

MEDIA RELEASE

POWERHOUSE MUSEUM, SYDNEY ANNOUNCED AS EXCLUSIVE AUSTRALIAN VENUE FOR THE ART OF THE BRICK: DC COMICS

Internationally renowned LEGO artist, Nathan Sawaya, has joined forces with DC Entertainment and Warner Bros. Consumer Products to create the world's largest exhibition of DC Comics-inspired artwork, coming first to Powerhouse Museum in Sydney.

This never-before-seen international touring exhibition opens in November 2015, and takes on characters and stories from DC Comics' 80-year history with large-scale sculptures of super heroes and super-villains made from millions of LEGO® bricks.

Sawaya and cult comic book artist and Co-publisher of DC Entertainment, Jim Lee will collaborate on a new Batmobile design to debut alongside more than 100 works of art.

The exhibition will also showcase Sawaya's interpretations on characters, vehicles, environments and themes found throughout the DC Comics mythology including transformation and reinvention, strength and weakness, as well as good vs. evil.

"This show is an Australian exclusive for Powerhouse Museum and will be a fantastic experience for families and fans of Lego and the DC Comic characters," said Deputy Premier and Minister for the Arts, Troy Grant.

"We all know that everything is awesome in a show about Lego."

Minister for Trade, Tourism and Major Events, Stuart Ayres, said the exhibition would be a must-see on the Sydney Summer Events calendar.

"*The Art of The Brick* is the most successful LEGO brick exhibition series of all time, and Nathan Sawaya is known world-wide for his awe-inspiring LEGO brick creations. This exhibition will appeal to visitors of all ages with its recreations of heroes and villains including Batman, Superman, Wonder Woman and The Joker," said Minister Ayres.

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“The exhibition, secured by the NSW Government through our tourism and major events agency Destination NSW in partnership with the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences (MAAS), will attract thousands of visitors to Sydney, and is expected to generate close to \$6 million in visitor expenditure for the State.”

Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences Director, Rose Hiscock, said the exhibition was not to be missed.

“Stories of super heroes and super villains are ever-present in our cultural narrative; they are the stories we re-enact as kids and remember as adults.

“*The Art of the Brick: DC Comics* continues the Powerhouse Museum's strong tradition of exploring contemporary culture through art and design and we can't wait for the doors to open," said Ms Hiscock.

The exhibition will stay true to the creative disciplines of Sawaya's original touring exhibition, which encourage inspiration, education and participation.

The international tour of *The Art of the Brick: DC Comics* will begin in November in Sydney, followed by venues in additional major cities around the globe. Tickets will go on sale in August and pre-sale registration is available now online at maas.museum.

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Editor's Note:

Powerhouse Museum, alongside Sydney Observatory and Discovery Centre, is part of the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences (MAAS), Australia's contemporary museum for excellence and innovation in applied arts and sciences. The Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences has a vast and diverse collection of over 500,000 objects.