2000 MURNONGS

The bold yellow flowers of the Murnong plant graced the foreshore landscape of St Kilda for many thousands of years. In fact, due to its apparently wonderful tasting, yam-like root, it is said that the local Aboriginal people cultivated the Murnong plant, as an important source of nutrition. In less than two-hundred years, invasive pastoral practices, land clearing and introduced species such as rabbits have all but rendered the Murnong plant extinct.

Through creating a self-sustaining energy landscape, harnessing the site’s wind to generate electricity, we wonder; can the Murnong’s spirit resonate in new ways across its former landscape?

2000 MURNONGS is a collection of 2000 elevated planter boxes with native trees and Murnong plants dancing gracefully in the St Kilda wind, all the while producing sustainable energy. The gesture of suspending these 2000 planter boxes – from Luna Park to the Palais Theatre, from the St Kilda Foreshore back to its CBD – pays respect to the roots of the Murnong. Like the plant seeking out important nutrition, our installation will form a productive landscape network between the culturally significant spaces of St Kilda.