

## Big Walk to Golden Mountain | Ballarat, Victoria



- Total Project Cost \$20,500
- RAF Funding \$6,000
- Engagement | Over 5,921 audience members
- 68.8% of the project costs were paid to local artists and arts workers
- Engagement | Expanded reach across Victoria

2017 marked the 160th anniversary of the migration of thousands of Guandong people to Victoria. Travelling from the Pearl River Delta in Southern China to Robe in South Australia, they then walked to the 'Golden Mountain' of the Central Victoria Goldfields. This project saw members of the Chinese Australian Cultural Society from Ballarat collaborate with five central Victorian artists, students and researchers from Federation University and a Hong Kong artist to engage in an artistic and cultural program highlighting this migrant passage.

Benefits to the community included:

- Bringing to life Chinese culture and its history of migration through the region
- Showcase and share Chinese cultural heritage and positive impact of immigration in the region
- Provided the opportunity for knowledge sharing, skills development, and inter-cultural networks between artists, University students, Chinese Australian Cultural Society members and the Ballarat community
- Strengthening relationships with community organisations - a partnership with Punctum enabled the project to be professionally produced.

Additional Impact:

- The project reached well beyond the initial 160th anniversary celebrations with the work featuring in White Night Ballarat and as part of an installation at the Art Gallery of Ballarat. There were also performances during the Castlemaine State Festival and the project was the only regionally created and presented work in the international AsiaTOPA program in Melbourne.