

RE/FRAME

Gospel Art Space Proposal
Fremantle . Western Australia



Purpose

Reframe has a heart for artists to not only demonstrate the beauty of Christ but to live out this beauty in their own lives.

Reframe provides a spiritual incubator for artists to grow in Christian spiritual and moral formation.

In his letter to artists the late Pope John Paul II writes:

“In shaping a masterpiece, the artist not only summons his work into being, but also in some way reveals his [or her] own personality by means of it.”¹

Put differently, all art is autobiographical. Thus we believe it is vital to help shape artists of moral and Christlike character. This will be achieved through cohorts, workshops, and a commitment to community and accountability.

Once artists have undergone a process of discipleship we will collaborate with them to

host a exhibition. We believe that physical demonstration and immersion in a space expands the human soul.

We believe that beauty demonstrated in its various forms can and does bring the gospel to life for people who are sceptical. For, “just as God created all of a beautiful world, we are sent to co-create and re-create a beautiful world.”²

Reframe will provide a tangible, neutral location, in the heart of Fremantle for sceptics to experience beauty.

In sum, the heart of **Reframe** is to collaborate, cultivate, and empower local artists to share the gospel story through discipleship and demonstration.

God is the source of all creative inspiration. Our hope is that together with Him there will be ever increasing demonstrations in our city of His beautiful Gospel.

Reframe is a gospel centred art space curated to provide an immersive experience that moves mind, body and spirit to reveal the beauty of Jesus.

¹ Pope John Paul II, “Letter to Artists,” 1999.

² Alabaster, On Beauty and Faith: Exploring Beauty and It’s Implications for Our Lives, (Los Angeles, CA: Alabaster Creative Inc 2020), 153.



Location

FREMANTLE WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Fremantle is located on the western coast of Australia. It is home to seekers, skeptics, and artists.

Fremantle is deeply intertwined with its history, culture, and natural surroundings. Fremantle is a hub of creativity and artistic expression.

The town is adorned with vibrant street art, showcasing a blend of local and international talent. The murals and installations on buildings and laneways depict various themes, from indigenous art and maritime heritage to contemporary designs. Fremantle reflects the multiculturalism and diverse influences that shape the community. Galleries and art spaces, such as the Fremantle Arts Centre and local studios, feature contemporary works that resonate with a forward-thinking, progressive audience.

SPIRITUALITY

Fremantle's atmosphere is deeply connected to the land and its indigenous roots. The area holds significant spiritual importance for the Noongar people, the traditional owners of the land. The ancient stories, beliefs, and spiritual practices contribute to an atmosphere in need of redemption.

More recently, Fremantle has evolved to encompass New Age philosophies and practices. The New Age movement and alternative spirituality has found a home in Fremantle.

Fremantle might be considered hard ground for the Gospel in light of the above observations, but we believe it is a vital place to see revival in our city in our time. We believe that it is vital to make our home amongst the seekers, sceptics, and artists if we are to reach them with the Gospel.³

³ "Spiritual Conversations in the Digital Age: How Christians Approach to Sharing Their Faith Has Changed in 25 Years (Barna Group, 2018)."

Property

PRINCESS THEATRE 2 LEAKE STREET, FREMANTLE

The Princess Theatre stands as a historical gem that has witnessed over a century of cultural and theatrical evolution.

Built in 1912, this Edwardian-style theatre holds a significant place in the city's cultural heritage. Today the Princess Theatre is used as a warehouse by a local family of upholsterers (Polimeno Family) but continues to fall into disrepair.

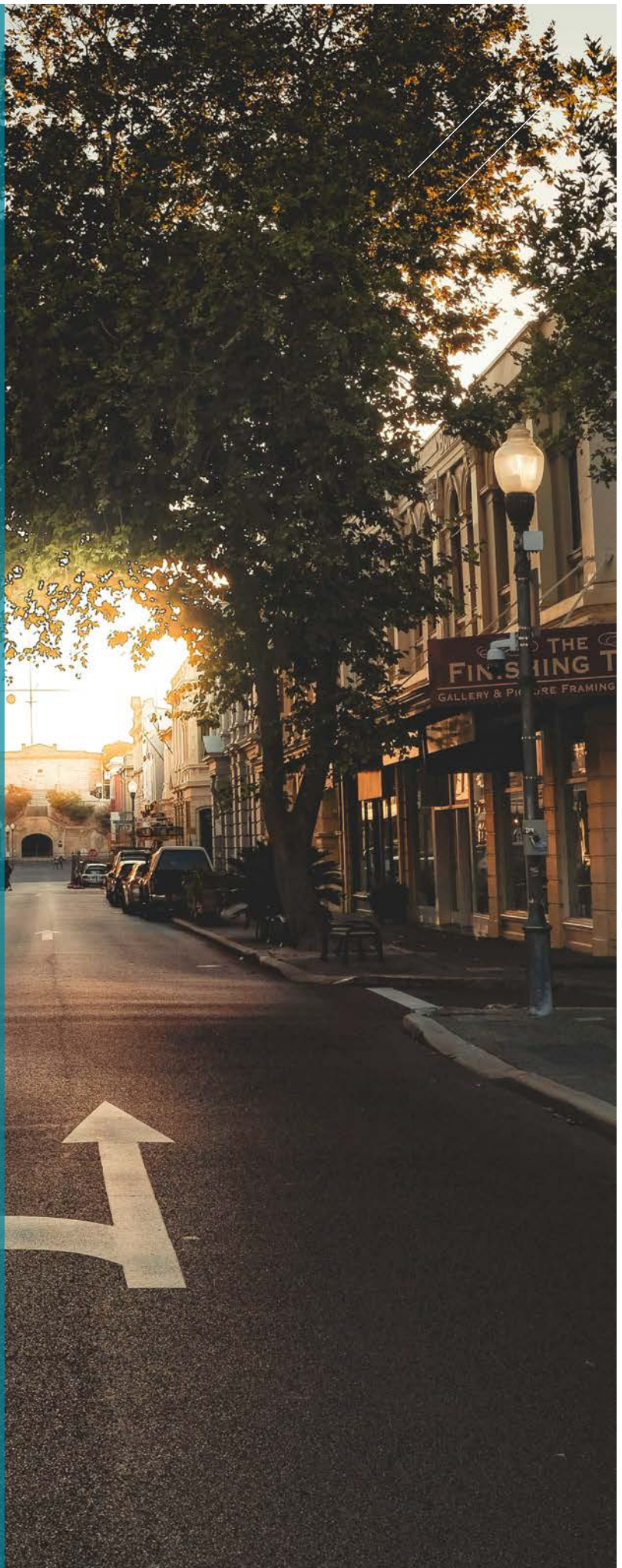
We believe that The Princess Theatre with the necessary renovations, is the perfect home for **Reframe**. By purchasing and renovating the Theatre will serve as our first demonstration of the gospel witness of making beauty from brokenness.

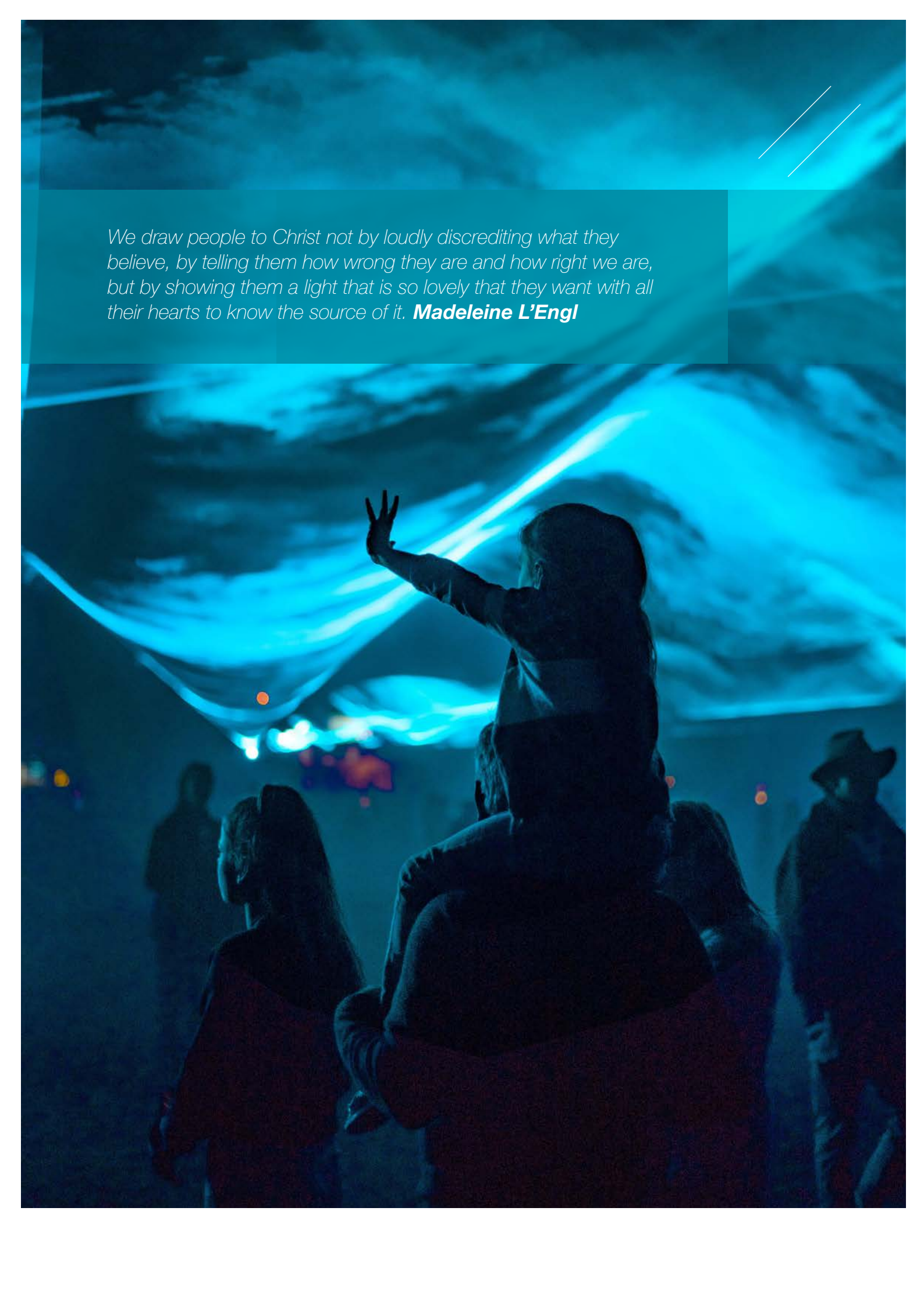
DETAILS

This property has a ground floor area of approximately 1170sqm comprising a massive 1045sqm of internal open space with cavernous high ceilings. There is office space, wet areas as well as a strong room including the original safe, a wide staircase leads upstairs to a further 285sqm of mezzanine, stepped seating, projector room and more office space and wet areas.

For more detail, history and interior photos follow these links:

- [Property history](#)
- [Interior photos](#)



A photograph of a crowd of people at night, illuminated by a strong blue light. In the foreground, a person is seen from behind, with their right arm raised high, palm facing forward. They are surrounded by other people, some of whom are also looking towards the light source. The background is filled with a bright, ethereal blue glow that creates a sense of wonder and awe. The overall mood is one of spiritual seeking or a religious gathering.

*We draw people to Christ not by loudly discrediting what they believe, by telling them how wrong they are and how right we are, but by showing them a light that is so lovely that they want with all their hearts to know the source of it. **Madeleine L'Engl***

Beauty will save a city

“A thousand years ago Prince Vladimir the Great, the pagan monarch of Kiev, was looking for a new religion to unify the Russian people. Towards this end, Prince Vladimir sent out envoys to investigate the great faiths from neighbouring realms. When the delegations returned, they gave the Prince their reports. Some had discovered religions that were dour and austere. Others encountered faiths that were abstract and theoretical. But the envoys who had investigated Christianity in the Byzantine capital of Constantinople reported finding a faith characterised by such transcendent beauty that they “did not know if they were in heaven or on earth.”

“Then we went to Constantinople and they led us to the place where they worship their God, and we knew not whether we were in heaven or earth, for on earth there is no such vision nor beauty, and we do not know how to describe it; we only know that God dwells among men. We cannot forget that beauty.”

Upon receiving the report from the Constantinople delegation of the unearthly beauty they had witnessed, Prince Vladimir adopted Christianity as the new faith for the Russian people.

Is it possible that the Christian message can be communicated in terms of beauty? Along with apologetics and ethics, is there also an aesthetic that belongs to the gospel of Jesus Christ? Beauty is integral to the Christian message... to a generation suspicious of truth claims and unconvinced by moral assertion, beauty has a surprising allure.

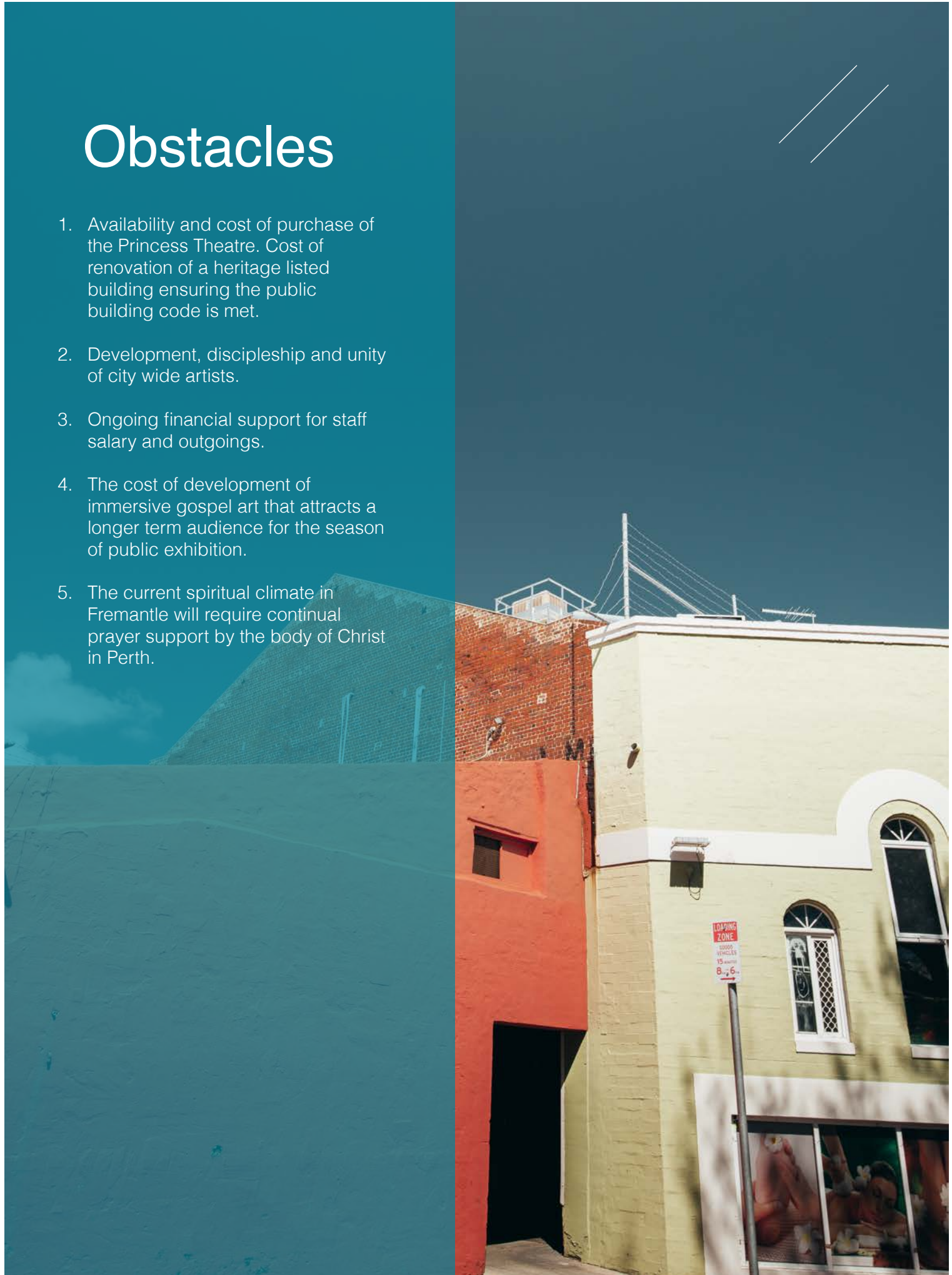
And everything about Jesus is beautiful.”⁴

⁴ Brian Zahnd, *Beauty Will Save The World*, (Lake Mary, FL: Charisma House 2001), xliii-xv.



Obstacles

1. Availability and cost of purchase of the Princess Theatre. Cost of renovation of a heritage listed building ensuring the public building code is met.
2. Development, discipleship and unity of city wide artists.
3. Ongoing financial support for staff salary and outgoings.
4. The cost of development of immersive gospel art that attracts a longer term audience for the season of public exhibition.
5. The current spiritual climate in Fremantle will require continual prayer support by the body of Christ in Perth.





**THIS IS
FREMANTLE**

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Project Values

A core team of curators will form a selection committee responsible for choosing the final work for public exhibition. The final decision will be based on the below values:

Is it creative, as God is creative?

Genesis 1:1

Does it edify the body of Christ?

Ephesians 4:12

Does it promote unity?

Ephesians 4:1-6

Does it exalt and glorify Jesus and allow us to enjoy him?

Westminster Shorter Catechism

Is the Gospel message presented?

Romans 1:16

Does the presentation evoke an experience of immersion that stirs the mind, body and spirit?

1 Kings 10:1-5

Is the presentation of the Gospel a little different to convention?

1 Corinthians 12:4-7

Is it promoting a lifestyle of worship?

Romans 12:1

Will it get others involved in the praise and glory of God?

Philippians 1:9-11

Founder

Adam Meredith

Adam is an image bearer, a husband, a father, and a pastor.

Adam studied accounting and finance and spent the first part of his professional life working with Ernst and Young and various corporate organisations. It was during this time he had an encounter with Jesus and gave his life to following Him.

Since 2012, Adam has served as Senior Minister at The Red Door Community Church in Cockburn Central, alongside his wife Dale. He is a father of three adult children.

Adam enjoys discovering creative ways to communicate the beauty of the Gospel and the person of Jesus. He is passionate about cultivating unity in the body of Christ and has been gathering local Christian leaders in the Cockburn Local Government Area since 2007.





RE/FRAME

c/- The Red Door Community Church
4/33 Hammond Rd Cockburn Central WA 6164
redcollective@thereddoor.cc
www.thereddoor.cc
+61 8 9414 9638

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