



## ASSESSMENT MEETING REPORT



# NEW MEDIA ARTS BOARD

APPLICATION CLOSING DATE  
1 NOVEMBER 2001

AUSTRALIA COUNCIL  
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THE INFORMATION IN THIS REPORT IS EMBARGOED FROM PUBLIC  
DISCUSSION UNTIL **27 FEBRUARY 2002**



## ABOUT THIS REPORT

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### February 2002

This report provides a context to the assessment of the applications submitted to the New Media Arts Board on 1 November 2001. It details statistical analysis of the grants round and more general comments made by the Board during the assessment of the applications at its meeting, held on 4 – 6 February, 2002.

The focus of the New Media Arts Board is on research and development in the areas of both interdisciplinary art and new media art.

## ATTENDANCE

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The membership of the New Media Arts Board is as follows:

Michael Snelling (Chair) is based in Brisbane (Qld) and is the newly appointed Chair of the Board. He is the Director of the Institute for Modern Art (IMA), Brisbane.

Josephine Wilson (Deputy Chair) writes for live performance, the internet and the printed page. She lives in Perth (WA) and tutors at Murdoch University.

Linda Cooper (SA) is an interactive exhibition developer and specialist in cross cultural and education initiatives with a focus on art and science.

Jenny Fraser (QLD) is an indigenous digital artist and curator based on the Gold Coast.

Dr. Nigel Helyer (NSW) is an Australian sculptor and sound artist.

Peter Hennessey (VIC) is a multi-media artist, interactive designer and programmer. He is the director of Drome Pty Ltd and consultant to Cinemedia at Federation Square.

Alicia Talbot (NSW) is the Artistic Director of Urban Theatre Projects and is a performance practitioner based in Sydney.

**Note: Both Peter Hennessey and Alicia Talbot where not able to attend this Assessment Meeting.**

In addition to the Board members, George Khut (NSW), a new media artist, working in the field of biofeedback technologies and interactive sound composition and Tess de Quincey (NSW), a dancer/director working within interdisciplinary & cross-cultural performance, attended the meeting as participating advisers to assist in all discussions.

The following New Media Arts Board Staff were in attendance:

Andrew Donovan	Manager
Reed Everingham	Program Officer
Vicky Clare	Assistant Program Officer
Susan Parker	Administrator
Christian Taylor	Administrative Assistant



## CHAIR'S COMMENTS

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The February meeting of the New Media Arts Board was my first grants assessment round as Chair and I was impressed by the standard of applications and the breadth of work proposed by applicants.

As you will see in the following pages the competition for grants remains high. In this round there were a significant number of good proposals that we could not support because of limited funds. You will find some specific feedback on the assessment meeting from the Board later in this report which will assist unsuccessful applicants to further develop their proposals should they wish to re-apply in the future. I also encourage you to speak with staff at the New Media Arts Board for further information.

As the Board assessed the applications in this round discussions were vigorous and well-considered and I thank each of the Members and the Guest Peers for their contribution at the meeting.

The Board was concerned at the low level of applications to the Skills and Arts Development category and strongly encourages artists, curators and other individual new media arts practitioners to carefully consider the professional development opportunities that this category presents. Similarly new media and other arts organisations are encouraged to think more broadly about projects that will have a benefit to new media and interdisciplinary arts sectors through Skills and Arts Development activities.

The Board was extremely pleased however with the professional development proposals it received through the Run\_Way Young and Emerging Artists Initiative. Of the 38 applications considered, the Board approved 15. The quality of the Run\_Way applications represents a dynamic engagement with new media arts practice by young and emerging artists which the Board anticipates will have positive long-term repercussions for the growth of the field into the future.

Applications to the New Work R&D category proposed in most cases high quality creative research and development activities. The Board has a focus on research and development and the applications supported at this round will yield some interesting outcomes for further development in the future.

The Board noted significant increases in the amounts requested by applicants in New Work and Presentation and Promotion and while we understand the reasons for this, given the high cost of equipment for new technologies, we were equally concerned that other sources of funding for projects were not being sought by many applicants. It is important that applicants attempt to gain funding from as many sources as possible for new media arts and interdisciplinary work if only to demonstrate to other funding bodies that the field of artists working in this sector is growing and hence the demand for funding is increasing.

The Board acknowledges that with its limited budget it cannot support all the work in this growing field, and the Board is developing strategies that seek to address the long term sustainability of new media arts practice. You will see later in this report a short description of strategic initiatives that the Board has developed over the last couple of years.



## CHAIR'S COMMENTS (cont.)

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Further initiatives are in development with a focus on emerging curators, Indigenous artists, new media arts in a multicultural context, and international marketing strategies for new media arts. More details about these will be announced over the next 12 months.

Each of these initiatives seeks to raise the profile of new media arts and interdisciplinary practice, broaden its scope, and introduce new partners to the practice.

The Board has worked hard over the last five years to articulate the nature of new media arts practice and how it is manifested through the grants programs of the Board. The next three years of the Board's priority plan seeks to build on this work and develop key partnerships with other sectors and industries to ensure the long term sustainability and development of the practice.

There have been changes to the range and type of grants available for the coming year and I urge interested applicants to check the *Australia Council Support for the Arts Handbook 2002*, or alternatively visit the Australia Council website on [www.ozco.gov.au](http://www.ozco.gov.au) prior to submitting an application.

The next closing date for the Board is 1 May 2002, with applicants notified of decisions in August 2002. The following categories will be offered at the 1 May closing date:

- Presentation and Promotion
- Skills and Arts Development
- National Residencies
- Key Organisations – Program Grants
- Fellowships
- Partnerships and Initiatives.

If you have any questions in regard to this funding round or submitting an application to the next round please do not hesitate to contact Board staff.

Michael Snelling  
Chair  
February 2002



## OUTCOMES

PROGRAM TITLE	APPLICATIONS (Number)		SUCCESS %	APPLICATIONS (Amounts - \$)	
	RECEIVED	APPROVED		REQUESTED	APPROVED
NEW WORK	62	13	21	\$1,738,824	\$339,609
NEW WORK R&D	20	7	35	\$188,370	\$67,000
PRESENTATION AND PROMOTION	10	3	30	\$310,213	\$74,895
SKILLS AND ARTS DEVELOPMENT Individuals and Groups	4	1	25	\$97,670	\$15,000
SKILLS AND DEVELOPMENT Organisations	1	0	0	\$6,500	\$0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>\$2,341,577</b>	<b>\$496,504</b>
Out-of-Time Assessed as part of the Meeting	1	1	100	\$24,850	\$19,850
<b>RUN_WAY</b> Young and Emerging Artists Initiative	38	15	39	\$171,657	\$67,668
SKILLS AND ARTS DEVELOPMENT <b>International Residency Banff</b>	5	TBA	TBA	\$22,500	TBA

In addition to the project grants approved at this meeting, the NMAB is currently funding the following Organisations through its Key Organisations grants category:

### Triennial 2001-2003

- Australian Network for Art and Technology (ANAT), Adelaide, SA.
- The Performance Space, Sydney, NSW.
- Open City (for the Production of REALTIME), Sydney, NSW.

### Program 2002

- Experimenta Media Arts, Melbourne, VIC
- dLux Media Arts, Sydney, NSW

### Out of Time Grants Approved since last meeting:

- Martin Ng – International Media Art Festival, Berlin, \$2,000
- Justine Cooper – New York, Presentation of artwork at Adelaide Biennale, 2002, \$6,000

*A full list of approved grants from this meeting is attached.*



- The Board re-iterated the need for applicants to provide a clear description of their projects and what they hope to achieve through their projects. The Board also stressed the need for applicants to clearly articulate the concepts of their proposal and how funding would assist in the realisation of these concepts.
- Support material is the applicant's main opportunity to demonstrate the quality of their work. Applicants are encouraged to submit support material of the highest viewing quality possible. Support material is crucial to the selection process and is seen as an indication of the quality of the applicants work. Too many applicants submit support material of little apparent relevance to their applications. The application form has a question asking applicants to outline the relationship between the support material submitted and the project outlined in the applications. It is recommended that applicants use this opportunity to explain to the Board *why* this material was chosen and elaborate on its context within the project. Applicants who supply a URL (web address) as evidence of previous work must ensure that the work remains online until the date of the assessment meeting. Submitting a URL that doesn't work has the same effect on your assessment as submitting no support material at all. Applicants are strongly encouraged to provide a specific navigable path through URL and CDroms, otherwise the Board will only consider the material as they find it.
- Under Presentation and Promotion the Board must see completed work in order to properly assess an exhibition or tour of work. The initial public presentation of a work that is currently incomplete can be applied for under the New Work category. Applications to the Presentation and Promotion category must also state where and when their projects will take place and include letters of support from relevant venues.
- There have been changes to criteria in most NMA categories. All criteria are listed on application forms for 2002, it is important that applications address these criteria as part of their application.
- Future applicants will notice that the 2002 application forms have a table to be used to list all cofunding. Please complete this table as part of the application form.
- The Board noticed a low number of applications from the Northern Territory and would encourage potential applicants to contact Board staff to discuss future applications.
- The Board was pleased with outcomes within the RUN\_WAY initiative and are delighted to advise that it will be offered again as part of the 1 May 2002, closing date. All applicants interested in applying should contact Board staff to discuss potential applications prior to submitting.



## INITIATIVES AND PARTNERSHIPS

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**SYNAPSE** is an initiative of the New Media Arts Board (NMAB) which aims to encourage creative and experimental collaborations between scientists and artists. Australia artists and scientists have a long history of cooperation, with a strong reputation internationally for innovation in experimentation and research. In **SYNAPSE** the Australia Council aims to maximise the benefits of these creative collaboration through a comprehensive and coordinated program of support. To keep in touch with synapse progress, including an upcoming web presence, please email Vicky Clare for inclusion in our email alerts. [v.clare@ozco.gov.au](mailto:v.clare@ozco.gov.au)

**RUN\_WAY** is a program designed to extend and enliven your experience and understanding of interdisciplinary/new media arts practice. The initiative is for young and emerging artists/artworkers under 30 years of age.

It aims to provide opportunities for young and emerging artists/artworkers to travel, learn and develop new skills and/or understanding of interdisciplinary /new media practice. You can determine and implement a unique professional development scenario, suitable to your own individual needs.

The NMAB will support a cross-artform interdisciplinary workshop program in September 2002, titled

### **Time\_Place\_Space 1.**

In line with the cross-artform nature of this initiative, other divisions within Arts Funding, including Dance, Music and Theatre, have also contributed toward the overall viability of the project.

**Time\_Place\_Space 1** will be a two-week intensive training forum for fifteen to twenty Australian artists engaged in performance practice and interested in hybridity as a methodology for making work. The workshop will occur between 7/9/02 – 29/9/02 it will be both a training ground for artists and an opportunity for the curators, practitioners and facilitators to engage in debate, research and hypothesis concerning issues surrounding hybrid practices and their outcomes.

The workshop Curatorial Team consists of Sarah Miller, Director of the Perth Institute of Contemporary Art (PICA), Julianne Pierce, Executive Director of the Australian Network for Art and Technology (ANAT) Adelaide, Fiona Winning, Director of Performance Space, Sydney and Reed Everingham, ex-officio member, NMAB, Australia Council. This initiative will be project managed by the Performance Space. The location for the workshop 2002 is the City of Wagga Wagga regional NSW.

For further information please contact the Performance Space on 02 9698 7235 or email: [admin@performancespace.com.au](mailto:admin@performancespace.com.au)



# STEPS IN THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS

## BEFORE THE MEETING

Staff check eligibility and register applications on Council's computer database. You will receive a letter acknowledging your application with an application number and staff contact for your reference. Staff analyse the statistical information provided by applicants to help Council measure the effectiveness of its grant programs and assessment. Staff prepare applications and support material for the Board assessment meeting. Applications are made into booklets and sent to Board members. Peers are invited to participate as advisors to the Board at the meeting bringing additional expertise and perspectives to the assessment process. Staff also check and manage any conflicts of interest that Board members and peers have with applications and study the applications in order to provide information to the Board as required (see below).

## AT THE MEETING

### ASSESSMENT

Board members assess your application against the published selection criteria. Board members may examine support material at the meeting or by prior arrangement.

Board Members may also take into account information from other sources such as:

- their attendance at performances and other events;
- reports from members of the Register of Peers who may be asked to provide formal assessments of designated works;
- reviews, videos and recordings, referee reports and other material;
- any previous Australia Council grant acquittal reports and performance agreements you may have had; and
- communication with State and Territory agencies.

Boards may decide not to fund the application at the level requested. While your application may meet the stated selection criteria, this does not guarantee you a grant. The Australia Council receives many more applications than it can support. The success of your application must rest ultimately on the merits of your proposal against published criteria and in competition with all the other applications considered for funding.

## NOTIFICATION OF DECISION

A letter notifying you of the decision will be posted to you during the month indicated in the Handbook and the application forms. Information about grant decisions will not be released over the phone.

## IF YOUR APPLICATION IS SUCCESSFUL

If your application is successful, you will receive a letter offering you a grant. This letter of agreement outlines the terms and conditions of the offer. Payment of a grant will not be made until you have accepted the conditions by signing and returning the letter of agreement.

## ACQUITTAL OF GRANTS

Acquittals are the artistic and financial reports that you must provide after completing your project. Acquittal reports enable the Council to fulfill its obligations of accountability as well as allowing us to learn about the success or otherwise of your project. These reports are a valuable way for you to contribute to the development work at the Australia Council.

Staff do not make funding decisions. Staff provide information and advice to Council, Boards and advisory bodies to assist their determination of policy and assessment of grant applications. Staff also provide information to potential grant applicants and administer the Australia Council's grant programs to enable a simple, fair and efficient assessment of applications.



## AT THE MEETING

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# GRANTS LIST

**NEW MEDIA ARTS BOARD  
APPROVED GRANTS LIST  
Closing Date: 1 November 2001**

## NEW WORK

Recipient	Project Description	AMOUNT	STATE
Arena Theatre Company Limited	Petrol Head' a site specific interdisciplinary performance work	\$ 29,900	VIC
Arterial Group Inc	Arterial Group, QUT Creative Industries & Brisbane Powerhouse to produce the installation titled, 'Track'	\$ 40,000	QLD
Darwin Theatre Company	Site and Sound-THE HOME SHOW' - a live event co-production with Darwin Festival & ABC Radio Darwin	\$ 25,700	NT
Glaser, Michelle	A collaboration to create an online, interactive pop-up story for adults	\$ 17,589	WA
Impermanent Audio	For Impermanent Audio to hold a series of sound art evenings aimed at developing & profiling artists	\$ 9,742	NSW
International Art Space Kellerberrin Australia (IASKA)	From Space to Place' - 3 site specific exhibitions involving 3 established & 9 emerging artists	\$ 25,000	WA
Jones, Mathew	For Mathew Jones to collaborate with Hans Anger on 'Don't Even Go There'	\$ 25,000	VIC
Neumark, Norie	E/motional Machines' - a collaboration with Maria Miranda to create an installation	\$ 20,013	NSW
Ophelia Body Creative Development	Ophelia Body' - multimedia artists/theorists to collaborate on a choral/multi-voice script	\$ 25,942	NSW
PACT Co-operative Limited	Altered States' a performance collaboration between PACT and Backbone Youth Arts Inc	\$ 27,000	NSW



## GRANTS LIST

**NEW MEDIA ARTS BOARD  
APPROVED GRANTS LIST  
Closing Date: 1 November 2001**

### NEW WORK

Recipient	Project Description	AMOUNT	STATE
Swain, Rachael	For Rachel Swain to collaborate with Andre Lepecki to develop & exhibit a video installation	\$ 28,928	NSW
Salamanca Theatre Company	White Trash, Medium Rare' - a collaboration with Contemporary Arts Services Tasmania	\$ 40,000	TAS

### NEW WORK R&D

Recipient	Project Description	AMOUNT	STATE
Beaubois, Denis-Paul	Part-time residency at UNSW to work with forensic psychologists	\$ 8,000	NSW
City of Melbourne	Collaboration between Lucy Orta and Australian artists to develop work with marginalised communities	\$ 10,000	VIC
Griswold, Erik	Erik Griswold, Sarah Pirrie and Craig Foltz to develop Permanent Transit" a multimedia installation"	\$ 10,000	VIC
Maude Davey/Catherine Fargher/Heather Grace Jones	Research and development towards a performance/installation of 'Motherload'	\$ 10,000	VIC



## GRANTS LIST

**NEW MEDIA ARTS BOARD  
APPROVED GRANTS LIST  
Closing Date: 1 November 2001**

### NEW WORK R&D

Recipient			
Merton, Cameron	Research and development of an installation based work using live weather data	\$ 9,600	WA
Nexus Multicultural Arts Centre Inc	Concept and prototype development for sound installation: Oracle #7 - Omphalos	\$ 10,000	SA
Ramos, Rolando	The Orpheus Room' - Stage 2	\$ 10,000	NSW

### PRESENTATION AND PROMOTION

Recipient	Project Description	AMOUNT	STATE
Sone, Yuji	To tour an inter-media performance work to Perth to perform at Perth Institute of Contemporary Art (PICA)	\$7,150	NSW
Fine Art Forum	For the Fine Art Forum to produce 12 issues and for the employment of key staff in 2002 - 2003	\$30,253.50	QLD
SymbioticA (UWA Dept of Anatomy & Human Biology)	The Tissue Culture & Art Project - to present as part of "BioFeel" a biological art exhibition at Perth Institute of Contemporary art (PICA)	\$39,491.50	WA



## GRANTS LIST

**NEW MEDIA ARTS BOARD  
APPROVED GRANTS LIST  
Closing Date: 1 November 2001**

### SKILLS AND ARTS DEVELOPMENT INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS

Recipient	Project Description	AMOUNT	STATE
Sonic Residues	A three week festival of international electro-acoustic and acousmatic music and sound art	\$15,000	VIC

**NEW MEDIA ARTS BOARD  
APPROVED GRANTS LIST  
Closing Date: 20 December 2001**

### RUN\_WAY YOUNG & EMERGING ARTIST INITIATIVE

Recipient	Project Description	AMOUNT	STATE
Boyle, Kirsty	To visit Aichi Prefecture in Japan to study under Shobei Tamaya, a karakuri ningyo craftsman	\$ 5,000	VIC
Dennis, Sarah-Mace	To attend International Symposium on Electronic Art (ISEA) in Nagoya Japan in 2002	\$ 3,853	QLD
Dipple, Kelli	To travel to Manchester, Florida, New York and within Australia to investigate possibilities for development and production on the Access Grid	\$ 5,000	QLD



# GRANTS LIST

**NEW MEDIA ARTS BOARD  
APPROVED GRANTS LIST  
Closing Date: 20 December 2001**

**RUN\_WAY YOUNG & EMERGING ARTIST INITIATIVE**

Evans, Jain	Four weeks participation in arts residency at Steim (Studio for Electronic and Instrumental Music), Amsterdam	\$ 4,500	NSW
Gonsalves, Tina	To attend two workshops at the Australian Film, Television and Radio School to further develop technical skills	\$ 4,900	QLD
Haren, Sam	To observe an R&D rehearsal and creative development process of 'Forced Entertainment' in UK	\$ 5,000	SA
Hart, Tanya	To undertake residency at the 'Bei Gao' Studios, Beijing, as well as to meet, collaborate and exhibit in Beijing	\$ 5,000	NSW
Johnston, Anita	To attend and screen work at the Finnish Games Conference, Finland	\$ 4,000	QLD
Jones, Catherine	Participation at the Summer Institute multimedia performance program of The Kitchen, New York, USA	\$ 5,000	NSW
Liebzeit, Anna	Attendance at the Garage 2002 image and sound festival in Stralsund, Germany	\$ 5,000	VIC
Mowson, Bruce	Attendance at 11th International Symposium on Electronic Art (ISEA) in Nagoya, Japan	\$ 4,600	VIC
Phillips, Jacqueline	Attendance at the inaugural Biennale of Electronic Arts Perth (BEAP) 2002	\$ 2,635	NSW
Rhodes, Kate	Two-week residency at the Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography in Japan, December 2002	\$ 3,180	VIC
Taylor, Joni	Attendance at the European Media Arts Festival (EMAF) in Osnabruck, Germany	\$ 5,000	NSW
Volkhardt, Dylan	Curatorial, artistic research and development project at Sarai, a new media arts centre in Delhi, India	\$ 5,000	VIC

