

News update – mural artwork for Garrong Park

Garrong Park will be a hive of activity this week as the large factory wall is transformed into a major artwork by acclaimed local indigenous artist, Kent Morris.

This artwork, which was commissioned at the end of last year, is a key part of the park's original concept design that is finally being installed after various delays to the project. Preparation for painting starts on site Monday 12 July, the artwork is expected to be completed before the end of July 2021 (weather permitting). Most of the area along the eastern edge of the park will be fenced off temporarily during that time.

This vast artwork comprises a painted mural that extends the full length of the factory wall, as well as the outer faces of the toilet building. It will be a significant artistic contribution to the park, enhancing and softening the spaces under the steel arbour. Entitled *Ancestral Connections-The Ties that Bind*, this artwork offers a meaningful connection to Moreland's indigenous history, and builds on this conversation within a contemporary community context.



Indicative wall panel

Kent Morris's artwork engages with themes of south-Eastern Australian indigenous knowledge and culture, as well as Brunswick's local history including the nearby rope works in Tinning Street. The work also draws on the park's name Garrong, which is the Woi Wurrung word for Wattle, incorporating the colours of the wattle in its palette. These are some of the reflections of Kent Morris on elements of his design for the artwork:

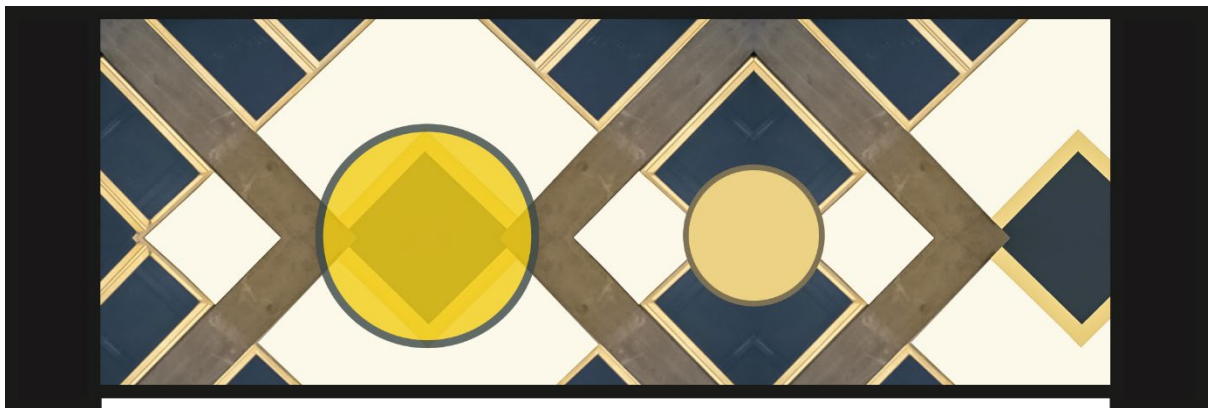
"The geometric design of the concept is inspired by mathematical and Chinese rope knot diagrams and First Nations design elements from the south east of Australia. They represent interconnecting patterns and pathways and reaffirm connection to community, culture and family, highlighting the ties that bind us together.

Magpies singing expresses the daily importance of community connection through shared achievement and the new possibilities that each day brings.

Overall, the design emphasises the benefits of cross cultural knowledge and collaboration, and the importance of community connectedness in minimising isolation and maintaining diversity, prosperity and sustainability for all."

We can all look forward to seeing this wonderful artwork taking shape at Garrong Park in coming days.

Please note that all images on this web page are conceptual and not an accurate reflection of the completed construction of the park.



Indicative wall panel – solid black border is unpainted brick