

# 2016: My year in travel

## **JONATHAN HOLLOWAY** Artistic director Melbourne Festival

### Where I'm going in 2016:

I'll start my travel year in New York, where there are three theatre festivals and two major arts conferences all at the same time, plus the chance for a little urban snow. I'll be in China later in the year. The arts scene there is growing by the month – Beijing and Shanghai both have strong arts festivals, while Guangzhou has a Zaha Hadid-designed Opera House which is almost worth the trip on its own.

**Where I want to go in 2016:** I want to take a serious staycation next year, to really explore Victoria and this part of Australia. When I left Western Australia [Holloway was festival director, Perth Festival] I was given a carved message stick by the elders of the Noongar Nation to share with the elders of the Kulin Nations. Land is so powerful in Australia, and to spend a few weeks going between the uplifting beauty of Victoria and the affecting stories of the history of the country and the first peoples would be a life-enhancing experience.

**Hot trend for 2016:** Iceland is the new Belgium, in artistic spheres. The collaborators and outer circle who grew up around the Sugar Cubes, Bjork and Sigur Ros are making ever more intriguing side projects and exploring uncharted creative avenues.

**Fearless prediction:** The world is still changing so quickly, and while it seems as though it has been shrunk to fit in an app, in reality old-school experiences are still at the heart of what we all want. I think what we all need in the next year are journeys in which we turn off, tune out, and drop in.



*The Melbourne Festival returns in 2016 from October 6 to October 23. See festival.melbourne*

## **KITTY CHILLER** Chef de Mission for the Australian Olympic team, Rio 2016 and former Olympian

### Where I'm going in 2016:

Of course, the big trip will be to Rio for the Olympic Games – I'll be there from mid-July until the end of August. I will also do another planning visit to Rio in March – that would be my fifth trip to the Games host city.

**Where I want to go in 2016:** I would really like to go to Olympia in Greece in April 2016 for the lighting of the Olympic flame as it starts its journey to Rio. I attended the International Olympic Academy in Olympia, the birthplace of the Olympic Games, way back in 1985 and it has very special memories for me.

### Hot trend for 2016:

Preparation. Many of our sports will be travelling to Rio in the next few months for test events. This is really important as the majority of Australian sports teams have never competed in Brazil, let alone Rio, before. As soon as the Rio Games are over attention will turn immediately to Tokyo – host of the 2020 Games. The AOC has already done one planning visit to Tokyo and I expect there will be another one late in 2016 to start our preparations in earnest.

**Fearless prediction:** Travel for me is an enjoyable experience – 24 hours without phones or emails is absolute bliss! One day getting on a plane will be just like getting on a bus, but I hope air travel retains its largely “quarantined” approach to communications.

*See olympics.com.au.*

