



# RESEARCH WEEK

BOLD RESEARCH FUTURES

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## RESEARCH CREATION SHOWCASE 2021 ONLINE

FRIDAY, 29 OCTOBER 2021  
10:00AM – 5:30PM

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# RESEARCH WEEK

## Research Creation Showcase 2021

**The Research Creation Showcase 2021** is in its 7<sup>th</sup> year of coinciding with the University's Research Week celebration of all things research. The School of Humanities and Communication Arts is proud to participate in activities that are featured across the research landscape of the University. 2021 is the second year in which we have moved online for our event, featuring research outcomes from School staff and postgraduate students across Design, Music, Media Arts, Writing and Humanities. As a showcase of creative practice and research, we feature an online exhibition of creative works including posters, films, photography, writing and music curated by a team drawn from the School of Humanities and Communication Arts.

This event highlights our prolific maker/scholars and establishes the intrinsic link between making and knowing. A suite of artists' talks, curators' presentations, panels, performances and keynotes are drawn from both academics and our partners in the creative industries. Additionally, the top researchers in the School will be recognised at our researcher awards presentation.

Over much of 2021 our working lives have again been transformed. COVID 19 and climate change means living with a global health emergency, an environmental crisis and permanent uncertainty. Our collective patience has been sorely tested. As in 2020, in response to the need for greater physical isolation, many of us have found ways to retain and even re-make social connections. The creative and communication arts have been indispensable to mobilising a response to these most impactful events in the human narrative.

These making and knowledge practices assist us in learning how to inhabit this troubled world and how to heal it in the building of safe places. Creative arts can inspire us to understand and to act in a timely fashion—with urgency and across our gendered, racial and bodily diversities. While the Research Creation Showcase 2021 offers compelling examples of creative practice, we can also learn from the presenters of the kinds of knowledges that are embedded in these works as an emphatic indication of the importance of the creative arts and research in a time of crisis.

### Hart Cohen for the Curatorial Team

Rachel Morley  
Diana Blom  
Alison Gill  
Maryella Hatfield  
Kate Fagan

### Admin Support

Lina Gong

### Tech Support

Shednakie Yi  
Addy Fong  
David Levy

### Thanks to:

Professor Matt McGuire, Acting Dean  
Associate Professor Anna Christina Pertierra, Associate Dean, Research  
Ms Jenny Purcell  
Ms Sandra Lawrence

We acknowledge the Aboriginal peoples as the traditional owners and custodians of the lands on which this event is planned and presented. The Research Creation Showcase team respects their ongoing cultural and spiritual connections to this country.

We acknowledge the support of the School of Humanities and Communication Arts.

## Convenors



**Dr Rachel Morley** is a Senior Lecturer in Communication and Writing, and the Associate Dean for Engagement in the School of Humanities and Communication Arts at Western Sydney University. As a lecturer she teaches writing, media studies, and creative industries. Her Engagement role sees her working closely with local and national arts and cultural institutions to build strong collaborative partnerships that are high on research, learning and creative outcomes. Rachel has worked on creative storytelling projects in communities across Western Sydney, Northern NSW, Central Australia and Taiwan.



**Dr Hart Cohen** is Professor in Media Arts in the School of Humanities and Communication Arts and a member of the Institute for Culture and Society at Western Sydney University, Australia. He is currently the University's Discipline Leader for Communication and Media. Dr Cohen has published widely in the field of visual anthropology, communications, film and media studies and directed three Australian Research Council Projects related to the Strehlow Collection held at the Strehlow Research Centre in Alice Springs. Three films have been made in relation to these projects: 'Mr. Strehlow's Films' (SBSi 2001) and 'Cantata Journey' (ABC TV 2006) Ntaria Heroes (2016). Dr Cohen is co-author of the award-winning book, Screen Media Arts: An Introduction to Concepts and Practices (Oxford University Press 2009) and editor of the Global Media Journal (Australian Edition (2007- present). <https://www.hca.westernsydney.edu.au/gmjau/> His most recent book is, The Strehlow Archive: Explorations in Old and New Media (Routledge 2018).

## Acknowledgement of Country



Yawayi [hello] Marrungga Ngabu Bingayi (welcome sisters and brothers), Wandhanhang Nyinda [how are you]. My name is **Luke Hodge**, I am a proud and grateful 20-year old young Dunghutti man with clan affiliations to the Macleay Valley of Kempsey, New South Wales. I am a second year student studying a Bachelor of Communication (Screen Media) at Western and prospective New York Conservatory for Dramatic Arts (NYCDA) international student. Everyday I'm driven to inspire my Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peers and communities to recognise we are much stronger than we think. I wish to pursue this goal of mine through the art of storytelling and filmmaking where I am currently interning for The Made In The West Film Festival as a TV Associate Producer.

## Event Coordination Team



**Lina Gong** is the Engagement Officer in the School of Humanities and Communication Arts. As an Engagement Officer, Lina is skilled in negotiation, event planning, business networking, project management and interpersonal communication. Lina holds a Master's degree in Commerce. Prior to working for the University, she worked in the hospitality and tourism industry both in China and Australia.



**Shednakie Yi** is the Senior Technical Officer (Music, Media & Design) working within the Social Sciences, Humanities & Education Cluster of the Teaching and Research Technical Services department. He is involved in all teaching and research support that requires the use of digital media. Shednakie believes in function over form, and you will see this in his projects, which focus on enabling a positive user experience and flow. His major works include the building of the 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020 Design Grad Show websites. He is also the primary developer of the Research Creations Showcase websites. Outside of work, you will see him nose deep in a Brandon Sanderson novel or hunched over his mechanical keyboards.



RESEARCH WEEK  
Research Creation Showcase 2021

# PROGRAM

**10:00AM** Welcome Address by Hart Cohen and Rachel Morley

**10:10AM** Acknowledgement of Country by Luke Hodge

**10:20AM** Dean's Welcome by Matt McGuire

**10:30AM** Keynote: Arts and the Psychosocial Dynamics of Empathy -  
Finding A Creative Path to Social Change by Debra Keenahan

## **11:30-11:45AM** MORNING TEA BREAK

**11:45AM** Lightning Talks

**12:45PM** Researcher of the Year Awards

## **1:00-2:00PM** BREAK OUT SESSIONS DURING LUNCH BREAK

**2:00PM** Flashtalk by Filmmaker Anupam Sharma

**2:30PM** Maker-Scholar Postgraduate Panel

**3:00PM** Introduction to Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre/HCA  
Partnership by Craig Donarski, Boden Evans and Luke Létourneau

## **3:30-4:00PM** AFTERNOON TEA BREAK

**4:00PM** Radical Accessibility Panel: Are We Radical (Enough)?  
(a collaboration between HCA and Utp with guest artists and cultural producers)

**5:30PM** CLOSE

Image courtesy  
of Dawne Fahey

# Keynote:

## Arts and the Psychosocial Dynamics of Empathy - Finding A Creative Path to Social Change

**Keynote Speaker:** Debra Keenahan

**Respondent/Moderator:** Katrina Douglas (Director, Producer and Writer)

**This keynote is supported by Auslan interpretation and Closed Captioning services.**

The psychologist Alfred Adler described empathy as “seeing with the eyes of another, listening with the ears of another, and feeling with the heart of another”. Increasing empathy for disability can decrease discriminatory practices and improve the social conditions of those living with disability. But the question remains - how to increase empathy for disability?

Through my art research I developed the concept of Critical Disability Aesthetics (CDA) that extends upon the current conceptualisation of Disability Aesthetics (DA).

I argue that DA adheres to a restrictive definition of the term aesthetics as anchored in the judgement of beauty, whilst CDA explores the broader sense of aesthetics as a sensory-affective process. This framework provides a conceptual grounding for a practice-based exploration of the embodied dimensions of lived experience.

As an artist, psychologist, and a woman with disability - achondroplasia dwarfism - I explore the experience of corporeal difference from a subjective position. My work examines the framing of disability but also the embodied social interactions of a female dwarf. In my art practice I deploy different media (2D, 3D, VR, Performance, Video) to elaborate various dimensions of this experience. Through my artwork I show how CDA can advance the understanding of the subjective and intersubjective experience of ‘disability’, which is not a quality of the subject but rather, arises within a social nexus.

**Dr Debra Keenahan** is a visual artist, psychologist, academic and author. Throughout her professional life Debra’s work has focussed upon the personal and social impacts of disability. Her first PhD in the discipline of Psychology addressed the social issue of dehumanisation. Having achondroplasia dwarfism, she brings a personal insight to understanding the dynamics of interpersonal interactions and social structures that include/exclude the visibly different from equitable social relations.

In every way, Debra’s work reflects the philosophy that the personal is the political. She has a deep passion for the recognition of and respectful treatment of all people and as such, her work has addressed significantly diverse subjects such as sexuality, limitations of the physical environment on disability, condescension, abuse in the streets and resilience.

In her art practice Debra uses multi-art forms - 2D, 3D, Virtual Reality, Performance and Video to represent Critical Disability Aesthetics. Through her teaching experience Debra has learnt the power of the Arts in communicating with and engaging people on highly political and difficult issues, encouraging empathy for the socially excluded. Debra has completed her second PhD at UNSW in the discipline of Visual Arts on Critical Disability Aesthetics.

As an artist Debra has exhibited since 2008 in both group and solo exhibitions and she has been the sole and co-author of a book, book chapters, articles and conference papers. Currently, Debra lectures at Western Sydney University in Humanitarian and Development Studies. Debra has also been invited to speak on Disability Access in the Arts with the National Gallery of Australia, National Association of Visual Artists and NIDA.



**Katrina Douglas** is a director and creative producer passionate about developing new works that deconstruct and re-imagine the audience experience. With nearly 30 years professional experience, Katrina’s practice spans performance, interdisciplinary projects, VR, film and events.



# LIGHTNING TALKS

## David Cubby

*What can we learn from a pandemic?*



**David Cubby** is a photographer, artist, educator, writer and thinker based in Sydney, publishing and exhibiting photographic art works internationally over five decades.

Lens Culture:  
[lensculture.com/david-cubby](https://lensculture.com/david-cubby)



## Leo Robba

*Building partnerships: The Painted River Project Moree – An annual Art, Science and Music Festival*

Following on from the successful field trip and the public event in Moree earlier this year, the Project is set to launch an annual **Painted River Project – Art Science and Music Festival** in partnership with Moree's Regional Gallery, BAMB, and MSDI.

This partnership will focus on the community's relationships to the Gwydir Wetlands and the Mehi River.

**Leo Robba** lectures in Social Design (issues-based design) and Graphic Design in the School of Humanities and Communications Arts.





## Alison Short

### *How do music and imagery combine for health benefits?*

Combining engagement in music and imagery like a waking dream, research participants report the role of the music of GIM in relation to health benefits.

**Alison Short** is ACA Music Therapy and leader of the WSU Music and Health Network.

## Kate Richards

### *FLOOD*

A VR project with Dharug artist Peta Strachan focusing on the Hawkesbury floods and indigenous/settler relationships.

This practice-led research project comprises a VR artwork which mobilises Indigenous and colonist stories from the notoriously flood prone Hawkesbury River (Western Sydney). Its innovative interactivity and user experience draws on post-colonial aesthetics and themes to afford complex combinations of perspective.



FLOOD places users in a night-time, post-colonial Gothic flood-scape. Grasping luminescent pre- and post-contact objects suspended in the swirling darkness, triggers tales from multiple perspectives and eras. FLOOD activates relationships between local Indigenous and non-Indigenous objects and stories. At contact, The Booroborwongal Clan warned the invaders: 'The lowlands flood'. We settled anyway.

**Kate Richards** lectures in the School of Humanities and Communications Arts.

**Peta Strachan** is a Dharug artist and dancer.



# Bridget Brooklyn

## *Eugenics in early twentieth-century Australia: What was that all about?*

The racial overtones of eugenics continue to give it a bad reputation. My research argues that, historically, ideas about race were not intrinsic to eugenics.

**Bridget Brooklyn** is a lecturer in Australian history, specialising in feminism and national identity.



# Robert Mailhammer

## *Proto-Australian or the dreamtime puzzle*

The talk will outline implications for the cultural history of Australia that are raised by the linguistic reconstruction of a common ancestor of all Australian languages.

**Rob Mailhammer** is Professor of Linguistics and incoming Chair of Academic Senate. His research focuses in Australian Indigenous languages and on language change.



Bustards in Space

# Robert Nugent

## *Planetary Regard*

A film-in-development looking at aspects of the Antipodean Anthropocene and our space age visions of the future.

**Robert Nugent** is a documentary filmmaker driven to despair by how Australia has come to see itself on film. There was nothing for it but to undertake an odyssey.





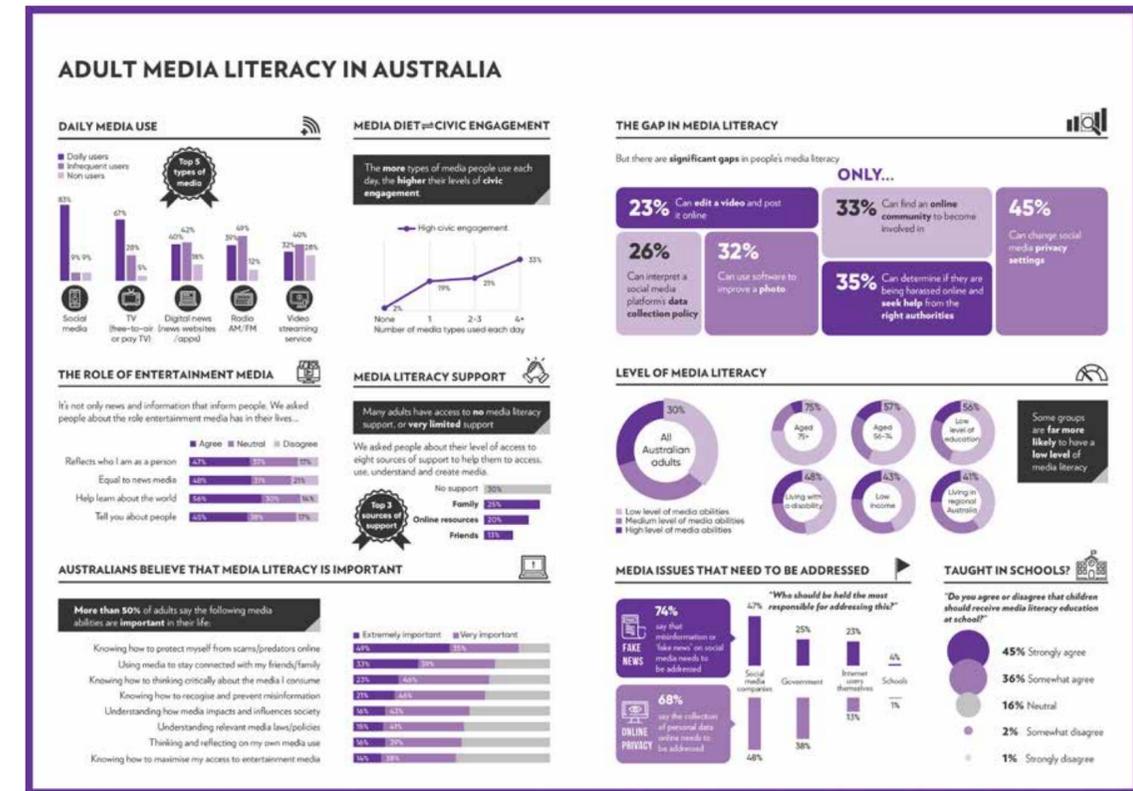
# James Gourley

## HCA Environmental Humanities Research Support Network: Western Sydney Aware

The School has recently funded a support network for environmental humanities research. This talk will outline the principles it is founded on, and its current plans. We hope this forum will also prove a forum to establish additional relationships, and pursue new opportunities.

Brett Bennett, Michelle Catanzaro, James Gourley, Leo Robba and Madison Shakespeare are supporting this work.

**James Gourley** will speak on behalf of the group



# Tanya Notley

## Supporting Media Literacy in Australia

This presentation shares key findings from an ongoing research and engagement project focused on adult media literacy. This project culminates with a report which outlines guiding principles to underpin the development of a national media literacy strategy for Australia.

Notley, T., Chambers, S., Park, S., Dezuanni, M. (2021) *Adult Media Literacy in Australia: Attitudes, Experiences and Needs*. Western Sydney University, Queensland University of Technology and University of Canberra.

**Tanya Notley's** research and teaching is focused on media literacy and digital inclusion. She has 20 years of experience working with industry in the areas of social inclusion, social justice and human rights.



Global Media Journal - Australian Edition acknowledges the **Darug** and **Gandangarra** peoples as the traditional owners and custodians of the lands on which the production of the journal takes place. The editorial team respects their ongoing cultural and spiritual connections to this country.

Google  
GMJ-AU Web Search

## COVIDeology: Mediating the significance of a pandemic



Image: Grace Sui ©

In developing the call for papers for this issue of GMJ/AU in September of 2020,

## Books for Review

The Australian edition of Global Media Journal encourages individual reviewers to submit reviews of their own selected texts. Guidelines for Book Review Submission can be downloaded [here](#).

For further information concerning book reviews and/or books available for review, contact the Editor of this section Dr. Antonio Castillo at [antonio.castillo@rmit.edu.au](mailto:antonio.castillo@rmit.edu.au)

# Global Media Journal/Australia Edition

## Volume 15 # 1

<https://doi.org/10.26183/mcyh-x546>

**Hart Cohen, Antonio Castillo, Roman Goik, Myra Gurney**

### Special Edition: COVIDeology: Mediating the significance of a pandemic.

In developing the call for papers for this issue of GMJ/AU in September of 2020, little did we know the pandemic would not only be unfinished by the time of publication, but that it would be raging unchecked with deadly consequences through 2021. GMJ/AU's 2021 issue addresses the communicative and media dimensions of COVID.

<https://www.hca.westernsydney.edu.au/gmjau/>

GMJ/AU is supported by the School of Humanities and Communication Arts.

# Wendy Chandler

## Foto Friendship



Founded in 2014 Foto Friendship is an ongoing community photovoice project linking high school students in Greater Western Sydney and Timor-Leste. Each year a different group of high school students in Australia and Timor-Leste are invited to participate. The work utilises photo-storytelling as a form of collaborative visual ethnography exploring questions of personal and cultural identity bringing a voice to more marginalised communities in Timor-Leste and their counterparts in western Sydney. Foto Friendship 2020 culminated in an ABC documentary broadcast in 2021.

**Wendy Chandler** is a multi-award winning filmmaker and lecturer in Screen Media at Western Sydney University. Her recent research practice explores animated documentary and collaborative storytelling practices in disadvantaged communities with a focus on Timor-Leste.



RESEARCH WEEK  
Research Creation Showcase 2021

# Lunch Time Breakout Concurrent Sessions

## Session 1

**Kate Richards and Noel Burgess**

### ***Enquiring Minds – co-creating digital museum exhibits***

Join Kate, Noel and other team members as they describe the research project, its background and outcomes, illustrated with slides of the creative processes and the finished installation.

Western Sydney University's Digital Humanities Research Group (HCA) entered into partnership with The National Trust (NSW) in 2019. The partnership culminated in early 2021 with Old Government House's exhibition '*Enquiring Minds*'

The project comprised of 4 multimedia elements for the exhibition (2 videos, a touch screen and an augmented reality exhibit); HCA student development of digital, audience engagement strategies for Old Government House (across 3 study units); social media analysis of NT social channels; audience and staff surveys and a final report.

## Session 2

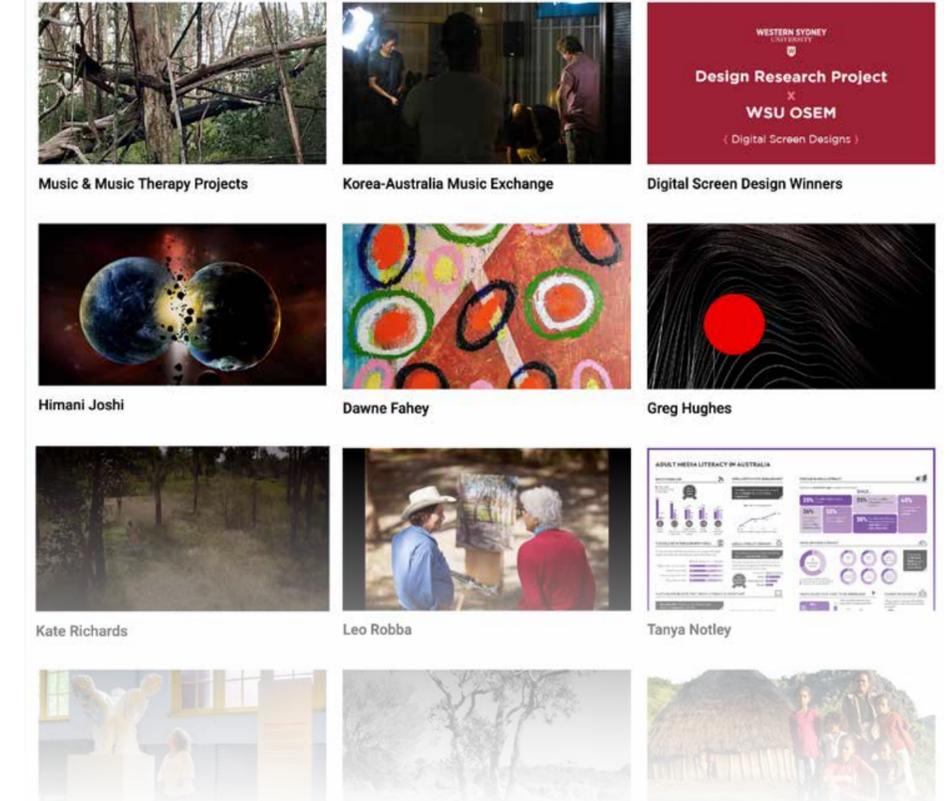


**Alison Short:**  
***Relaxation, music and imagery for health benefits***

Come join us for a half hour,  
find a quiet space to rest and listen deeply.

We will start with a brief explanation of the process  
and provide optional time for discussion afterwards.  
Feel free to bring your creative media  
(colours, pens, paper) to capture your moment.

## Session 3



**Shednokie Yi:**  
***Web master for Research Creation  
Showcase online Exhibition***

A tour of the exhibition from the  
perspective of the web designer.

[www.hca.westernsydney.edu.au/sites/rcs2021/](http://www.hca.westernsydney.edu.au/sites/rcs2021/)



# FLASH TALKS

## Anupam Sharma

### *What is Diverscreens?*

Producer/Director **Anupam Sharma** was one of the first students of Media Arts Production to graduate from the then UWS, Nepean (Werrington Campus). He went on to do a Masters in Films & Theatre and given the lack of diversity in Australia opened the first ever Australian film company at Fox Studios, specialising in Indian cinema. 25 years, 320 projects, over a dozen pioneering film initiatives, and many awards later Anupam shares his journey from Western Sydney University to the global film stage utilising diversity, entrepreneurial hunger, and love for films.



## Postgraduate Panel - Making and Knowing: Maker-Scholars and the Doctoral Journey

The maker-scholar's work falls into the area of critical practice, exploring the intersections between theory, history, and a variety of production practices, and whose research includes a commitment to critical paradigms expressed and embodied both in scholarship and practice. The maker-scholar also extends a larger tradition of critical scholarship, complementing a commitment to original, interdisciplinary research with forms of expression not limited to the written word alone.

This panel includes several maker-scholars at various stages of their Doctoral journey across a range of media and art practices. They will present a sense of their research case and creative practice and how they see the multiple challenges of Doctoral research.

**Co-chairs:** Hart Cohen and Rachel Morley

**Presenters:** Dawne Fahey, Rev Mel Macarthur, Ramona Kennedy, Naomi McCarthy, Stephen Ridgeway, Emily Rytmeister and Enrico Scotece





## Dawne Fahey

### *How do I know you?*

“*How do I know you*” comes alive on the page as an encounter – framing a dialogue between my creative artmaking, my experience and critical autoethnographic scholarship.

**Dawne Fahey** is an interdisciplinary artist whose work embodies artmaking and creative writing (autoethnography, autotheory and poetic inquiry).



“Aetiology of Methodology”

## Rev Mel Macarthur

*AS I SAT DYING: The internal theatre of Rev. Carl Strehlow on his journey to death at Horseshoe Bend.*

**Rev Mel Macarthur** is a PhD candidate in the School of Humanities and Communication Arts.



# Ramona Kennedy

## *Pinched Toes and Shoehorned Theory*

The memoir section of my auto-ethnography is 'done', but applying De-colonialism theory opens the work up to pivotal uncertainties.

Includes creative readings.

**Ramona Kennedy** is a DCA candidate with the Writing and Society Research Centre.

# Naomi McCarthy

## *Performative pedagogies: A wonderfully clumsy form of democracy<sup>1</sup>*

An examination of the making and theorising of performative pedagogies working with contemporary art that enacts activism as a catalyst to facilitate embodied, affective threshold moments.

HD video with sound 99 x 10-13 minute live performances 2017 Proximity Festival Perth  
Courtesy of the Artist

**Naomi Lee McCarthy** is a PhD candidate whose research explores the transformative potential of performative pedagogies in museums and galleries.



Cigdem Aydemir *The Ride* 2017

# Stephen Ridgeway



## *Unknown Destiny: The impact of Aboriginal film on the Aboriginal Community 1950 – 2020.*

### **1976 THE FIRST MOVIE I HAD EVER SEEN**

I woke up in my old iron 1970's bed staring at the ceiling around 3am in our Victorian town house on Eveleigh Street in Redfern. I think it was 1976 or around that time. I was six years old. I got out of bed and snuck downstairs; mum and dad were asleep; mind you the stairs were so steep, one step at a time. Around to my left was the lounge room, painted in a frog green. I turned the knob of our little portable black and white TV. You have to remember I was told never to touch the TV, and when the TV went on, my eyes lit up, it transformed me into another world. The movie was "Storm-Boy", it was the first time I had seen an Aboriginal person on TV and his name was Mr David Gulpilil playing the character "Fishbone".

**Stephen Ridgeway** is a DCA candidate in the School of Humanities and Communication Arts.



Roger Frampton

# Emily Rytmeister

## *Making, not knowing*

A tolerance for uncertainty, a willingness to explore, then discard, an idea, and an openness to irresolvable tension between creativity and scholarship, were important to the navigation of my doctoral journey.

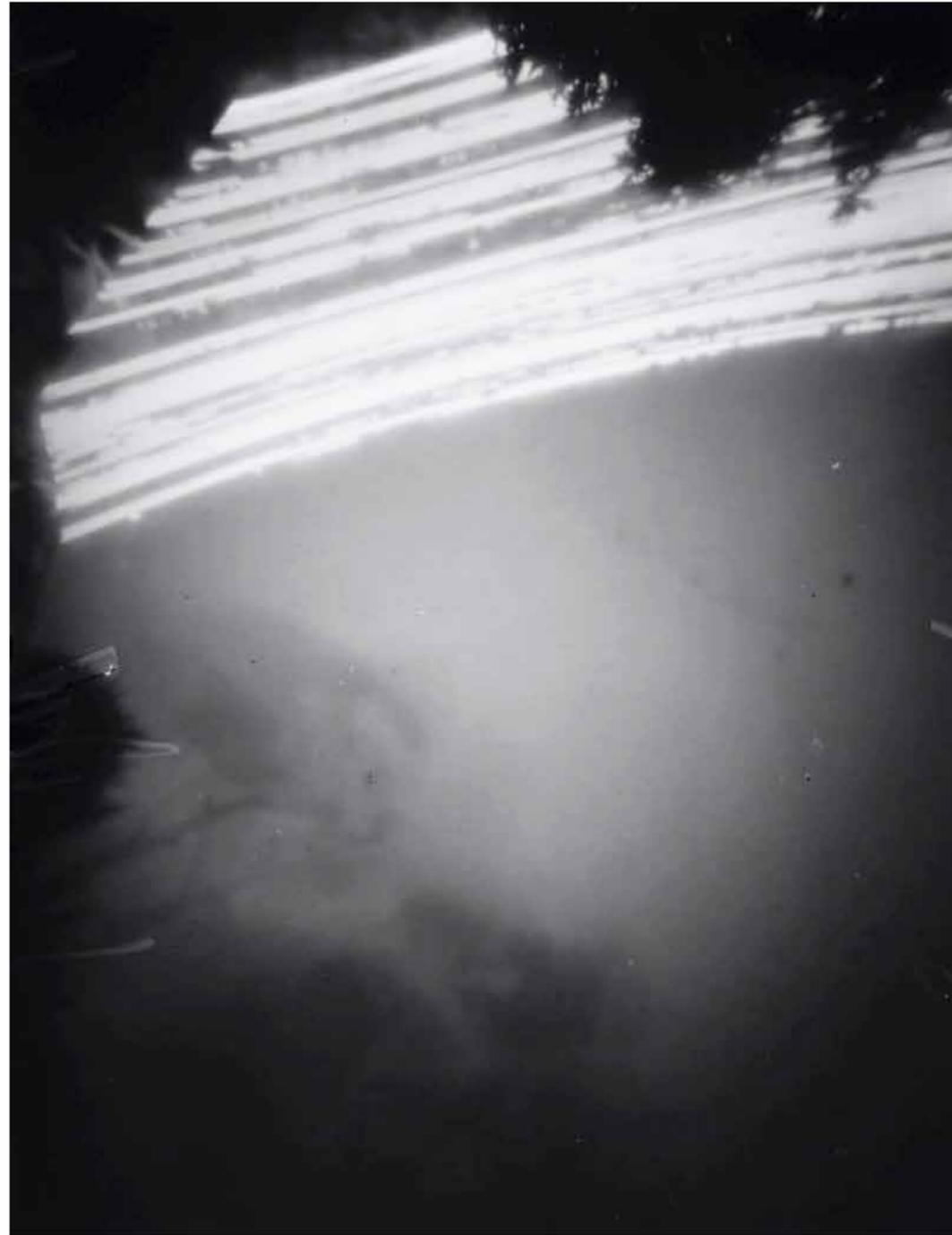
**Emily Rytmeister** has recently completed her PhD, which comprised a documentary film on her father, the jazz musician Roger Frampton, and a dissertation.



# Enrico Scotece

*diptych; #1298, and #2688*

**Enrico Scotece** is a Photomedia lecturer and photographic practitioner whose work currently utilises analogue processes to respond to place and perception.



**left:** #1298, 2016.

Fibre base silver gelatin photograph  
136mm x 174mm.

**right:** #2688, 2015.

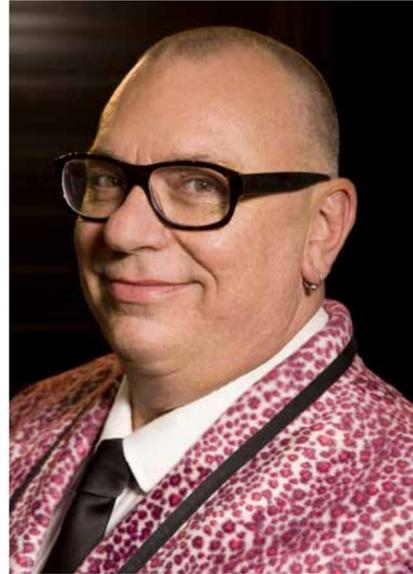
Fibre base silver gelatin photograph  
136mm x 174mm.



# Introduction to Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre/HCA Partnership

## Craig Donarski, Boden Evans and Luke Létourneau

**Craig Donarski** has been Director of Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre (CPAC) since November 2016. He began his career at the ABC in 1986 as a Broadcasting Trainee, leading to twelve years working as a Broadcaster, Documentary Producer then Executive Producer at youth radio station Triple J, including some brief stints with other ABC radio outlets and ABC TV.



For more than three decades he has been a major contributor to Australia's vibrant arts and culture, having managed Marketing & Communications for Sydney Film Festival and the 16 regional events under the Travelling Film Festival banner prior to his current role. Before then Craig spent 11 years at Sydney Opera House in the Producers Unit, in a team developing a range of creative and engaging programs, festivals and special events from the legendary Studio program to the Spiegel tent on the Forecourt to festivals including Vivid, Graphic, Message Sticks and more.

Outside of day jobs Craig has also been a musician, artist, nightclub and party promoter and an all-round enthusiast for all things creative.

**Boden Evans** is the Marketing Lead at Casula Powerhouse. His focus is on audience and community development, research, digital engagement, and strategic implementation of proactive and impactful marketing solutions. With an emphasis on leadership driven by empathy, collaboration, big picture thinking, and building resilience together - he aims to engage with local communities and in particular South Western Sydney audiences that are often unheard, overlooked and under-estimated. He is a strong advocate for Western Sydney, the LGBTIQ+ community, the environment, and the arts.



He has previously worked for major arts organisations including Sydney Theatre Company, the Australia Council for the Arts, Riverside Theatres, and Arts on Tour. He has also served on the board for Form Dance projects, and he has consulted as a digital strategist for many arts and media companies. In 2017 he was awarded an Audience Development grant from the Australia Council - completing an exchange program and research development with Arts House in Melbourne. In addition to his work as a marketing executive Boden also worked as a professional drummer and musician, and maintains a practise as an improvising piano composer creating soundscapes and solo piano music.



**Luke Létourneau** is a writer and curator based in Sydney. Since 2018 he has worked as Curator at Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre. Luke has contributed to publications including Art Monthly Australasia, Art Collector, Running Dog, Runway Journal, Un Magazine and Art Almanac. In 2015 he was awarded the inaugural Freedman Foundation Curatorial Scholarship under the UNSW Art & Design Master of Curating and Cultural Leadership program.



# Radical Accessibility Panel – Are We Radical (Enough)?

## Facilitators:

Jessica Olivieri and Riana Head-Toussaint

## Panel Members:

Riana Head-Toussaint, Belqis Yousofzay and Zainab Syed

With an introduction by Rachel Morley.

The panel is supported by Auslan interpretation and Closed Captioning services.

Radical Accessibility is a direct response to our shared responsibility of working to explore new ways of making real change across the arts and cultural sectors. Building on conversations from last year's Research Creation Radical Accessibility event, the panel explores what it means to be and do 'radical', especially when it comes to dismantling inequities in the arts.

We'll talk about cultural equity and inequity, disrupting old leadership models, diversity and expression, participation and access, and allyship, amongst other topics. The panel is a product of a long-term collaboration between WSU and Utp and comprises of leaders in provocation and change-making from across the creative sectors.



**Jessica Olivieri** grew up on her Italian Pop's spaghetti bolognaise and conversations with IRA members on her maternal side. Her experience of growing up in an intercultural environment, as well as ten years of house-bound chronic illness and developing new ways to learn for her dyslexic brain, have informed her commitment to intersectional access to the arts.

Jessica's family moved around the country, landing in western Sydney as a teen, just in time for her to undertake a BA at Western Sydney University's art school.

After ten years as an artist and curator showing at major institutions like GOMA, Performance Space and MCA she undertook a PhD at Sydney uni. This PhD focused on the intersections of visual art, performance, dance and theatre within a community setting and how to do it better.

In 2021 Jessica is excited to begin a queer family with her partner and the baby's two dads.



**Riana Head-Toussaint** is an interdisciplinary disabled artist, who uses a manual wheelchair for mobility. Her work often crosses traditional artform boundaries, and exists in online and offline spaces. She employs choreography, performance, video/film, sound design, immersive installation and audience activation to create works that interrogate entrenched systems, structures and ways of thinking; and advocate for social change.

The enduring concerns across her works are agency, representation, the limits of empathy, and how these impact people across different marginalised intersections. Her work is deeply informed by her experiences as a disabled woman of Afro-Caribbean descent, and her training as a legal practitioner.

As well as being an artist, Riana is a qualified Solicitor, Access Consultant and curator/space-maker. She is the founder of Headquarters: a dedicated, disability-led digital space, focused on centering and celebrating disabled creatives (which is currently under construction). She lives and works on the unceded lands of the Eora Nation.

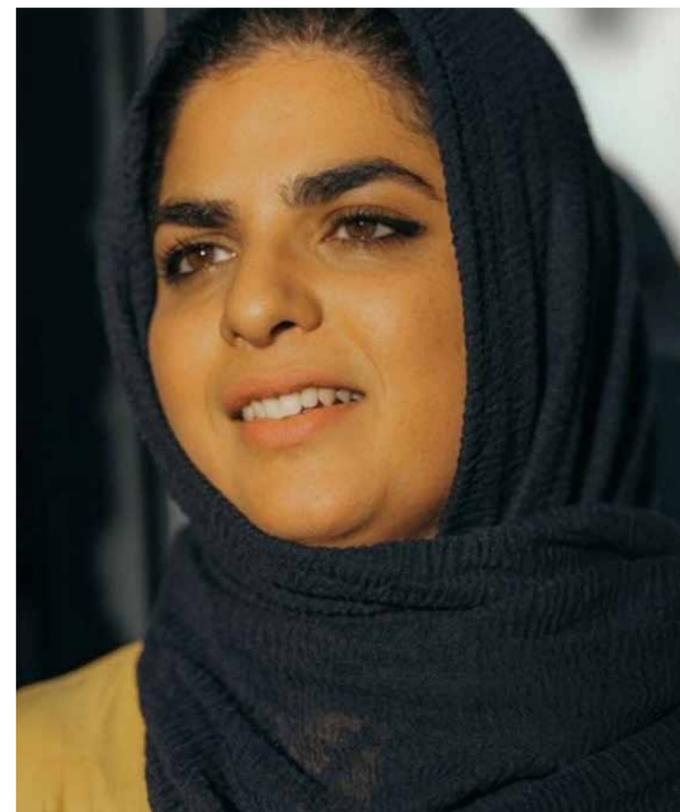




**Belqis Yousofzay** was born in Afghanistan, grew up in India and migrated to Australia with her family in 1998. She trained in architecture at the University of NSW and for the last 15 years has been working with artists, curators and other creatives across a range of projects within the cultural sector.

She believes that cultural spaces and institutions have the potential to be the great inclusive civic spaces within our cities, and play an essential role in facilitating cross-cultural exchange.

She currently runs her own architecture practice in Sydney where she continues to explore her interests at the intersection of culture, inclusivity and contemporary public space.



**Zainab Syed** is a Pakistani Poet and Creative Producer. Her practice sits at the intersection of social justice and live performance.

From 2017-2021, Zainab worked at Performing Lines WA as a Producer. In June 2021, she joined Belvoir St Theatre in Sydney. Zainab is a member of the Theatre Network Australia Board and Deputy Chair of The Blue Room Theatre board.

She is also a 2020 Churchill Fellow, founder of Pakistan Poetry Slam (2015), and a Humanitarian Observer with the Australian Red Cross Immigration Detention Program.



# Research Creation Showcase 2021 Virtual Exhibition



Music & Music Therapy Projects



Korea-Australia Music Exchange



Digital Screen Design Winners



Himani Joshi



Dawne Fahey



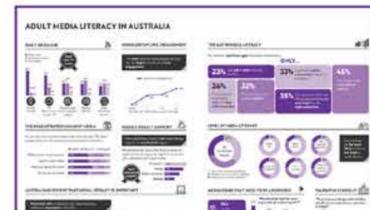
Greg Hughes



Kate Richards



Leo Robba



Tanya Notley



Debra Keenahan



Enrico Scotece



Wendy Chandler



Anupam Sharma - Various works

David Cubby & Grace Sui - Masks and Social Distancing

Dawne Fahey - How do I know you?

Debra Keenahan - "Take a Look at THAT!" Critical Disability Aesthetics and the Other-ing Gaze

Enrico Scotece - The Unknown

Greg Hughes - Black Box White Cube

Himani Joshi - Come Back to Life

Kate Fagan - Musicians and Poets in collaboration

Kate Richards - Kurrobori

Korea Australia Music Exchange

Leo Robba - Building partnerships: The Painted River Project Moree – An annual Art, Science and Music Festival

Digital Screen Design Winners

Music and Music Therapy Projects

Sarah Waterson - Laika's Dérive & Hothouse

Tanya Notley - Supporting Media Literacy in Australia

Wendy Chandler - Foto Friendship: The first 7 years 2014-2020

## Website:

<https://www.hca.westernsydney.edu.au/sites/rcs2021/>

## HCA thanks the following organisations:

**CASULA  
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