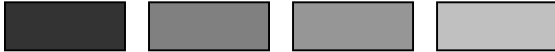




ASSESSMENT MEETING REPORT



NEW MEDIA ARTS BOARD

APPLICATION CLOSING DATE

1 May 2003

AUSTRALIA COUNCIL
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THE INFORMATION IN THIS REPORT IS EMBARGOED FROM PUBLIC
DISCUSSION UNTIL **26 AUGUST 2003**



ABOUT THIS REPORT

This report provides a context to the assessment of the applications submitted to the New Media Arts Board on 1 May 2003. 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 22-25 July 2003.

The New Media Arts Board supports collaborative arts practices that do not fall within conventional, single artform areas. The Board supports work in the two broad areas of interdisciplinary art and new media art (please see *2003 Australia Council Support for the Arts Handbook* for further detail)

ATTENDANCE

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

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

Marcus Canning (WA) is Artistic Director of the Artrage Festival in Perth.

Jenny Fraser (NSW) is an indigenous digital artist and curator based in the northern NSW.

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

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

Note: There were two vacancies on the Board at the time of the meeting.

In addition to the Board members, Geert Lovink (Qld), a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Queensland, Caitlin Newton-Broad (NSW), a director and producer of hybrid performance works and Angharad Wynne-Jones (Vic), a free-lance producer with experience in company management, attended the meeting as participating advisers to assist the Board in the assessment of applications.

The following New Media Arts Board Staff were in attendance:

Andrew Donovan	Manager
Geoffrey Taylor	Program Officer
Reed Everingham	Assistant Program Officer
Susan Parker	Administrator
Nina Stromqvist	Administrative Assistant



CHAIR'S COMMENTS

This assessment meeting had a focus on infrastructure for new media arts with the Board considering, along with the project grants, its Key Organisation categories of Triennial and Program grants. Foremost in the minds of Board members was balancing our limited budget between organisations that constitute a still evolving infrastructure for new media arts and the need to remain responsive to new developments in the field. The Board is also conscious of ensuring there is no duplication between the infrastructure organisations it supports and the wider cultural field—new media arts practitioners should take advantage of the services and creative opportunities offered by existing organisations supported by other art-form Boards of Council, through other federal agencies like the Australian Film Commission, or by the various state governments. The small network of six outstanding organisations supported under the Key Organisations category at this meeting complements this existing infrastructure.

The Board was extremely pleased with the standard and number of Fellowship grants assessed at this meeting. Given the high quality of applications the Board strongly urges applicants that were not successful in 2003 to consider reapplying in 2004. Applications reflected a maturing field of artists rigorously investigating a formidable range of practices—in early September, you will find details about 23 earlier artist Fellowships awarded by the Board when *New Media Arts Fellows* is published on the Australia Council website.

Please refer to the Partnership and Initiatives section of this report for further detail on other Board Initiatives and other upcoming publications.

The Board was pleased to see some strong self-initiated residencies and professional development proposals in this round and urges all artists to think about such opportunities outside of the Board's own national and international residency program.

At this meeting the Board also approved the establishment of one new pilot International Residency for new media artists and I'm pleased to announce the Board will be offering this at its 1 November 2003 closing date. The new residency at Times Up in Graz, Austria will complement the Banff New Media Arts Residency in Canada. Please contact staff for further information if you are interested in applying.

Once again the Board was impressed with the applications to its Young and Emerging Artists Initiative, Run_Way. The quality of applications to this initiative was good with some 14 artists receiving support to undertake a program of professional development.

The next closing date for the Board is 1 November 2003, with applicants notified of decisions in March 2003. The following categories will be offered at the 1 November closing date:

- New Work
- New Work (Research and Development)
- International Residencies – Banff (Canada) and Times Up (Austria)

If you have any questions about the outcomes of the latest funding round or submitting an application to the next round, please contact Board staff on 02 9215 9116 or nma@ozco.gov.au.

Michael Snelling
August 2003



OUTCOMES

PROGRAM TITLE	APPLICATIONS (Number)		SUCCESS %	APPLICATIONS (Amounts - \$)	
	RECEIVED	APPROVED		REQUESTED	APPROVED
SKILLS & ARTS DEVELOPMENT INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS	15	5	33%	\$295,709	\$89,380
SKILLS & ARTS DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATIONS	7	2	29%	\$223,220	\$78,000
SKILLS & ARTS DEVELOPMENT RESIDENCIES	15	4	26%	\$282,900	\$71,100
FELLOWSHIPS	12	3	25%	\$960,000	\$240,000
PRESENTATION AND PROMOTION	15	3	20%	\$327,380	\$66,741
KEY ORGANISATIONS PROGRAM GRANTS	3	3	100%	\$175,000	\$140,000
KEY ORGANISATIONS TRIENNIAL GRANTS	3	3	100%	\$938,475*	\$846,975*
YOUNG & EMERGING ARTISTS INITIATIVE RUN_WAY	26	14	54%	\$117,821	\$64,865
TOTAL	96	37	39%	\$3,320,505	\$1,597,061
Out-of-Time Assessed as part of the Meeting	2	2	100%	\$21,851	\$14,350
Out-of-Time Assessed between February 2003 Meeting & July 2003 Meeting	10	5	50%	\$60,981	\$18,095

* Amount requested and approved annually

In addition to the project grants approved at this meeting, the NMAB is currently funding the following Organisations through its Key Organisations grants category: Program 2003

- Arterial, Brisbane, QLD

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



FEEDBACK

- Applicants proposing conferences or similar activities should be careful to distinguish between the purposes published in the *2003 Support for the Arts Handbook* for Presentation and Promotion and for Skills and Arts Development (Organisations). Presentation and Promotion is intended to extend exposure of new media art to new audiences, while the Skills and Arts Development (S&AD) Organisations category deals with critical analysis and debate. The Board noted that for applications to be successful to either category, a conceptual rigour must be applied to the proposed topic or themes. The proposed activity must also be placed within a national (and, where appropriate, international) context.
- Some S&AD Organisation applications lacked focus in their proposed activities by attempting to achieve too much at once. The Board encourages applicants to narrow their focus and concentrate on one or two key elements of their programs in order to present a more coherent range of activities.
- the Board was pleased at the proposed level of cofunding from other sources and encourages applicants to consider all avenues of support for their projects.
- Artists intending to apply for one of the Board's residencies should contact Board staff to discuss ideas and the potential benefits of the project for both the host organisation and the artist. It is also important to contact the host organisation to get a sense of their priorities and interests, and to discuss the artistic and technical viability of the proposed project.
- The Board aims to make a wide range of formats available for support material. However, please note that submitting support material in NTSC format rather than PAL risks compromising the quality of the material when viewed.
- The Board encourages applicants to clearly articulate why they believe their application is appropriate for funding through the New Media Arts Board. In some instances the Board felt that applications were better suited for support through the other arts practice Boards of Council and it was unclear to them why applicants had decided to submit their application to the New Media Arts Board.



INITIATIVES AND PARTNERSHIPS

The New Media Arts Board is currently working on a number of initiatives for implementation in 2003:

In partnership with Council's Audience and Market Development Division and as part of the Board's **International Marketing Strategy, *In Repertoire- a guide to Australian new media arts*** will be published this month to complement the others in this series produced by Council.

Dr Wayne Ashley (USA) will visit Australia at the invitation of the Board in September this year. Dr Ashley is guest curator at Thundergulch, the new media initiative of the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council and was previously Manager of New Media at the Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM) where he curated *Under_Score* as part of Australia focused Next Wave Festival in 2001. The visit will enable Dr Ashley to meet with a variety of Australian new media artists in the lead up to a new project to be announced in 2004.

Two New Opportunities

The Board is offering a new **International Residency** to be based at Time's Up, in the Austrian city of Graz. Closing date 1 November 2003.

The **New Media Arts Curatorial Internship** will be offered at the Australian Centre for the Moving Image again in 2004. Please visit our website for further details.

In September, the Board will also publish **Terra Nova** a case study guide of recently funded projects, and **New Media Arts Fellows**, an online publication profiling the Board's 23 artist Fellowship grants of the last five years.

SYNAPSE is an initiative of the New Media Arts Board (NMAB) which aims to encourage creative and experimental collaborations between scientists and artists.

The initiative has three current strands:

- Industry partnerships as part of the Australian Research Council's Linkage Grant Program. The Board will be accepting Industry Partner proposals on 1 October 2003
- Synapse Residencies—on behalf of the Board, the Australian Network for Art and Technology (ANAT) will shortly be calling for expressions of interest from science organisations interested in participating in this scheme.
- The Synapse Database—ANAT has developed an arts/science database as part of the Synapse initiative. Please see www.synapse.net.au for further details.

For further information about **SYNAPSE** visit www.ozco.gov.au/newmediaarts/synapse.html or email synapse@ozco.gov.au

Young and Emerging Artists

Run_Way provides opportunities for young and emerging artists or artworkers to travel, learn and develop new skills or understanding of interdisciplinary and new media practice. Applicants can propose a unique professional development scenario suitable to their individual needs. Closing date: 1 May 2004.

For further information please contact Reed Everingham on 02 9215 9132 or email r.everingham@ozco.gov.au.

For details on other Board Initiatives please email nma@ozco.gov.au or visit www.ozco.gov.au/newmediaarts.



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. 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 advisers 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

All applicants will be notified of the Board's decision by mail 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 of agreement offering you a grant. This letter 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 fulfil 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 policy 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.*



GRANTS LIST

NEW MEDIA ARTS BOARD
APPROVED GRANTS LIST - Closing Date: 1 May 2003
National and International Residencies

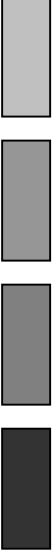
RESIDENCY	RECIPIENT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	STATE	AMOUNT
ABC Listening Room Residency (Sydney)	Rose, Jodi	Creation of 'Songs of the Bridge: An aural journey'	VIC	\$25,000
Symbiotica Residency (Perth)	Davidson, Jason	Undertake research on human biology and blending western and indigenous health knowledge	NT	\$24,700
is theatre ltd Residency (Hobart)	Mauro-Flude, Nancy	Participation in 'boiler room', and to collaborate with is theatre ltd	NSW	\$11,400
Cite Internationale des Arts (Paris)	McCormick, John	Investigation of 3D networked environments that can be inhabited by more than one person at a time	VIC	\$10,000

Fellowships

RECIPIENT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	STATE	AMOUNT
Crea, Teresa	A self-directed developmental program investigating multicultural practice within new media arts.	SA	\$80,000
Saint-Clare, Andriah	Create a new body of solo and collaborative cross-cultural new media art works.	NT	\$80,000
Wallworth, Lynette	A series of professional development residencies to support the creation of a new body of work.	VIC	\$80,000

Key Organisations: Program Grants

RECIPIENT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	STATE	AMOUNT
Experimenta Media Arts Inc	Annual program of activities 2004	VIC	\$40,000
Multimedia Art Asia Pacific Inc	Annual program of activities 2004	QLD	\$50,000
dLux media arts Inc	Annual program of activities 2004	NSW	\$50,000



GRANTS LIST

NEW MEDIA ARTS BOARD
APPROVED GRANTS LIST - Closing Date: 1 May 2003

Key Organisations: Triennial Grants

RECIPIENT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	STATE	AMOUNT
Australian Network for Art and Technology	Triennial Grant 2004-2006	SA	\$886,500
Open City Incorporated	Triennial Grant 2004-2006	NSW	\$439,425
The Performance Space Ltd	Triennial Grant 2004-2006	NSW	\$1,215,000

Project Grants: Presentation and Promotion

RECIPIENT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	STATE	AMOUNT
Museum of Contemporary Art Limited	Primavera 2003 - to present work created by young artists using new technologies	NSW	\$25,000
Wallace, Linda	Production of catalogue about two works 'lovehotel' and 'eurovision'	QLD	\$6,741
dLux media arts Inc	To present a program of work incorporating cultural and artistic aspects of electronic games	NSW	\$35,000

Project Grants: Skills and Arts Development (Individuals and Groups)

RECIPIENT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	STATE	AMOUNT
Caines, Christopher	2 month residency at ATR Media Labs, Kyoto to study and develop site-specific, wireless arts project	NSW	\$15,000
Iolini, Robert	Attend conferences, conduct research, and three-month residency with Orquestra del Caos in Barcelona	NSW	\$8,000
Maiorano, Serafina	Professional development to study model partnerships between new media artists and the non-arts sector	VIC	\$25,980
Nicholas, Fabienne	Conduct research to look at models of business development for Australian media arts organisations	VIC	\$10,000
Themann, Mark	Participation in an artist in residency at LOCATION ONE New York City	VIC	\$30,400



GRANTS LIST

**NEW MEDIA ARTS BOARD
APPROVED GRANTS LIST - Closing Date: 1 May 2003
Project Grants: Skills and Arts Development (Organisations)**

RECIPIENT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	STATE	AMOUNT
Adelaide Fringe Inc	To support Australian participation in the Blast Theory Masterclass program, Adelaide Fringe, 2004.	SA	\$25,000
Octapod Association Inc	Toward a skills and development program for emerging artists at Electrofringe Festival	NSW	\$53,000

Young and Emerging Artist's Initiative: Run_Way

RECIPIENT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	STATE	AMOUNT
Baumann, Thea	Attendance at Ars Electronica, Austria & the Digital Games Industries Conference, England.	QLD	\$5,000
Blundell, Andrea	To attend the Game Developers Conference, San Jose, California.	VIC	\$5,000
Chapple, Elizabeth	To undertake an eight week residency at SymbioticA at the UWA, Perth.	VIC	\$5,000
Coutts, Martyn	Attend the Transmediale & Clubtransmediale, electronic media festivals in Germany.	TAS	\$3,800
Hu, Yew-Sun	To attend 'Cyberonica', at the Institute of Contemporary Art in London, UK.	NSW	\$5,000
Ihle, Lucas	To explore and research aspects of the Expanded Cinema movement within London and Germany.	NSW	\$5,000
Jensen, Brenna	To undertake travel/research with the Cirque Electrique through France for two months.	OS	\$4,992
Quick, Mickie	Attendance at 'Interface 2003' an international arts conference held in Paris, France.	NSW	\$5,000
Riedel, Kate	To attend the 'Art of Documentary' at the Australian Film and Radio School (AFTRS).	NT	\$1,945
Therese, Karen	Study three new media spaces in Budapest: ARTUS; TRAFQ; and C3. And attend the Budapest Festival.	NSW	\$5,000



GRANTS LIST

NEW MEDIA ARTS BOARD
 APPROVED GRANTS LIST - Closing Date: 1 May 2003

Young and Emerging Artist's Initiative: Run_Way (Cont)

RECIPIENT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	STATE	AMOUNT
Turton, Nicola	To attend the European Media Art Festival, Osnabruck, Germany.	NSW	\$4,898
Walbrook, Benjamin	To undertake a residency in sound production at the Banff Centre for the Arts, Alberta, Canada.	VIC	\$4,932
Westbury, Marcus	To attend Ars Electronica, Austria & the Next 5 Minutes Festival, Amsterdam, Netherlands	VIC	\$4,298
Williams, Chris	To attend the 'New Moves (new territories)' Festival and the National Review of Live Art, Glasgow.	WA	\$5,000

