

## MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2015

### **Second phase of The Silos project underway in Canowindra**

The second phase of the innovative Silos project is underway in the Canowindra region, bringing some of Australia's leading creative's to the region to connect with members of the community. The project has secured funds from the Arts NSW Regional Theatre funding program and The Australia Council for the arts to continue development in 2015.

A stakeholder and community meeting will be held on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February, 5.30pm at Finn's Store in Canowindra. Further community consultations, workshops and think tanks will be held throughout February.

The Silos draws its inspiration from the iconic architecture of regional silos and the community of people who live and work around them. The project was conceived by Phoebe Cowdery and Dylan Gower of the Corridor Project as a way to bring together professional practitioners and the local community to make work which tells local stories and has a regional relevance.

Phase one of 'The Silos' ran 2013-2014 as a community wide program of activities, connecting with over 600 community members, primary & secondary students to collect local stories and develop skills in areas like dance, music, theatre, aerial performance and multimedia. This component was funded by Arts NSW. Phase two will work to conceptualise and plan the delivery of phase three of the project; an amazing, physical theatre experience incorporating theatre, dance, acrobatics, film, music, light and sound using the Canowindra Silo and surrounding railway precinct as the dramatic back drop for the production.

Project partners Arts Outwest and The Corridor Project have pulled together an enviable creative team, headed up by Creative Director Patrick Nolan. Patrick is a Sydney based director with a resume boasting productions for Opera Australia, Melbourne Theatre Company, the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games and a host of large scale performances nationally. He was recently named as a 2015 recipient of the prestigious \$100,000 Australia Council fellowships for artists.

Joining Patrick will be a creative team including visual artist Craig Walsh, composer Scott Saunders, set designer Joey Ruigrok and writer Donna Abela. Regional practitioners, including Maryanne Wright, Julia Andrews and Alison Plevey will also feature strongly in the key creative group.

Arts Outwest Executive Officer Tracey Callinan said *'This project gives local people the opportunity to explore and present local stories, working with a highly skilled creative team, some of the best in the business. It has the potential to leave a great legacy in terms of skills growth and the development of the rail precinct in Canowindra'*

Ends

Stakeholder and community meeting enquiries:

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