

OUR TRIP DOWN UNDER

New Zealand, Australia and Hawaii

Part Two: Australia.



A Tasmanian Devil.

Street art.





We took a pseudo-trolley bus tour of the town.



CASCADES FEMALE FACTORY HISTORIC SITE

OPEN

Visitor Centre/Tours



World Heritage Site



An interesting historical site of the Women's Prison, where original settlers were "housed" before they were released and became citizens of Australia.



The tour went to the top of a big hill where
there was an extensive Botanical Garden.
That's our ship in the background.





Another sea day took us to Melbourne
(pronounced "Mailbun").
We took a city trolley tour, and it revealed
a sophisticated, beautiful, big city.

We were very impressed, and wished we
had more time to explore this city.





HERALD SUN

southgate

FAYO
BAR & CANTINA

TO →

10 & 55

Arts Centre Melbourne
Hall



southgate

southgate

10



The beautiful Arts Center was playing Matthew Bourne's ballet "Lord of the Flies". I was so sorry they didn't have a matinee, or that is how we would have spent our day in Melbourne.



The Art Museum was a striking building and held some fascinating modern art pieces. (I can only show a few).

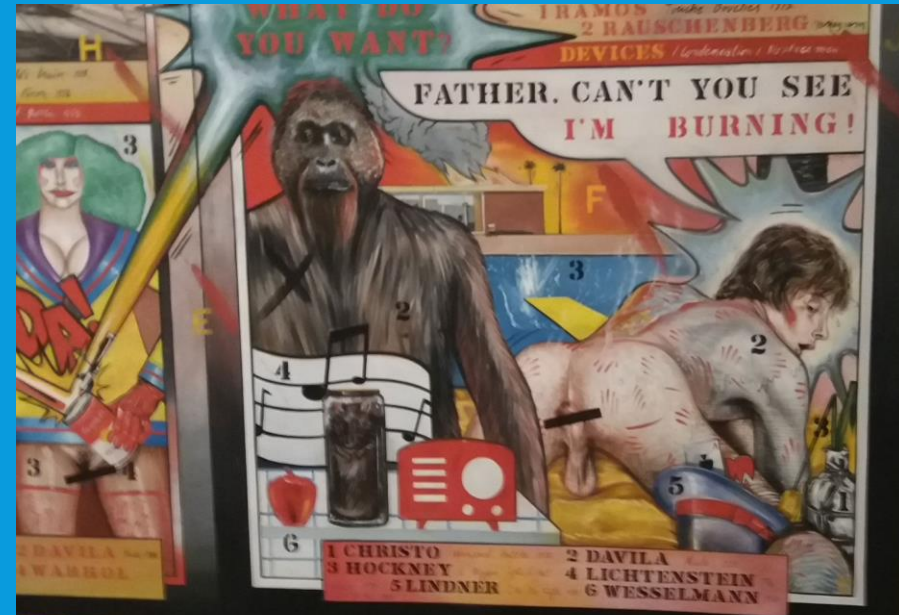


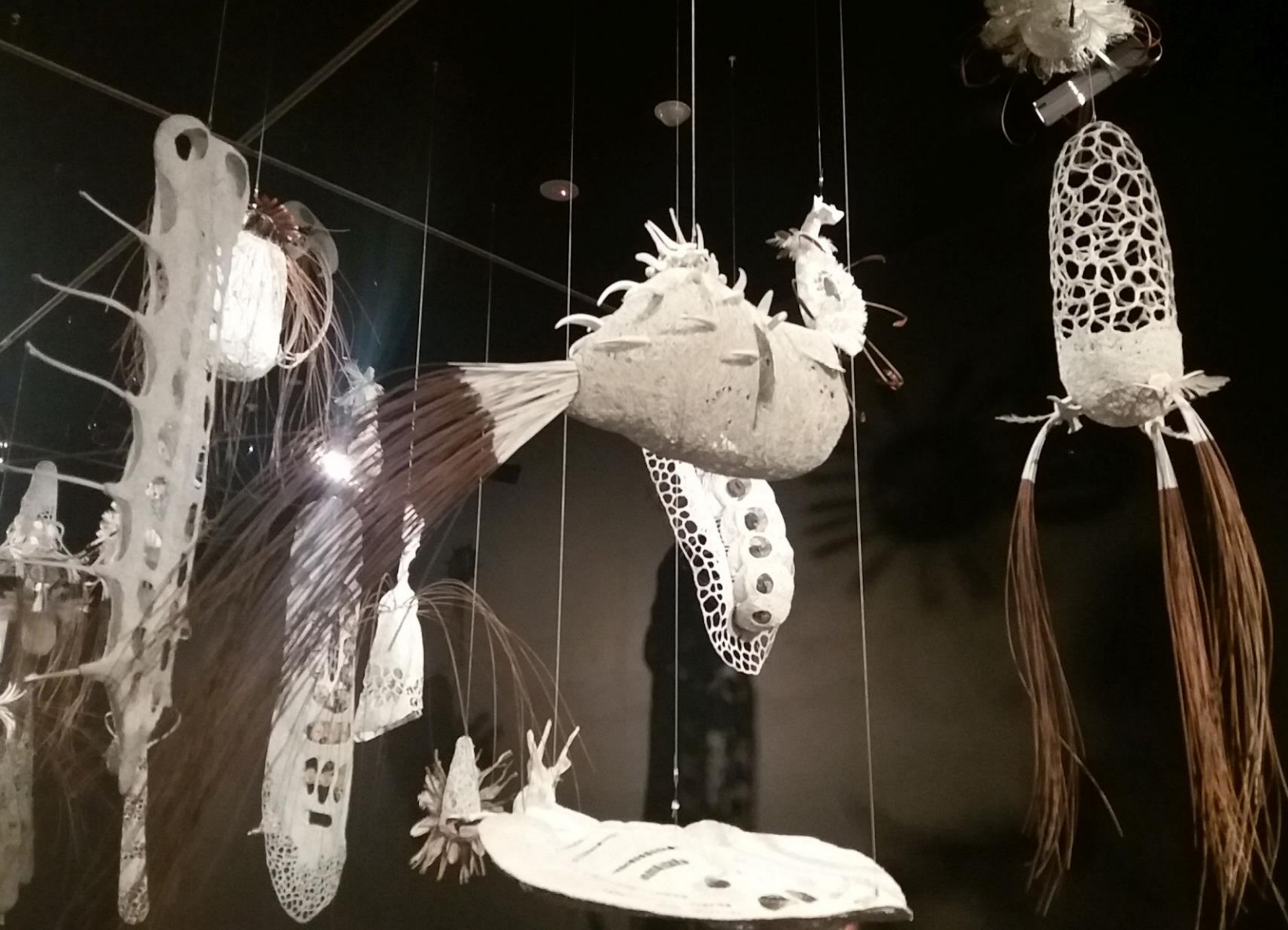


When this piece rotated, it became an animation of these creatures jumping and running. I loved it!



Quite a contrast!





These were made of paper.

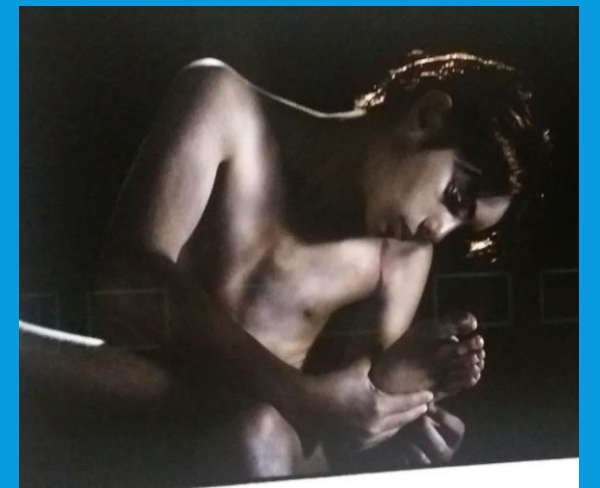
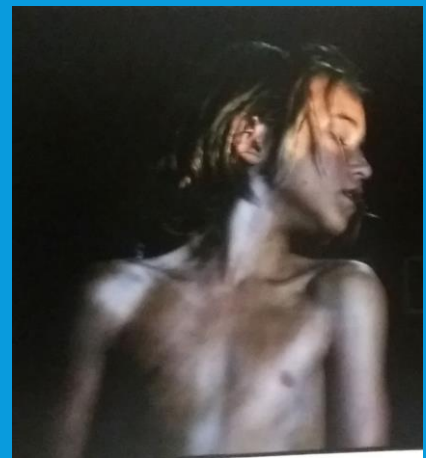






Furniture as Art.







All-in-all, an astounding art museum.



After another day's sailing we entered
Sydney harbor at sunrise.
It was a breathtaking view.
We disembarked from The Noordam
and looked forward to 5 days visiting our
dear friends, Thomas and Andrew.



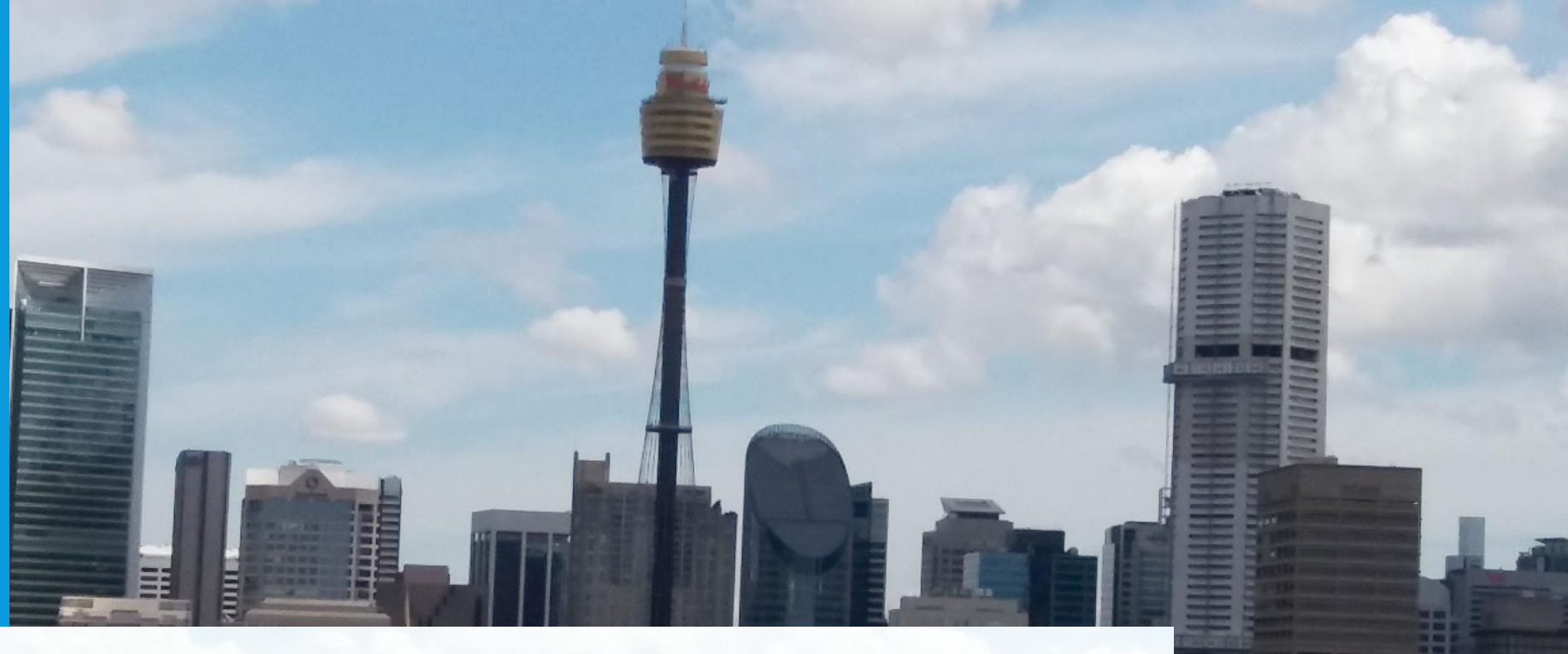
This fountain was in front of their Art Deco apartment building, in the charming neighborhood of Potts Point.

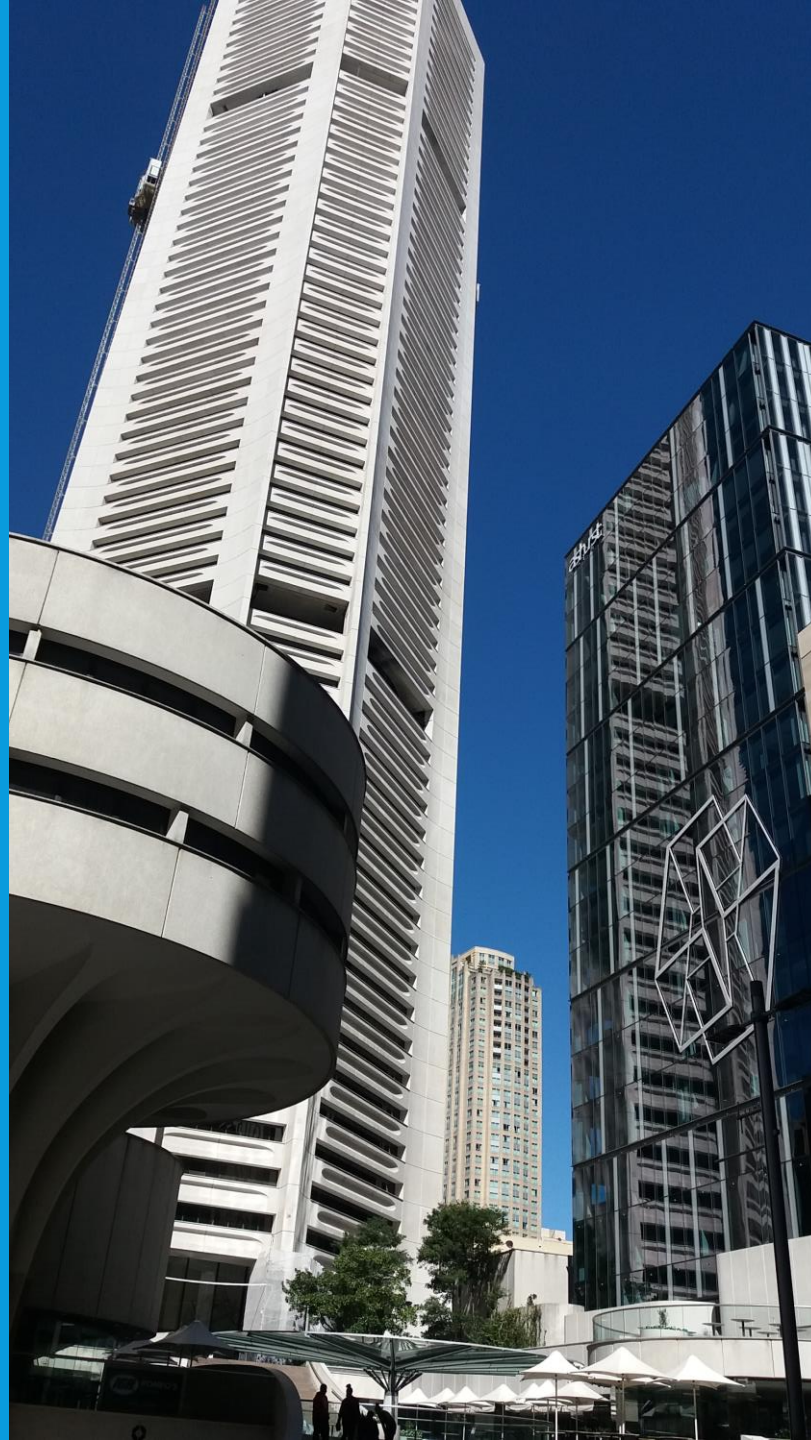


Thomas and Andrew,
with their adorable
dog, Louis.
We were lucky to
dwell in their
beautiful apartment
while in Sydney.



The views from the
roof of their
apartment building
(where we gratefully
did our laundry.)





I was impressed
with the
architecture
in the city.

Our first excursion, a ferry to:



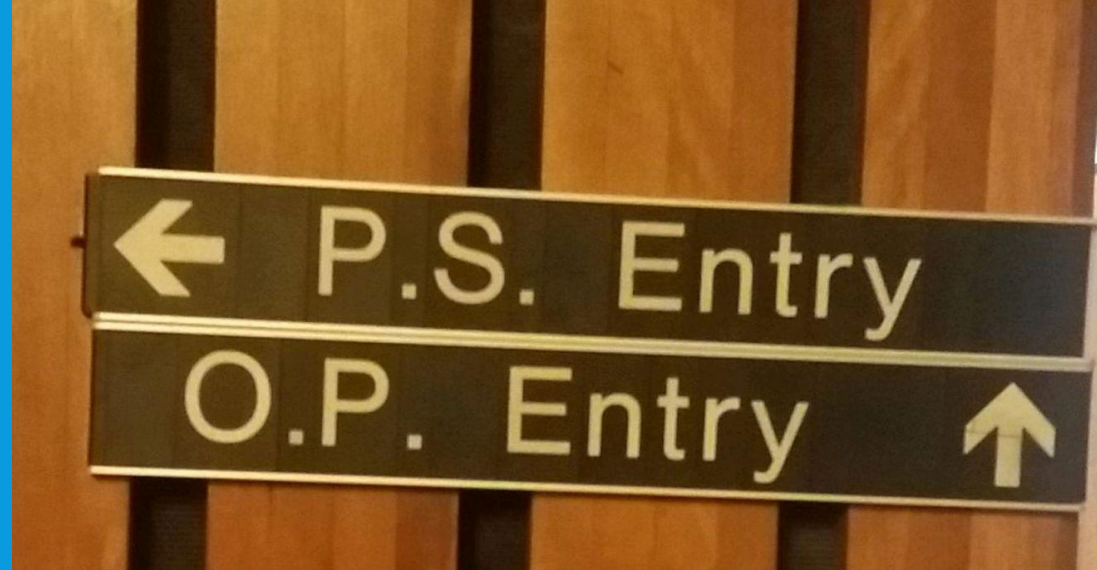


Our fabulous
back-stage tour
of the Sydney
Opera House.

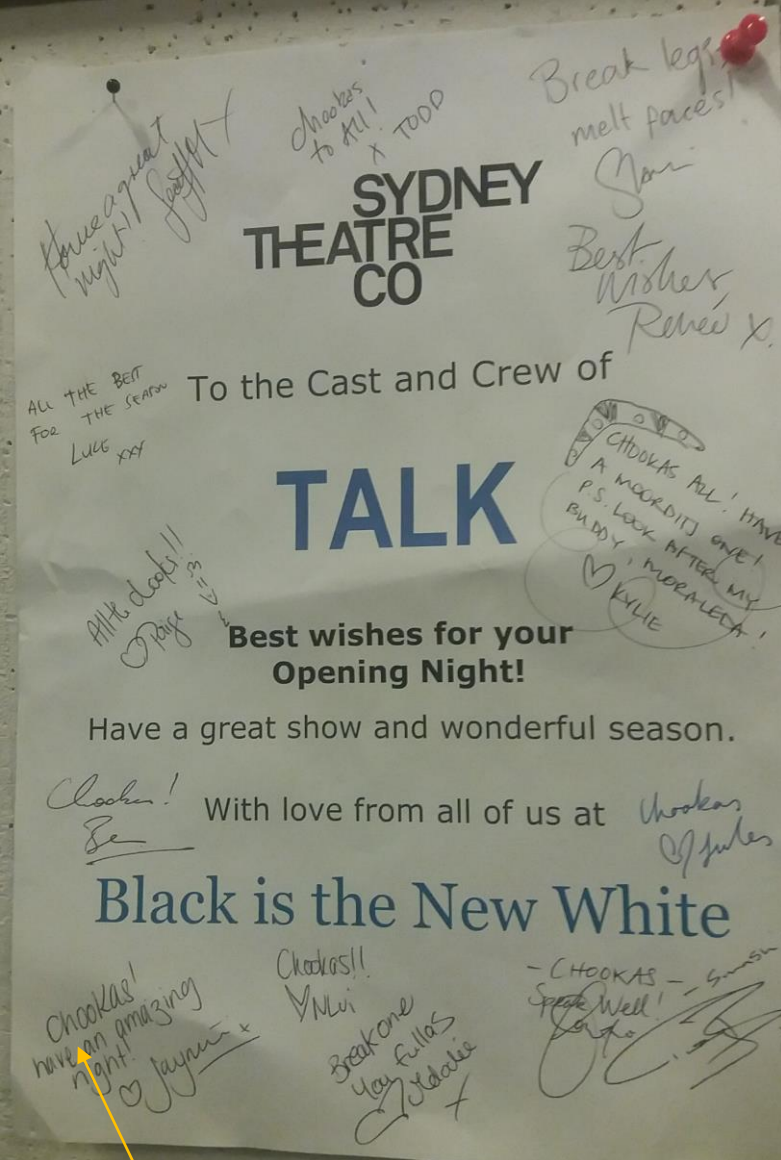
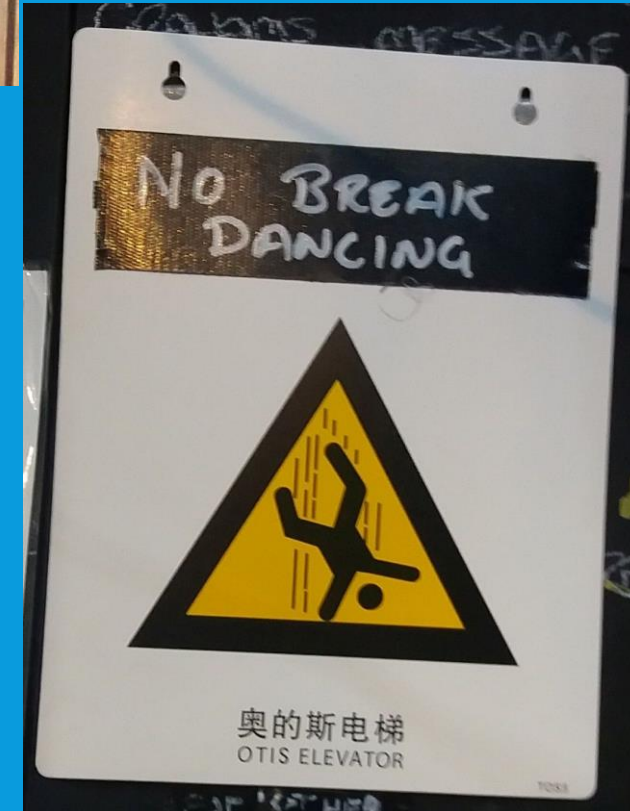


(This is one shot of
us, taken in front
of a green screen)

BACKSTAGE SIGNS



P.S. and O.P. stand for "Prompt Side" and "Opposite Prompt".
Prompt meaning Stage Manager.
Used instead of Stage Right and Left.

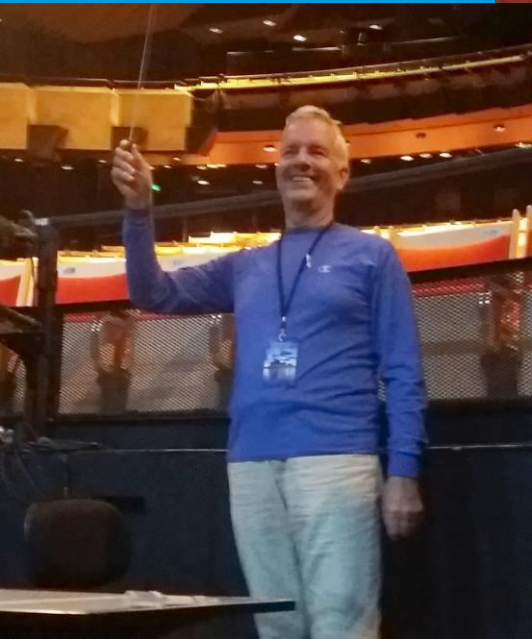


"Chookas" is used like
"Break a Leg".

It means "chicken tonight",
meaning "it will be a hit".



Joan Sutherland was the primary artist. This
was her dressing room and the sign remains.



We all got to pose conducting
in the orchestra pit of the
Opera House.



Backstage was amazing, but the only scenery, in this vast area, was the above, because currently a ballet troupe was performing, with minimal scenery. Much more would have been visible, if an opera was on.



The "sails" were the most impressive part of the tour.
Note the guy on the top.



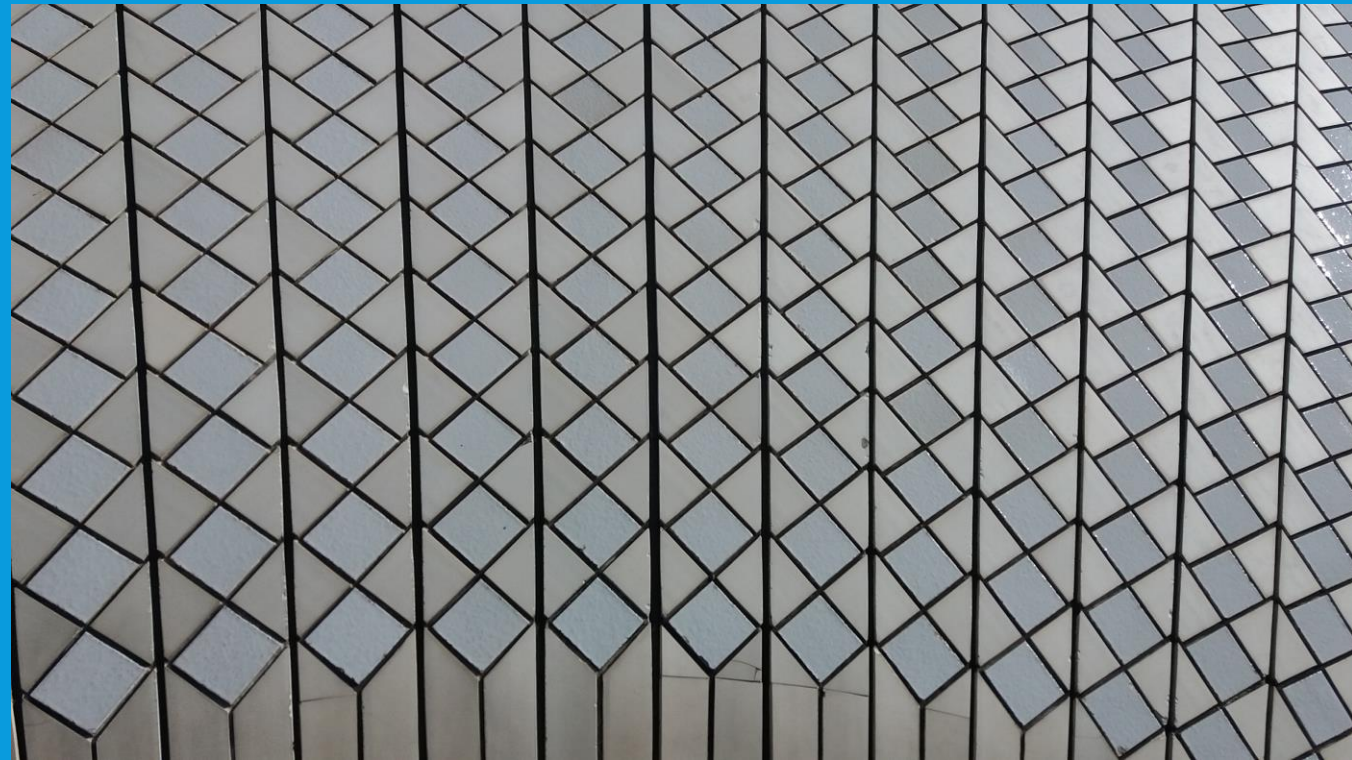
They are made of small tiles, and the workmen are testing for loose ones to replace.



They have no acoustical function, just to make a stunning architectural statement.



The cost was enormous and they were hated by many people, until they became a symbol of Sidney.







Ring-tailed monkey

Some unusual animals at the Sydney Zoo.



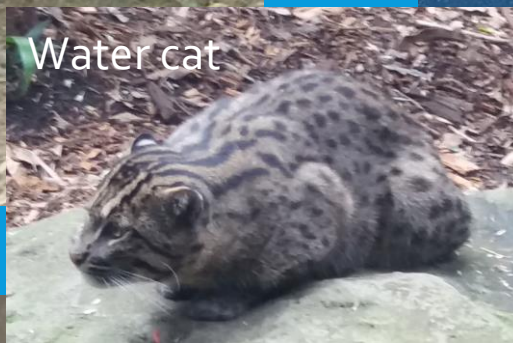
Emu



Blue Penguin



Koala



Water cat



Kangaroo



Wombat



Wallaby



On our final night in Australia, Tom and Andrew took us out for an outstanding dinner, in a beautiful restaurant overlooking Sydney Harbor. We are very grateful to them for making our stay "down under" so memorable.

