



**Big Skies** is a poetic mix of theatre, traditional story telling and ground breaking interactive 3D animations. Created by **Box of Birds** it is a new type of media event designed to inspire the feeling of contemplating the infinity of a cloudless, star filled sky.

# Looking to the stars.

**Big Skies** will take the audience on a journey through space and time and uses story to create a play space designed to delight and enlighten. Through immersion in stunning 3D and interactive visuals participants will rediscover the awe that we all feel when first confronted by the wonders and mysteries of the universe around us.

From the first sailors who used stars to navigate their way to Australia in pre-history, to the many migrants who have travelled since, we shall look at the journeys all people make. And the relationships this has to the skies.

Working with the owners of cultural knowledge **Big Skies** takes inspiration from diverse Indigenous, Chinese, Anglo Saxon and European travel narratives. Each culture has brought their own mythologies about the stars, planets and moon. These Moon mythologies will then link to the more recent quests to actually journey to the Moon with the Apollo, Russian and proposed Chinese moon missions.

And then looking still further we travel onwards in journeys to other planets and humanity's search for extra-terrestrial life and an answer to the big question: Are we alone?

And then on again into the future and our next great quest to find other habitable planets beyond our solar system.

To explore the relationship between, technology, embodiment and

creative imagination.

To encourage and embrace social playfulness within the reality of our

digital future

**Box of Birds** is a collective of artists working together to take the virtual world off the screen and into the play spaces around us. We are performance makers, digital interactive artists, storytellers, and designers who seek to offer an experience like no other.

Begun in 2011 when director David Clarkson invited two interactive digital artists (Andrew Johnston and Andrew Bluff) to collaborate on his dance theatre work Encoded, for his company Stalker Theatre. This work toured extensively in Australia, Europe and Asia and was followed by several other shows crafted for both outdoor and indoor performances.

Building on those years of experience creating large scale, immersive dance and interactive projection works seen by over a hundred thousand around the world they are now crafting unique and spectacular 3D 360 degree live experiences.

**Box of Birds** immersive experiences use media servers and technology developed by the team specifically for the project and it has built collaborative relationships with technology and structural supply companies.

Some examples of work are:-

[Encoded](#)

[Mountain](#)

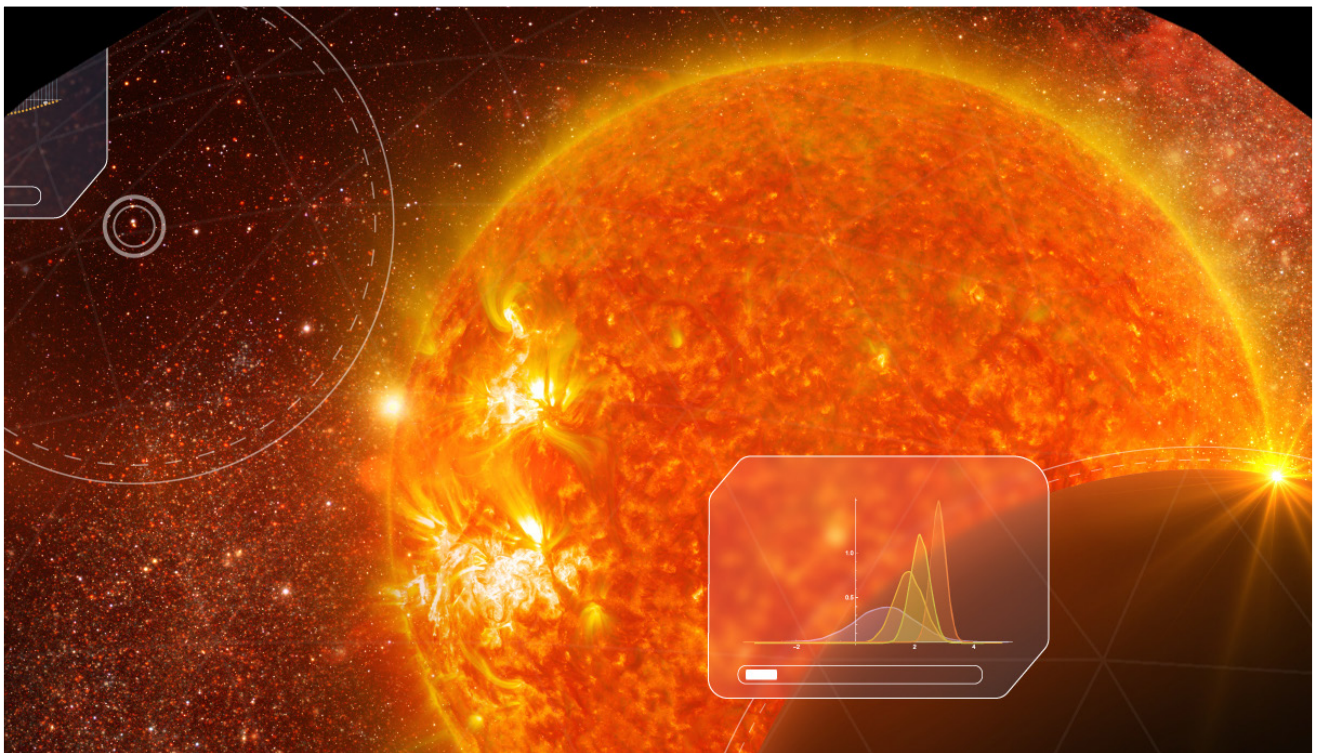
[Frameshift](#)

[Creature: Dot and the Kangaroo](#)

[Creature Installation](#)



To empower the creative human spark through social interaction, environmental awareness, storytelling and technological innovation.



Originally from New Zealand, project lead, David Clarkson spent many a holiday near the Mt John Observatory in Mackenzie Basin, in what is now New Zealand's main hub for astro-tourism and dark skies experiences. These summers instilled in him a passion for the stars and all things in the heavens and he went on to study astronomy at Canterbury University.

As a theatre maker and creative director bringing the artistic and scientific passions together is a natural progression. The arts are, after all, outstanding in creating large or small scale events, and in making those events meaningful to participants. **Big Skies** expands the current trend in Dark Skies experiences and can be presented in regional and urban locations.

While immersive projection domes are being used very successfully around the world **Box of Birds** push this medium to the next level with their innovative, proprietary interactive 3D projection technology.

In **Big Skies** the participant is not only surrounded by worlds of wonder and mystery but they are able to reach out and connect with them. You will wave your hand and a nebula of stars will appear before you. Your actions will make it shimmer and dance and you can throw that nebula to other people around.

With no isolating VR goggles, but lightweight 3D sunglasses, people will experience and be able to play as a group. It is this physical interaction, and the group dynamic it encourages, that makes **Big Skies** not only a unique, visually arresting experience but a participatory, social and immersive one that will stay with the participant long after the night is over.

To make the fantastical a reality

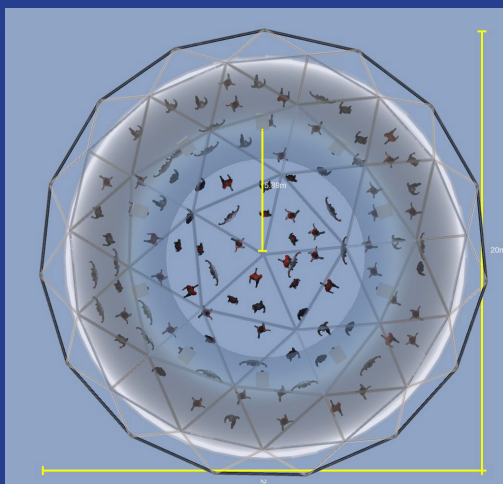
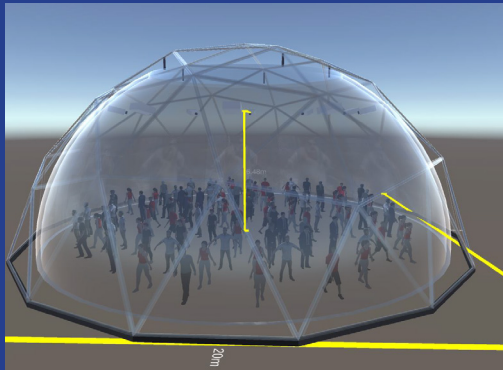
To explore the relationship between, technology, embodiment and creative

imagination.

To capture the all-encompassing sky, as well as ensuring this is an all-weather experience that can run day or night, we are proposing the work be presented in a large transportable geodesic dome. The dome would not only house **Big Skies**, but could have an ongoing life for a range of events, be that festival or location specific event.

Currently we offer two scales of dome with more options in development. The choice of size is determined by location parameters, audience size and budget.

Each dome will be equipped with 3D projectors and be kitted out with state of the art tracking technology allowing each member of the audience to engage with the story and share their journey with the people around them.



### Large Dome Option.

Diameter: 20m

Height: 10m

Approximate Floor area:  
280 square meters

Audience size: 100

Projected image size: 7.5m

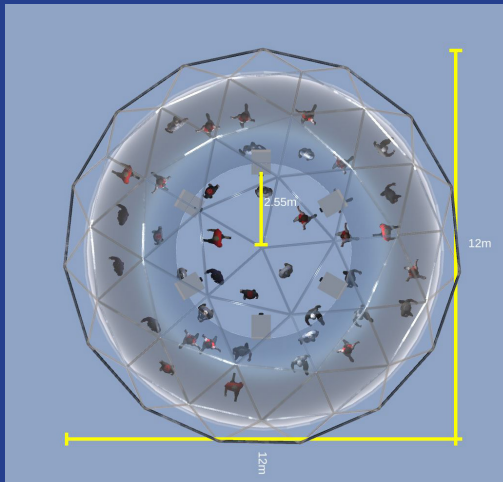
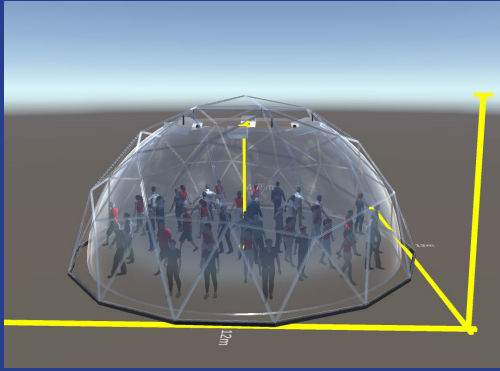
16 X Panasonic 21K 3D  
Projectors.

3D surround sound system.

Optitrack Tracking system.

Custom Box of Birds Media  
Server.

3D Glasses Active Shutter  
Edge



### Small Dome Option.

Diameter: 12m

Height: 6m

Approximate Floor area:  
100 square meters

Audience size: 40

Projected image size: 4.7 m

6 X Panasonic 21K 3D  
Projectors.

3D surround sound system.

Optitrack Tracking system.

Custom Box of Birds Media  
Server.

3D Glasses Active Shutter  
Edge

**Big Skies** is a unique offering which blends culture, artistry, playfulness, participation and scientific rigour. **Box of Birds'** experience in bringing audiences together coupled with their technical innovation will make this will not only be a memorable and meaningful experience but one with the potential for further development and expansion.

For more information about this project and Box of Birds please contact:

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**BIG SKIES**  **BOX OF BIRDS**