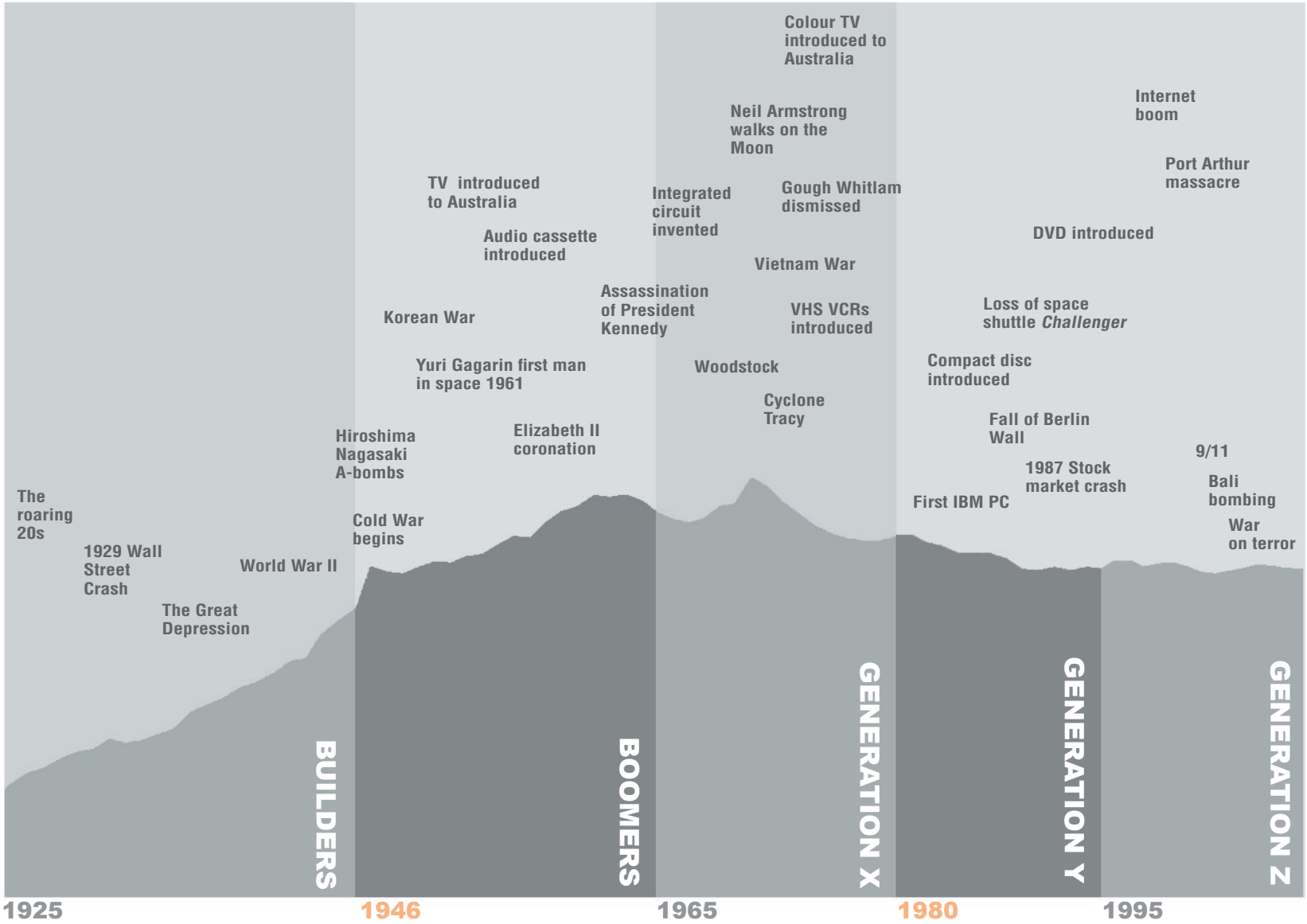Events and experiences shaping the generations