



**AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY
PHNOM PENH
MEDIA RELEASE**

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IMMERSIVE DIGITAL EXPERIENCE ARRIVES IN CAMBODIA

Today, Australian Prime Minister the Hon Anthony Albanese MP, was joined by His Excellency Ly Thuch, Senior Minister and First Vice President of Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority and Director of National Museum of Australia Dr Mathew Trinca, to launch the immersive digital experience *Walking through a Songline* at Factory Phnom Penh, as part of the 70th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Australia and Cambodia.

Walking through a Songline is a pop-up digital experience based on part of the National Museum of Australia's internationally acclaimed exhibition *Songlines: Tracking the Seven Sisters*. Songline or Dreaming tracks, map the routes of Ancestral beings as they travelled across Australia, creating the land and its people.

Australia and Cambodia are richer countries for having vibrant Indigenous communities that make a contribution to our country's economic, social and cultural life. The contribution of Indigenous people across all facets of our national life – sport, politics, culture, art, academia, literature, science, music, health – is one of our most important assets.

The exhibition is a chance for all Australians and Cambodians to reflect on the journey of the bilateral relationship over the last 70 years, as well as what can be done in the next 70 and beyond.

Songlines: Tracking the Seven Sisters showcases five First Nations songlines from Australia's Western and Central Deserts. It uses over 300 paintings and photographs, objects, song, dance and multimedia to narrate the story of the Seven Sisters and their creation of the continent as they travelled from west to east.

Walking through a Songline was produced by the National Museum in partnership with Mosster Studio. It has the ongoing support of the traditional Aboriginal custodians and knowledge holders of this story.

Visitors can make their way through a multi-sensory digital installation in which they can immerse themselves in ancient Aboriginal Australian knowledge communicated through new technology.

This immersive multimedia installation *Walking Through a Songline* will be open to the public, free of charge, from Monday 14 November 2022 until Sunday 11 December 2022 at the Factory Phnom Penh.

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