



Australian Government



ASSESSMENT MEETING REPORT



Inter-Arts Office

APPLICATION CLOSING DATE
15 October 2006

THE INFORMATION IN THIS REPORT IS EMBARGOED FROM PUBLIC
DISCUSSION UNTIL 20 DECEMBER 2006

AUSTRALIA COUNCIL
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ABOUT THIS REPORT

This report provides a context for the assessment of applications submitted to the Inter-Arts Office on 15 October 2006. It details statistical analysis of the grants round and more general comments made by the Inter-Arts assessment panel (panel) during the assessment of the applications at its meeting held on 27 November 2006.

Grant categories assessed were:

RUN_WAY 2006

RUN_WAY 2006 is a program designed to extend and enliven young and emerging artists' experience and understanding of interdisciplinary arts and new media arts practice. The initiative is for artists 30 years of age and under.

SymbioticA National Residency in Perth, Western Australia

This program is a six-month residency at SymbioticA, which is situated in the School of Anatomy and Human Biology at the University of Western Australia. SymbioticA is an independent research laboratory dedicated to the exploration of scientific knowledge from an artistic perspective.

Banff Centre for the Arts International Residency in Alberta, Canada

The Inter-Arts Office supports an artist to participate in the Media and Visual Arts Thematic Residency Program at the Banff Centre for the Arts in Alberta, Canada. The residency will take place in 2007. Two Banff applications were recommended to the Banff Centre, with one recipient to be selected by Banff.

ATTENDANCE

The Inter-Arts Office does not have a board or committee. Instead it convenes assessment panels after each closing date made up of peers from the field, who assess applications and make recommendations on funding to Council.

The panel for the 27 November 2006 assessment meeting consisted of the following peers:

Keith Armstrong

Keith specialises in collaborative, hybrid, new media works with an emphasis on performance, site-specific installation and art-science collaborations. His ongoing research focuses on how scientific and philosophical ecologies can both influence and direct the design and conception of networked, interactive media artworks. Keith is a creative director, media designer and system integrator within multidisciplinary teams and is the founder and director of the interdisciplinary collective 'Transmute'.

Rosemary Miller

Rosemary works in arts development roles and has been Director of Salamanca Arts Centre (SAC) Hobart since 2000. SAC is a multi-arts centre and a base for artists-in-studios, many of Tasmania's arts organizations, small commercial galleries and design and craft retailers. With strong interests in culturally diverse arts practices, and the points of intersection of performance, visual and media arts, Rosemary programmes and commissions exhibitions and performance works profiling Tasmania's artists, and presents innovative touring projects.



ABOUT THIS REPORT

Bruce Mowson

Bruce practices in sound and video installation and performance, and is currently undertaking a PhD in Fine Art at RMIT. He teaches sessionally at RMIT, and has recently shown at the Brisbane Powerhouse, and in the Melbourne International Arts Festival.

Sarah Last

Sarah is an artist and independent curator based in regional NSW. Formerly the exhibitions/collections curator at Wagga Art Gallery (2000-2003), since 2003 Sarah has worked freelance and curated projects for the artist-run-initiative Wagga Space Program. In addition to her curatorial career and arts practice, Sarah is the Director of the Booranga Writers' Centre in Wagga Wagga, a consultant to various arts and heritage organizations, and also works part-time as a Research Assistant and Curator in the School of Visual and Performing Arts at Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga.

Josephine Wilson

Josephine is a Perth-based writer and teacher, whose recent work has been mainly in two fields: narrative fiction and writing for performance. Her performance works include *The Geography of Haunted Places* and *Customs*. With Linda Carroli, she has produced two on-line hypertext fictions: *Cipher* and *Water always writes in plural*, the latter being instigated by the Australian Network for Art and Technology. Josephine tutors at Murdoch University in Creative Writing and Hypertext.

Michael Yuen

Michael is an artist and curator based in Adelaide. Formally trained as a composer within the Electronic Music Unit at the University of Adelaide, Michael's installation-based works use a combination of abstract sound, images, and experimental interactive technologies, in order to create artworks grounded in perceptual experience. In 2006 he took on the role of artistic director for Project 3: a program of experimental electronic art for the 2006 Adelaide Bank Festival of the Arts.

The following Inter-Arts Office and Council staff were in attendance:

Andrew Donovan	Director and Convenor
Ricardo Peach	Program Manager
Nina Stromqvist	Program Officer
Ann Petrou	Administrator
Hannah Mathews	Administrative Assistant



CONVENOR'S COMMENTS

I would like to start by thanking the Inter-Arts panel for their time and commitment in assessing the RUN_WAY Young and Emerging Initiative and SymbioticA national and Banff international residency applications submitted to the Inter-Arts Office on 15 October 2006. This was the fourth assessment meeting convened for an Inter-Arts panel, and it was encouraging to see the broad range of applications received from the field.

Although there were some well developed RUN_WAY applications, the panel commented that in general applicants engaged too passively with proposed activities. Proposed attendance at events and professional networking opportunities could have been more directly linked to the applicants' practice.

The panel also noted that most of the RUN_WAY applications were focused on Europe, with few proposals linked to other regions, such as the Asia-Pacific. The panel strongly recommends that in future applicants consider a broader range of countries and regions with which to engage.

The artistic merit of many of the proposed residencies for SymbioticA were not clear and applicants did not always articulate a balance between the arts and science components of the project. It is important that projects cover new ground and not just repeat previously successful initiatives.

In assessing the Banff applications, the panel discussed the feasibility of proposed activities within the residency period, the experience of the artist in their proposed field of practice and the facilities and support available at the Banff Centre. After some lively discussion, two preferred candidates were selected for referral to the Banff Centre, with the successful recipient to be notified in 2007. Future applicants are encouraged to contact the Banff Centre prior to submitting applications to ascertain if their projects could be supported within the available infrastructure and expertise.

To assist in the assessment of future applications to the Inter-Arts Office, the panel strongly encourages individuals to register on Council's Register of Peers (see the Feedback section in this report). This register is used to select people to sit on Inter-Arts panels, to ensure the Inter-Arts Office assessment meetings are engaged with current, contemporary and cutting edge arts practise.

New and continuing initiatives for the Inter-Arts Office in 2007 include *ArtLab* and the art/science initiative *Synapse* (see the Initiatives and Partnerships section in this report). In addition, the first Inter-Arts Project grant closing date is 1 May 2007. If you have any questions regarding these initiatives and future grant programs, or indeed this funding round, please do not hesitate to contact Inter-Arts Office staff on 02 9215 9116 or inter-arts@ozco.gov.au.

Andrew Donovan
Director Inter-Arts
November 2006



OUTCOMES

Program Title	Application (Number)		Success %	Application (Amounts - \$)	
	Received	Approved		Requested	Approved
RUN_WAY	23	13	56.5%	\$111,076	\$64,630
SYMBIOTIC-A RESIDENCY	5	1	20.0%	\$123,500	\$24,700
BANFF INTERNATIONAL RESIDENCY	7	0	0.0%	\$31,500	\$0
Total	35	14		\$266,076	\$89,330

The Inter-Arts Office also currently funds the following organisations though its Key Organisations category:

Triennial Grants:

- The Performance Space, NSW.
- Open City (RealTime), NSW.



- **Support material** represents the project in the application and is the main opportunity to demonstrate the calibre of the artists proposed to participate in the project. As some peers need to get a sense of the work through support material, applicants are encouraged to submit support material of the highest possible viewing quality. For guidance on preparing digital support material in particular, go to http://www.ozco.gov.au/arts_re_sources/other/how_to_prepare_digital_support_material/
 - The composition of the assessment panel is varied and all applicants should remember that each panel member may not be familiar with their work. It is therefore important that applicants avoid submitting basic documentation of their previous work and rather use their support material to **tell a story** about their work.
 - The Inter-Art Office would like to encourage artists to register on Council's **Register of Peers**, which is used to select members from the field for Panel members at assessment meetings. Artists who have experience in inter- and cross-disciplinary arts practices and experimental, hybrid art projects are particularly encouraged to register. Please go to www.ozco.gov.au to download a form.
- If you are unsure to which board you should submit your application, you should first discuss your idea with our program staff and make use of the **referral process**. Our staff will either:
 1. Refer you to another artform board based on the initial telephone enquiry. That board will provide any further advice you need about your application.
OR
 2. Ask you to submit a brief written proposal describing your project. We will then discuss your proposal with staff of other artform boards to determine the best place to lodge your application.
OR
 3. Determine that there is no board suitable to assess your proposal. In this case we may accept an application to the Inter-Arts Office or it may be the proposal is not suitable for Australia Council support.
 - The Inter-Arts Office will be developing new information about the arts practices it supports in 2007. Keep your eyes out for the **About the Australia Council for the Arts 2007** handbook (out in January 2007), visit the Australia Council website at www.ozco.gov.au for updates and contact staff to discuss proposals prior to submitting applications to these new categories.



INITIATIVES AND PARTNERSHIPS

MHUL INDIGENOUS MEDIA LAB

In October 2006 Indigenous new media artists gathered for the fourth national **Indigenous Media Lab** at ACMI in Melbourne. the two-week lab titled **MHUL** (translated as idea or concept from the Bidjara language from central Queensland) introduced emerging and established Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander media artists to a range of tutors and workshops designed to further develop their practice and understanding of media art in an Indigenous context.

Organised by artist and curator Christian Thompson, the five-day workshop brought together a range of Indigenous artists from around Australia, including Karen Casey, Fiona Foley, Jenny Fraser, Gary Lee, r e a and Dianne Jones.

SYNAPSE

Synapse is an initiative managed by the Inter-Arts Office, which aims to encourage creative and experimental collaborations between scientists and artists. Through **Synapse** the Australia Council aims to maximise and promote the benefits of these creative collaborations.

The Inter-Arts Office will be offering, through **Synapse**, a further round of Australian Research Council Industry Partner Linkage Grants in 2006.

Proposals are due in **March 2007**.

For further details on this program please visit:
www.ozco.gov.au/grants/other_support_new_media_arts/synapse_arc_initiative/, email synapse@ozco.gov.au or call Andrew Donovan on 02 9215 9214

ARTLAB

The **ArtLab** initiative aims to foster experimentation and collaboration between artists from multiple disciplines to explore new artistic practice. It aims to establish an environment that encourages genre-crossing collaborations and the creation of original cross-media arts projects with emphasis placed upon innovation, risk, artistic integrity and the creation of new ideas.

Artists and organisations involved in **ArtLab** are expected to experiment with radical approaches to the creative process and be flexible to outcomes that cannot be predicted in advance. While ArtLab aims to promote the importance of research and development activity and provide artists with time to critically explore aspects of their practice, the project may involve presentation of work in progress or seek peer feedback via some other public forum.

Proposals are due **15 April 2007**.

For further details on this program please visit: www.ozco.gov.au/artlab, email n.stromqvist@ozco.gov.au or call Nina Stromqvist on 02 9215 9132

INTER-ARTS OFFICE E-MAIL ALERT LIST

The Inter-Arts Office is pleased to announce our new Inter-Arts Office email alert list. List members will receive the latest updates on the Inter-Arts Office's grant programs, residencies, fellowships and initiatives and other major developments in our field.

To join, please send your email address to iaolist@ozco.gov.au or visit http://www.ozco.gov.au/boards/new_media_arts/alert_list/



STEPS IN THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS

BEFORE THE MEETING

Staff check eligibility and register applications on the Australia Council's (Council) 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 Inter-Arts assessment meeting. Applications are made into booklets and sent to panel members. Staff also check and manage any conflicts of interest that panel members have with applications and study the applications in order to provide information to the panel as required (see below *).

AT THE MEETING

ASSESSMENT

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

Panel 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.

The Council 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 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 Council'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, Committees, Panels 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.*



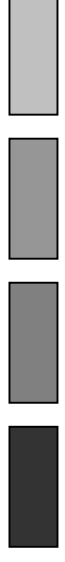
GRANTS LIST

Inter-Arts Office
RUN_WAY

Round Id: 15133 Closing Date: 15-OCT-2006

Client Name	Application Title	State	Amount
Alderson, Amanda	Travel to the UK to attend a media art and community development mentorship with Friction Arts	WA	\$5,000.00
Fuata, Brian	Travel to London to work with The Pacitti Company for their inaugural hybrid arts festival 'SPILL'	NSW	\$5,000.00
Hodge, Madeleine	Attendance at two arts festivals, Anti Festival in Finland and Steirischer Herbst in Austria	VIC	\$5,000.00
Knowles, Isobel	Attendance at EMAF, European Media Arts Festival, Germany and Anney Animation Festival, France 2007	VIC	\$5,000.00
Langley, Somaya	Attendance at the 7th International Conference on New Interfaces for Musical Expression, New York	ACT	\$5,000.00
Matovic, Kristina	Attend a residency at the 'Transit Lounge' as part of Transmediale festival in 2007	VIC	\$5,000.00
Patterson, Kenzee	Participation in a 'Transit Lounge' Residency, Berlin 2007	NSW	\$5,000.00
Pok, Teik-Kim	Attendance at an intensive performance workshop in Oaxaca, Mexico	NSW	\$4,630.00
Prior, Michael	Attendance at 'Pixelache', Helsinki, Finland and European Media Arts Festival in Osnabruck, Germany	VIC	\$5,000.00
Rodigari, Sarah	Attendance at two arts festivals, Anti Festival in Finland and Steirischer Herbst in Austria	VIC	\$5,000.00
Tawale, Salote	Video archive research, mentorship and forming new contacts with international video art industry	VIC	\$5,000.00
Walton, Yandell	Attendance at Transmediale, Berlin and collaborate with Berlin video artist Ben Kegler	VIC	\$5,000.00
Watts, Rachael	An assistant role for Digital Art Week 07, Zurich, Switzerland and an internship with D-Fuse in London	VIC	\$5,000.00

Grants this Round: 13 **Amount Approved: \$64,630.00**



GRANTS LIST

Inter-Arts Office
SYMBIOTIC-A RESIDENCY
Round Id: 15134 Closing Date: 15-OCT-2006

Client Name	Application Title	State	Amount
Phillips, Perdita	Green, grey or dull silver: research into and creation of sound and visual artworks about Bowerbirds	WA	\$24,700.00
Grants this Round: 1		Amount Approved:	\$24,700.00
Total Grants: 14		Total Amount Approved:	\$89,330.00

