in this room.

The artwork is very colourful and has lots of moving images. If I feel overwhelmed by the visuals, I can move to the next room.

I will try not to touch any of the walls. This is to keep the artwork clean and safe.



Predicted Duration – 5 minutes



4

La Rosita

In the La Rosita room I can do some coloring in and add my artwork to the wall.

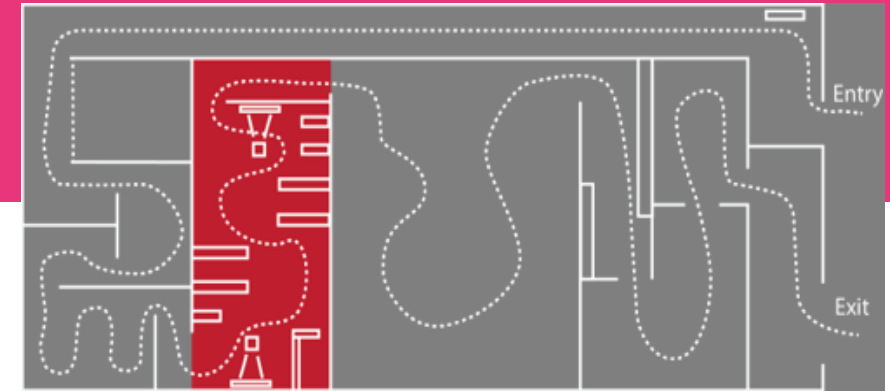
I can:

- Collect a colour-in sheet from the table near the entrance
- Sit at a table and colour-in the sheets
- Scan my artwork into the computer

The computer will then display my artwork on the screen. This shows how artificial intelligence and digital art can be combined.

The artwork is named after *Pulquería La Rosita*.

Which is a place Frida liked to take her students to learn about the environment and traditions of her country.



Predicted Duration – 10-15 minutes



5

Immersive

When I leave La Rosita, I will walk down a dark corridor, and then through a curtain.

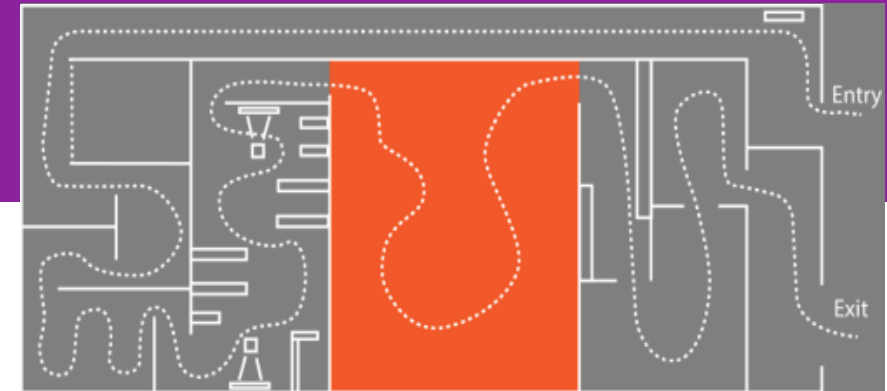
I will enter a very large room with screens that cover the whole wall and floor. There are 24 projectors and 9 speakers so I will feel surrounded by the art.

There are white square seats placed around the room that I can sit on.

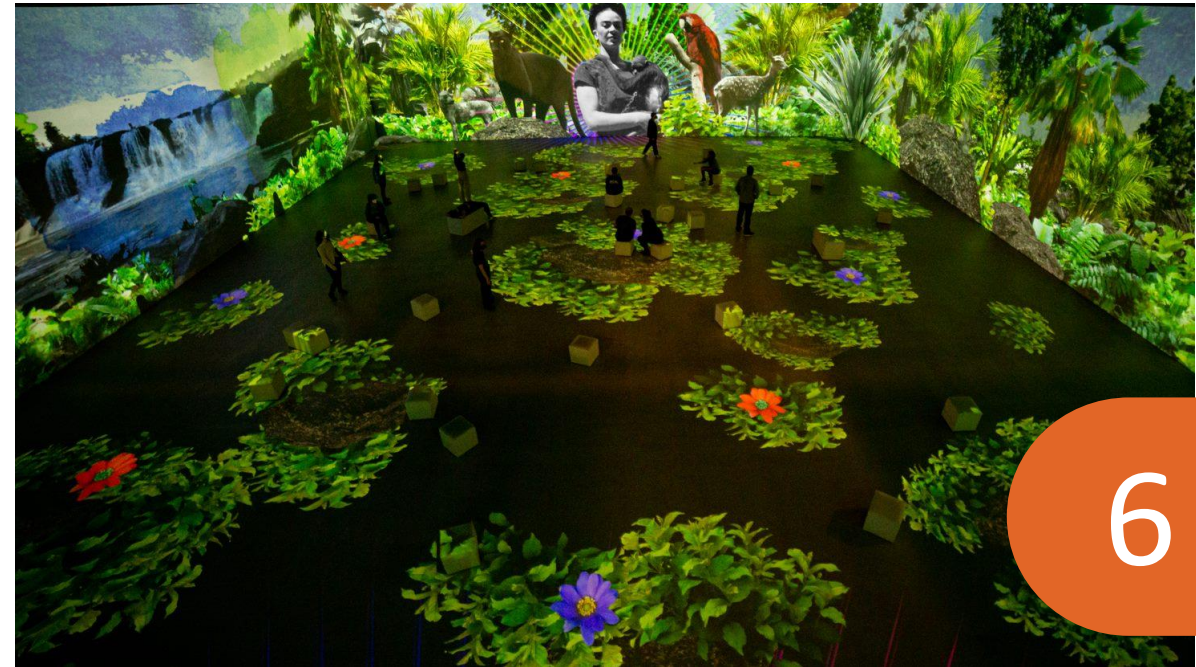
When I look around the room, I will see an audiovisual movie with different parts on different screens.

The movie is about Frida's life from childhood to death. The artwork does not have any of Frida's original paintings in it.

If I feel overwhelmed in this room, I can move to the next room whenever I am ready.



Predicted Duration – 30 minutes



6

Fashion Icon

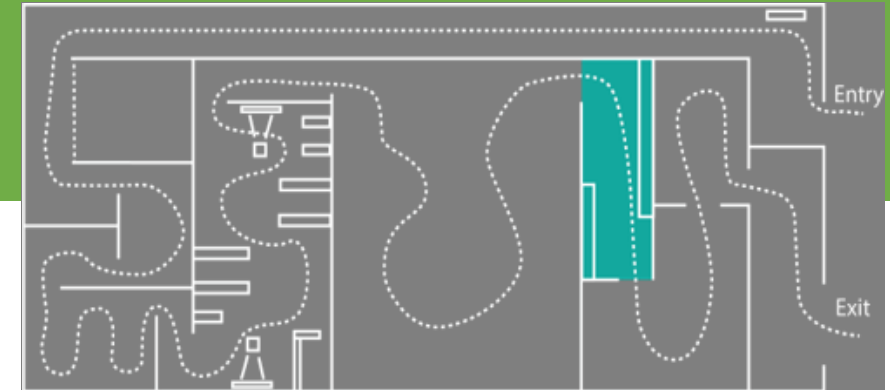
Frida was famous for her fashion.

It was unique for the time and pushed social and cultural boundaries.

In this room I will see examples of:

- Frida's traditional Mexican dress.
- Different examples of traditional Mexican textile practices.

I must not touch the clothing. This is to keep it clean and safe.



Predicted Duration – 5 minutes



7

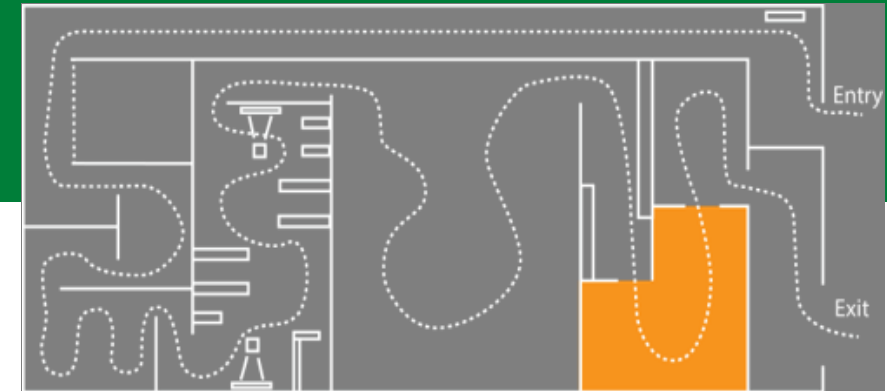
CADAVRE EXQUIS VR experience

In the Cadavre Exquis room I can try a Virtual Reality (VR) experience. This is popular, so I might have to wait in line for a few minutes.

I will put on a VR headset, and some headphones. The VR headset might be heavy.

Then I can move my head or swivel on my chair to look at scenes inspired by Frida's work and life. The VR experience will last for 9 minutes.

Some people feel dizzy or motion sick when using VR headsets. If I don't like it, I can take the VR headset off at any time and I do not have to watch the full 9 minutes.



Predicted Duration – 5 minutes

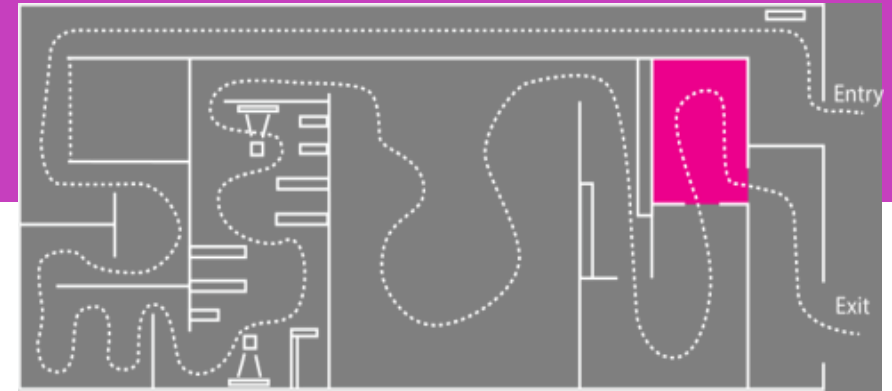


8

Flower Wall

I will see a wall made of flowers in the shape of Frida's face.

I can choose to take photos in front of this wall and share it on my social media. The wall looks very tactile, but I am not allowed to touch the artwork.



Predicted Duration – 5 minutes



9

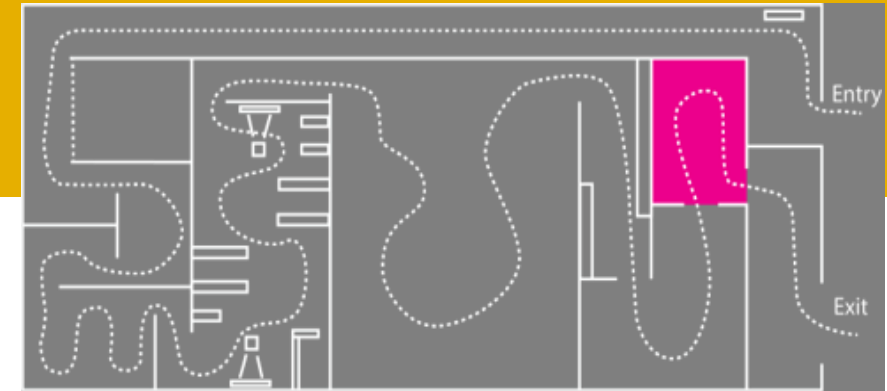
Photo Booth

I can step inside a photo booth and have my photo taken.

The photo will be decorated with Frida inspired patterns, shapes and colours using AI technology.

After my photo is taken, the screen will display a QR code. I can scan the QR code with my phone camera to save my photo.

The QR code disappears quickly, so I should have my phone camera ready before my photo is taken.



Predicted Duration – 5 minutes



9

Gift shop

The last place I will see before I leave the exhibition space is the gift shop.

In the gift shop I can buy Frida themed items. All the products will have prices listed.

I can ask the gift shop assistants for help.

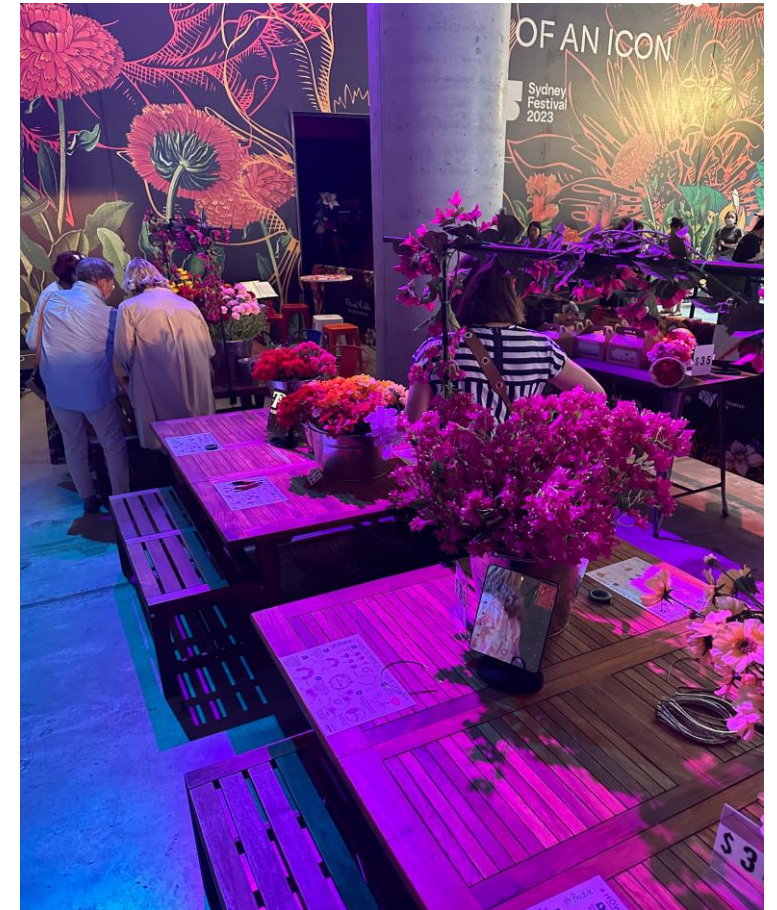
If I want to buy something, I must use a debit or credit card, not cash.



Flower Crowns

Frida is famous for wearing crowns made of flowers. I can pay to make my own flower crown. It costs \$35.

I will see staff members at a table near the Cantina wearing their own flower crowns. They will explain to me how to make them



Toilets

I can find male, female and accessible toilets in the Cutaway opposite the lifts.

I can find accessible public toilets on the eastern side of Barangaroo Avenue between Exchange Place and Mercantile Walk.

There are more accessible toilets between the restaurants along Wulugul Walk.

For more information I can look at the national public toilet map.

<https://toiletmap.gov.au/51243>

Who will I see, and who can help me?

If I need help, I can ask a Sydney Festival Front of House staff member. They will be able to provide me with information and help with first aid.

I can identify them by their black t-shirt with the Frida Kahlo logo. They will be located throughout the exhibition.

Sydney Festival volunteers will also be working throughout the festival; I can identify them by their green t-shirts with the Sydney Festival logo.

Sydney Festival volunteers will be helping with audience flow, directions and any questions I have about the festival.



Quiet Spaces and Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Lanyard

If I feel overwhelmed, or need a place to get calm, I can use the Quiet Room/Parent's Room.

The room is located to the left of the Cantina, and across from the toilets. Signage will be in place to help me find it, and I can ask the Front of House staff to assist me if needed.

The room includes:

- Seating
- Lamp
- Water tap/sink
- Microwave

Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Lanyard

- The Sunflower is a globally recognised symbol for Hidden Disabilities.
- The lanyard is a way that people with Hidden Disabilities can indicate to staff that they may need extra support, time and understanding.
- If I have a Sunflower lanyard I can bring it with me, and the Front of House Staff are trained to recognise it.
- It is OK if I don't have a lanyard, I can still get help if I need.



Thank you for visiting



We hope you enjoy your visit to
Frida Kahlo: The life of an Icon