

# Lucid Dreams of Sweet Water for All

## Project Dossier

Futures Past Programme — Electric South / IFAS-Research / MEAE

<b>Project:</b>	Lucid Dreams of Sweet Water for All
<b>Programme:</b>	Futures Past — Electric South / IFAS / MEAE
<b>Archive:</b>	Iziko Museums of South Africa
<b>Artist:</b>	University of the Western Cape (Immersive Zone)
<b>Format:</b>	Immersive installation (projection mapping, sensors, spatial audio)
<b>Duration:</b>	6 January — 19 August 2026 (32 weeks)
<b>Exhibition:</b>	1 Sep — 1 Dec 2026 (3 months min. at Iziko Museums)
<b>Total budget:</b>	R 1,200,000

## Production team

<b>Laurent de Laroche Souvestre</b>	— Producer
<b>Sarah Summers</b>	— Artistic Director
<b>Kyle Marais</b>	— Technologist
<b>Reilly Cloete</b>	— Junior Producer
<b>Dr Laurine Platzky</b>	— Advisor

## Synopsis

In a circular room 6 metres in diameter, an immersive projection mapping installation tells the cosmic story of water in Cape Town. A washerwoman, a maternal and creolised figure, narrates the memory of a mountain — the sleeping giant, Table Mountain — who dreams of our waking life.

From asteroid impacts that brought water to Earth, through prehistoric and indigenous eras, colonisation, apartheid and the contemporary concrete canals, to glimpses of multiple futures, the work slows time in this African city, reminding us that our lives are lucid manifestations of nature's dreamscape.

The experience unfolds in three acts: **Act I — Life Forms** (from cosmos to Earth, blockbuster aesthetic), **Act II — The Dream** (prehistory to modernity, Daniel Hugo illustrations, colonial photographs, GBIF data), and **Act III — Possible Futures** (slow-motion scenes of speculative futures). Visitors interact with a central 3D topography model (the scry) and trigger visual effects by approaching the projected walls.

## Technical equipment

<b>Projection</b>	5x Optoma ZW350ST (1280x800, 3600lm, TR 0.521) 4 walls in X configuration + 1 onto the scry
<b>Wall screen</b>	Curved canvas surface 16.5m x 2m — native resolution 4454x800px
<b>Structure</b>	12+ modular curved panels, aluminium/wood truss frame Quick assembly/disassembly, raised floor for cabling
<b>Entrance</b>	2300mm x 2000mm — full height, wheelchair accessible
<b>Scry</b>	1m diameter, 3D topography of Cape Town at 700mm height Projection + gesture interaction via RPi NoIR camera
<b>Wall sensors</b>	7x HC-SR04 ultrasonics distributed around the curved wall
<b>Entrance sensors</b>	2x PIR centred — visitor entry/exit detection
<b>Scry interaction</b>	Raspberry Pi + NoIR camera — gesture detection
<b>Microcontroller</b>	Arduino Mega — PIR + ultrasonic management
<b>Interactive engine</b>	TouchDesigner — real-time control, sensor sync, NDI
<b>Audio</b>	360-degree multichannel spatial audio system

## Project timeline

Phase	Period	Duration	Deliverables
Research & Concept	5 Jan — 17 Jun 2026	23 wks	11
Dev. Phases 1-2	24 Feb — 5 Jun 2026	14 wks	9
Dev. Phase 3	22 May — 31 Jul 2026	10 wks	5
Fabrication & Installation	17 Jul — 11 Sep 2026	8 wks	4
Exhibition & Handover	13 Sep — 18 Sep 2026	1 wk	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6 Jan — 19 Aug 2026</b>	<b>32 wks</b>	<b>31</b>

## Key milestones

<b>6 Jan 2026</b>	Project launch	Complete
<b>23 Mar 2026</b>	Budget planning and projections	Complete
<b>6 Apr 2026</b>	Paris mobility programme	In progress
<b>27 Apr 2026</b>	Production start	Upcoming
<b>17 Aug 2026</b>	Production phase complete	Upcoming
<b>15 Sep 2026</b>	Physical installation complete	Upcoming
<b>18 Sep 2026</b>	Exhibition opens at Iziko Museums	Upcoming

## Budget summary

# R 1,200,000

(One million two hundred thousand rands)

Category	Amount	% of budget
CAPEX (Equipment & materials)	<b>R 176,160</b>	14.7%
OPEX (Team, creative services, logistics)	<b>R 881,040</b>	73.4%
Contingency reserve	<b>R 142,800</b>	11.9%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>R 1,200,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Payment schedule

Tranche	Target date	Trigger	Amount	%
<b>T1</b>	31 Mar	Contract signature	<b>R 357,000</b>	29.8%
<b>T2</b>	15 May	Workshop participation + processing	<b>R 220,000</b>	18.3%
<b>T3</b>	26 Jun	Work plan delivery	<b>R 290,000</b>	24.2%
<b>T4</b>	27 Jul	Production deliverables	<b>R 204,000</b>	17.0%
<b>T5</b>	31 Aug	Final delivery + exhibition	<b>R 129,000</b>	10.8%

## Archival collections — Iziko Museums

- GBIF data — freshwater species occurrences in the Western Cape
- Fossil and palaeontological archives — bridging deep time and present
- Colonial paintings, photographs and maps — river systems
- Reference imagery — keystone species of riparian ecosystems
- Microscopic photography — entomological specimens
- River ecological data — animal and insect biodiversity
- Curatorial expertise — scientific accuracy

## Creative collaborators

- Daniel Hugo — illustration (prehistory to 1800)
- Khayelitsha Canoe Club — video shoots
- West Coast Fossil Park — palaeontological research
- Platterklip Washhouse — filming location

## Institutional partners

<b>Electric South</b>	Production & Futures Past Programme
<b>IFAS-Research / MEAE</b>	French Institute of South Africa
<b>Iziko Museums</b>	Archival partner & exhibition venue
<b>University of the Western Cape</b>	Immersive Zone — technical production

## Exhibition conditions

- Minimum 3-month public exhibition at Iziko Museums
- Period: 1 September — 1 December 2026
- Installation maintained by the artist during exhibition
- Ethical and cultural compliance (Iziko & Electric South)

### **Contact**

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