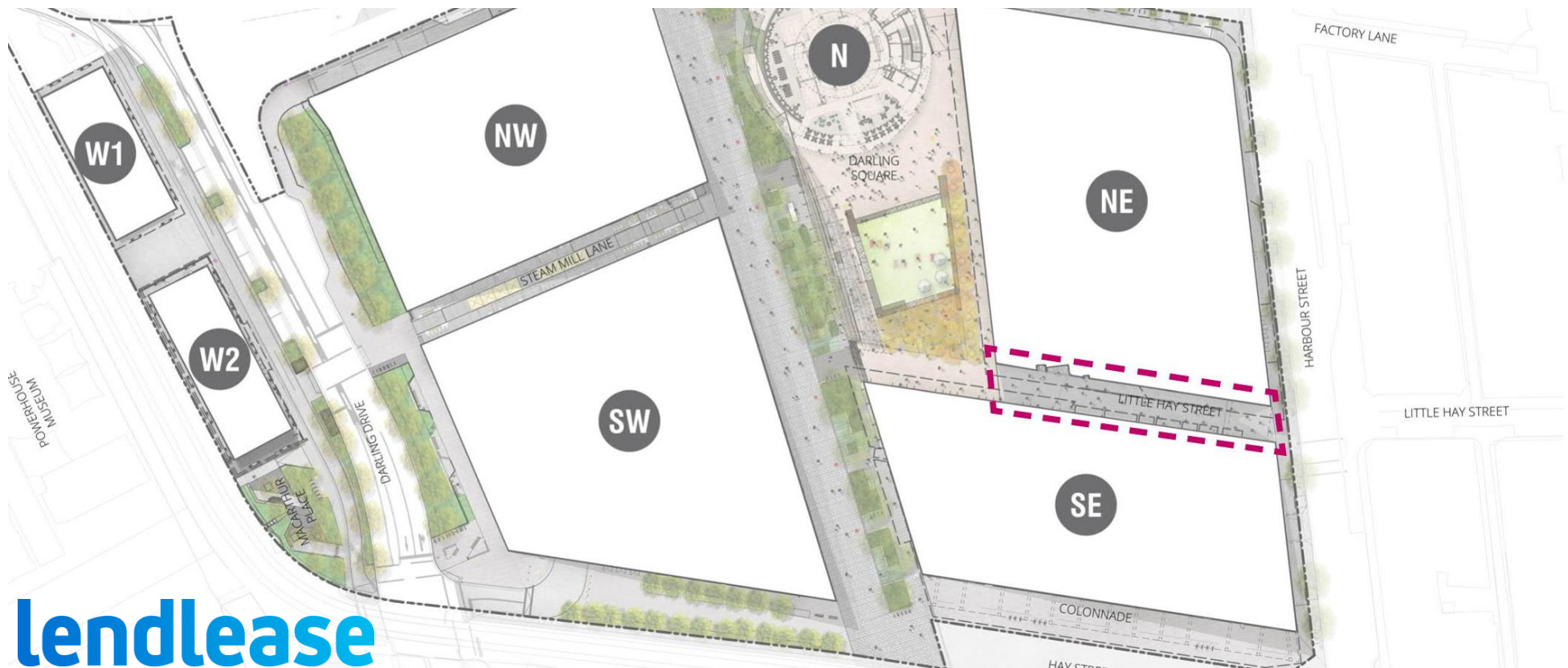


DARLING SQUARE LITTLE HAY ST NE / SE PLOT

S4.551A MODIFICATION - PUBLIC ART STATEMENT



DARLING SQUARE

LITTLE HAY ST

S4.551A MODIFICATION – PUBLIC ART

Catenary Public Art - Brendan Van Hek, City Lights

The following text is extracted from the public art proposal by artist Brendan Van Hek.

The work proposes an energetic, colourful, light based installation. Suspended overhead, a centre of activity in a cluster of lines, colours and shapes, explodes outwards into neon shapes that project across the length of Little Hay Street. The work describes a landscape of noises, activity, words, streaking taillights, constant action and movement – the city.

Providing a cue to the installation as a whole, the single element fixed high on the wall at the entrance of the street reminds us of signage, but the neon doesn't quite spell out words or even letters. It is based on an ongoing series of works that use recycled neon (text, numbers, symbols and remnant off cuts of advertising signs) collected from manufacturer throughout Australia. The neon fragments although in part recognisable lose their ability to communicate as written language and instead become a cacophony of marks and lines that communicate the idea of a lived history of the city and its social history. The work recalls the street scape of Chinatown and city façades with signage and bright colourful lights. Along the length of Little Hay Street the almost recognisable letters and words are like chatter on the street, you hear a fragment of a sentence, a single word, from the trill of voices in conversation at cafes or strolling on the street. Taking neon collected from signage parts as a starting point, the work upscales these into large elements that can be assembled into compositions to respond to the scale, the layout and the energy of the street.



Little Hay St Public Artwork – Catenary Peice C1 Render



Little Hay St Public Artowrk – Character and Symbolog

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LITTLE HAY ST

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Little Hay St Public Artwork – Catenary Perspective

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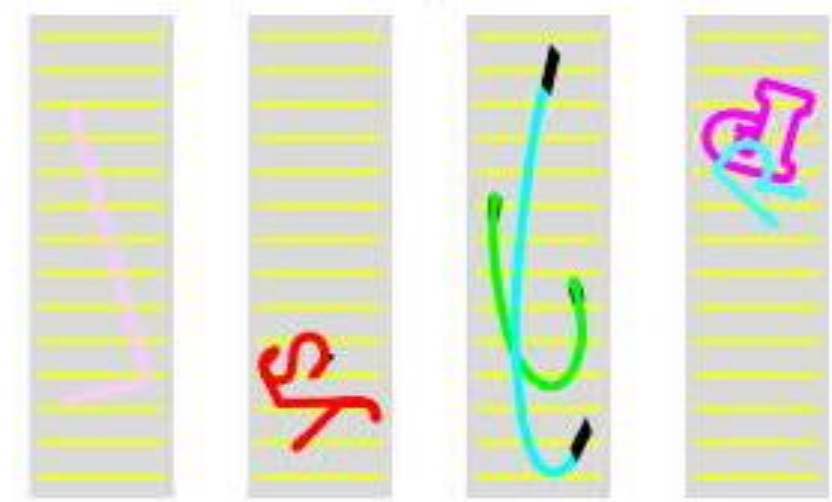
Ground Plane Public Art - Brendan Van Hek, City Lights

The proposal is for a series of neon, wall-based works that punctuate the length of Little Hay Street using colour and light in an energetic and dynamic intervention.

The work consists of a series of 8-12 boxes that extend on City Lights as the main work in the site. The boxes speak to the language of signage they are wall mounted eye-catching neon that invert the informative or commercial motivations of standard signage and instead use neon to speak of the streetscape and the contemporary lived experience of the city. Neon is both nostalgic and futuristic and as such the work connects to the cultural past of the area while envisioning the future.

The yellow fields of light of each of the 18 boxes, and the use of neon, make a connection to Chinatown. Yellow is a very important colour in Chinese symbolism representing glory, wisdom, harmony, happiness, and it is the basis to the work. Neon shapes in other colours are overlaid, animating the work chromatically and creating 18 unique compositions across the suite of boxes.

The work follows City Lights and is based on an ongoing series of works that use found and recycled neon (text, numbers, symbols and remnants of advertising signs). The neon fragments, although in part recognisable, lose their ability to communicate as written language. Instead they become abstract and engaging compositions that define the streetscape in a distinctive display of colour, enlivening the street during the day and coming to life as a unique light installation at night.



Little Hay St Public Artwork – Render, Ground Plane Artworks (Concept)