

POWERHOUSE MUSEUM AND
THE ARTS CENTRE, MELBOURNE PRESENT

K Y L I E

AN EXHIBITION

26 DECEMBER 2005 – 7 MAY 2006



Photo © Darenote Ltd 2004

This exhibition celebrates Kylie's contribution to music, stage and screen. It features an extensive display of costumes, accessories, photographs and audiovisual material drawn from over 300 items generously donated by Kylie Minogue to the Arts Centre, Melbourne.

"What I imagine people will want to see is the wear and tear, the ingrained makeup after fifty shows, where the audio-pack rubs — these are the things that for me, bring costumes to life."

— Kylie Minogue

Curriculum links

The exhibition may be useful to students in the following subject areas and, in particular, those areas that require the examination of a contemporary Australian identity/performer/designer as well as international designers and photographers.

Primary

- HSIE link CUS2.3, CUS3.3
- (The activity would be useful as part of post-class visit)

Lower secondary

- Design & Technology
- Photographic & Digital Media
- Music
- Textiles Technology

Upper secondary

- Music
- Dance
- Design & Technology
- Society and Culture
- Textiles & Design
- Photography, Video and Digital Imaging

The exhibition is divided into seven sections:

- Music and video — Kylie has created some memorable music videos over the past 20 years. This section includes costumes and accessories from international as well as Australian-based designers such as Nicole Bonython and Dinosaur Designs.
- On tour — live performance is Kylie's great love. The creativity of her touring shows is testament to this. For example, the wardrobe for the Kylie Fever tour (2002) was exclusively designed by Dolce & Gabbana and called for nine costume changes.
- On stage — as well as her tours Kylie puts enormous effort into her one-off performances, be they live television or events like the Sydney 2000 Olympics.



White wool tailcoat and silk waistcoat designed by Pamela Blundell. Top hat designed by Stephen Jones. Photo by Jasin Boland.

- Style — Kylie is a fashion icon and celebrity. Her red-carpet and awards show appearances, and her work with high profile designers such as Jean Paul Gaultier, Manolo Blahnik, Alexander McQueen, John Galliano, Helmut Lang and Chanel are represented here.
- Image — features more than 60 images of Kylie taken by renowned international photographers including Katerina Jebb, David La Chapelle and Mert and Marcus for album and magazine covers and other photo shoots.
- Icon — classic and memorable Kylie costumes including Charlene's overalls, gold hot pants, and white jumpsuit are here. Many of Kylie's major awards are also on display.
- Backstage — this section takes students behind the scenes of the Kylie Fever tour and includes sketches from Dolce & Gabbana.

'Kylie: an exhibition' activity

Overview

This activity is designed to encourage students to think about what makes a person famous and to consider why a collection of clothing belonging to a celebrity is worth keeping.

Students will be asked to:

- Discuss what makes a person famous.
- Talk about what is valuable and worth keeping.
- Think creatively about how famous people influence society.

Discussion

- Why would Kylie Minogue's clothes be worth collecting?
- How do ordinary people become famous?
- What qualities does Kylie Minogue have that are worth publicising?
- Would you like to be famous? Explain.
- Would you like your clothes to be put on display? Give reasons.
- If you could meet someone famous, who would it be? What would you talk about?
- What rules should exist to protect the privacy of people?
- Should these rules be the same for all individuals in society? If not, why not?

Participation

As a class compile a list of famous people who have appeared on programs such as *Behind the news* and other news programs and newspapers this year.

Describe each person in a few words and sort them into groups such as scientists, political leaders, educators, athletes, artists, musicians and other.

Working in small groups or pairs, write a sentence or two describing what makes a person famous. Present your definition to the class.

Working in groups, select one famous person from your list and draw a concept map about his or her life. Don't worry too much about the actual details, just jot down as many facts and thoughts as you can in three minutes. Share your group's concept map with another group of students.



Lavender halter-neck dress with ribbon tile trim designed by Stevie Stewart and Sandy Gordon based on a Gucci design and featured in the 'Can't get you out of my head' video (2001) directed by Dawn Shadforth.

In pairs, use the ideas below to come up with a presentation about this famous person. (You can develop one idea or combine a few together.) If you need more information spend up to 30 minutes researching this person on the internet before preparing your presentation.

- Remove or modify a statement or event that was reported about him or her
- Change or reverse one important incident in her/his life
- Develop one feature or aspect of this person that might be different in the future
- Predict how this person reacts when he/she meets up with something life changing
- Use flashback to explore something significant in his or her life
- Exaggerate, rearrange or remove an event, meeting or feature of his or her life
- Combine two or three of the most interesting or important aspects of his or her life

Put the information you have gathered to another use, eg a skit, role-play, interview, sketch or article.

This activity is reproduced with permission from *Behind the news* <http://www.abc.net.au/btn>

Please note: the websites referred to in these notes were available and suitable at the time of publication. We advise teachers to check sites before recommending them to students.

K Y L I E



Gold jersey top designed by Stella McCartney for Chloé and vintage gold lurex hot pants featured in the 'Spinning around' video (2000) directed by Dawn Shadforth.

**For more information on *Kylie: an exhibition*,
visit the Powerhouse Museum's website
<http://www.powerhousemuseum.com>**

For more information about education support
or your booking, contact Education and Visitor
Services at the Powerhouse Museum:
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