

# Annual Grants 2021: Recommended Applications

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## Festivals & Events

### AG21-00083

#### Make It Up Club Inc.

*Make it up Club 2021 concert series*

**Project Description:** The 2021 series of The Make It Up Club (MIUC). MIUC is a weekly concert series of avant garde, improvised music and sound art performance which provides a regular platform for experimental improvisation, and continually cultivates Melbourne's internationally renowned status as a centre for sonic innovation. The proposed program supports a diverse range of artists across age, level of experience, gender, and cultural and linguistic backgrounds. In 2020 we presented more than 35 online concerts and in 2021 we hope to transition back to weekly concerts at Bar Open that will also be live streamed.

**Total Project Cost:** \$79550.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$6,300.00

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### AG21-00084

#### Pony Cam (Auspiced by Auspicious Arts Projects)

*Get It While It's Hot*

**Project Description:** 'Get It While It's Hot' is a community-led performance, presented in partnership with restaurants from the City of Yarra. After a 1-week creative development with the Canadian theatre company 'Mammalian Diving Reflex', it will be presented from 6-19 September 2021.

Get It While It's Hot is a Masterchef-style cooking competition in which a team of performers cook off against a line-up of local professional chefs. It is a fierce and playful investigation into food as a vehicle for cross-cultural communication. It is a culinary showdown inspired by Masterchef, mums, and Mammalian Diving Reflex.

The performance is set in an industrial-warehouse-turned-culinary-arena: stainless-steel benchtops, fully packed pantries, and a very big clock. On one side of the room stands a team of performers. They reckon they're pretty good cooks. On the other side stands a local chef.

The chef announces the menu for the evening: 3 courses of personal and cultural importance. As they recount stories behind their chosen dishes, the team of performers scramble to read the recipes.

Over the ensuing 90 minutes, the performance uses film, video-projection, and live sound mixing to collide the tropes of reality tv with the heat of a real time cook-off. Roaming cameras will collect interviews from the chef, performers, and audience. Memories will be shared, cultural assumptions will be dispersed, and theatrical sabotage will be encouraged.

**Total Project Cost:** \$40600.40

**Grant Awarded:** \$8,905.00

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## AG21-00183

### Storyscape (Auspiced by Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation)

*Yalinguth Launch at Gertrude Street Projection Festival*

**Project Description:** Yalinguth (“yesterday” in Woi Wurrung) is an audio Augmented Reality App connecting audiences with the Aboriginal history of places through stories, song and soundscapes. The first location will be Gertrude St, Fitzroy. This proposal is to create projection art and a Yalinguth Campfire Launch Event within the Gertrude St Projection Festival (GSPF). The focus for the 2021 GSPF is Past Presents Future, providing the perfect environment for the public launch of Yalinguth.

We are seeking funds to support the public launch of the App within Atherton Gardens at GSPF providing an incredible opportunity to reach a large (50, 000+) and diverse audience. The process will continue to employ and bring together young Aboriginal people and Elders, increasing their knowledge and sense of identity and connection, which is a key focus of Yalinguth. All content created for the launch will be utilised by the project ongoing. Specifically, we will create:

- **Projection Art:** Working with a local Aboriginal artist (we have approached Wurundjeri artist Mandy Nicholson, and Reko Rennie to begin discussions) and RMIT Alumni animation collective ORCA to produce an animated projection for GSPF. We would like to explore with Mandy the potential for animating her artworks that showcase the six fundamental elements of Wurundjeri Country and or/ using type and Woi-Wurrung language mapped to the tall gum trees in Atherton Gardens. The animated work can then be used ongoing in marketing material for the App including on the Yalinguth website.
- **Launch Event:** A Campfire Launch Event in Atherton Gardens at the GSPF highlighting elements within the App, including songs by Uncle Kutcha Edwards, stories from Elders and spoken word pieces from young people. Charcoal Lane trainees will be employed to record elements of the live event, to be included in the App after the launch.

**Total Project Cost:** \$65320.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$14,350.00

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## AG21-00107

### Q+ (Queer Plus) (Auspiced by Auspicious Arts Projects)

*Q+ (Queer Plus)*

**Project Description:** The Q+Hub is an architecturally modified shipping container, making it a versatile community space. Queer artists will be commissioned to decorate the exterior of the container with imagery representing Victoria’s Queer cultural landscape. The Q+Hub interior will be used as a blank canvas for the public to share their own stories and send messages of love and support to the LGBTIAQ+ community, facilitated by an artist in residence.

The Q+Hub will include an audio installation featuring members of the queer community. A program of activities including performances, music events, and workshops will be created to occur in and around the Q+Hub.

Workshops will facilitate community learning opportunities in various arts practices, as well as practical advice relating to sexual health, and mental well-being, leading to lasting networks between LGBTIAQ+ community and service providers.

The development of the Q+Hub will be documented on the Q+ Website, where time-capture images of the exterior and interior developments of the created artworks and crowd participation will be shared to enable those unable to visit the Q+Hub in person to experience the stories and images shared within, and to participate by submitting anonymous personal contributions to the interior activation via the website. A camera crew will document the activities in and around Q+Hub, which will be edited and made available for viewing via the website.

The participatory nature of the Q+Hub and its additional elements will promote novel community involvement and connection. Through these activities Victorians will have the opportunity to participate and play, leading to the needful replenishment of human connection and regeneration of spirit.

At the conclusion of its residency, a celebration featuring local musicians, DJs, and performers will create an inclusive event for all those who participated and contributed to the Q+Hub during the Festival.

**Total Project Cost:** \$189,885.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$12,000.00

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## **AG21-00199**

### **Melbourne International Jazz Festival**

*Melbourne International Jazz Festival: JAZZ TAKEOVER*

**Project Description:** Jazz Takeover is a new project by MIJF that celebrates the City of Yarra as both the epicentre of cultural diversity and the home of independent music in Melbourne.

“There's no doubt that together Fitzroy and Collingwood easily win the trophy for Melbourne's live music hot spot.” – Visit Victoria

Over the first weekend of the Festival, Jazz Takeover will enliven Brunswick Street, Fitzroy, with a micro festival of roving performances and activations that take place in bars, restaurants, shops and street corners. Featuring five local jazz bands and roving performers, these free pop-up performances will invite audiences on a music crawl through the history, diversity and culture of the local community, featuring an eclectic mix of musical influences that respond to the City's unique character.

Thrilling audiences with the spontaneity and festivity of jazz and improvised music, Jazz Takeover will breathe life back into the cultural heart of Yarra, while supporting local artists and businesses who have been most affected by COVID, and boosting community participation and engendering a sense of pride amongst the residents within this culturally vibrant precinct. Programming in accessible venues and delivering the event for free will promote access and inclusion, increasing community participation in arts and culture.

The event will be supported by a dedicated marketing campaign that champions the City of Yarra as a key destination for the Melbourne International Jazz Festival. The Festival will engage with artists, venues and businesses in the area to leverage the event to produce and present their own activity, contributing to a critical mass of cultural festivity. The event will be bookended by Leaps and Bounds Festival and Johnston St Fiesta, establishing a fixed arts and cultural festival season in the City.

**Total Project Cost:** \$40276.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$10,000.00

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## AG21-00215

### Hares & Hyenas

*Generation festival of ideas and actions*

**Project Description:** Generation is a festival of ideas and action about LGBTQIAP+ cultural practice and identity in Melbourne, focused on Hares & Hyenas (Hares) – what has been, what could be. It springs from 29 years experience in the queer community and aims to position Hares as a hub for cultural practice, discussion and community in the post-covid world. Through a series of intergenerational multi-arts events, including discussions, performances, readings, music events and strange hybrid events that defy description, it draws deeply on the venue's community and arts partnerships and contributors. It marries post-covid distancing at live events, where new conventions of gathering, ingress and egress and deep cleansing become the reality, alongside newly imagined online content—some springing from live events, some entirely planned and pre-recorded. Online content is richer and purpose-built, with access embedded in its conception.

We expect there to be approximately 100 artists, producers, arts workers and others participating in the event, with 400 people experiencing one live presentation over the time, carefully spaced out, and several thousand tuning in at home live or selecting from a purpose-built landing page where all the content will be available. It will also be available at other sites. It brings together established cultural practitioners and commentators, alongside new and emerging voices to reflect on the past, the effects of covid-19, positive and negative, and posit the future. These participants come from across the spectrum of intersectional identities including all the LGBTQIAP+ and heterosexual practitioners. The documentation of discussions and events and data gathering throughout the process will be used by program and evaluation partner Drummond Street Services, who are developing a methodology for evaluation and reporting. We hope this leads to the creation of resources for further analysis and action. The program covers most genres and interdisciplinary fields.

**Total Project Cost:** \$49640.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$8,000.00

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## AG21-00140

### The Boite Vic Inc

*Creativity, Recovery, Sounds and Spaces*

**Project Description:** The Boite proposes a program that connects into some of the Yarra businesses and precincts that are dealing with post-lockdown recovery, connecting them with music and musicians and artists who have also suffered significantly across most of 2020. We propose to include elements in our plans for online programs in 2021. This years' experience has taught us the value of including online programs in our annual projects. We would want to upload Rug Advice sessions, Swan St. Sessions, hence the tech components in the budget.

In the north Fitzroy precinct, we are proposing to work with two small businesses with which we have been developing relationships: Rug Advice and the Moroccan Soup Bar.

In Swan St. we propose to develop a more general activity that showcases the business area, using the work of local choirs to make in-situ videos that are uploaded to you tube under a general heading of Songs on Swan.

In Gertrude St, The Boite proposes to collaborate with the Gertrude St. Projection Festival as we have in previous years. We anticipate providing an exciting choral soundscape to complement the opening of the Festival, using pop-up community choirs who tour the Festival and add an auditory surprise and delight for the viewers, by singing from alcoves and lanes.

The Boite proposes to reinstate acoustic concert programs at 1 Mark St. North Fitzroy and at Abbotsford Convent. We plan to go tentatively with these, as we watch Victoria's progress with our post Pandemic possibilities, but our aspiration is to present at least 8 concerts at 1Mark St. and 6 concerts at Abbotsford Convent. We will be seeking Yarra's community venue support for our use of Mark St. Hall.

**Total Project Cost:** \$21700.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$12,000.00

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### **AG21-00032**

#### **Collingwood Housing Estate Arts Committee (CHEAC) (Auspiced by Belgium Avenue Neighbourhood House Incorporated)**

*Collingwood Harvest Festival*

**Project Description:** The Collingwood Harvest Festival is a community arts festival situated in the heart of Collingwood at Harmsworth Park on the Collingwood Housing Estate. The Festival is created by the community for the community by inviting residents of the Housing Estate the broader community to connect through music, arts and food. The Festival has been running for over 15 years and is an integral part of Yarra's cultural calendar.

*The activities include:*

- Opening speech by local resident, a dignitary from the local council and an MP -Music and acts performed by local and external artists
- Aboriginal sacred fire
- Art and craft sessions facilitated by professional artists
- Circus and juggling workshops
- "Conversation Pit" a community engagement space for anyone to connect and mingle with the community
- Stalls managed by local agencies and groups providing information about their services
- Catering (free of charge) managed by local residents
- Art installations made by local artists
- stalls from local businesses in and around Collingwood, Abbotsford, Fitzroy. These may include second-hand clothing stalls, jewellery stalls, food and tea stalls.

**Total Project Cost:** \$46960.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$10,000.00

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### **AG21-00163**

#### **Loom Arts and Management**

*Loom Large*

**Project Description:** Loom Large is a live art exhibition/showcase event with a tandem online component - both of which foreground the work of artists with disability. Produced in collaboration with fellow Collingwood Yards residents, Loom Large will be a celebratory evening of inclusive art and performance and will foster ongoing connections via its online platform.

Loom Large will take place in the Courtyard space at Collingwood Yards over the course of a 3hr evening in late March. The event will include the exhibition of between 30-40 newly commissioned artworks and artist promotional materials including paintings, illustration, video works, performance, head shots, show reels and portfolios. Some of these works will be physically installed or performed in the courtyard or realised as large-scale projection on the building walls (facilitated by Centre for Projection Art). All works will be linked via QR codes to an online platform detailing artist profiles and inviting further interaction. The online platform will stay live indefinitely and will be continually updated to follow artists' development and showcase new works.

Loom Large will have an informal and celebratory feel and will be underscored by local DJs from Barpirdhila with a bar run by Stomping Ground. Guests will be encouraged to mingle, and artists will be supported by Loom staff to do the same. This event will provide a unique and vital opportunity for artists with disability to network and experience the launch of their work and artistic profile in a high-quality context which is often only afforded to well established mainstream artists. All provisions will be made to ensure an accessible and inclusive environment and online platform for all members of the community.

**Total Project Cost:** \$78446.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$9,000.00

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## **AG21-00016**

### **Aboriginal Housing Victoria**

*NAIDOC Family Day at the Farm - 2021*

**Project Description:** AHV's NAIDOC Family Day at The Farm is an opportunity for AHV to celebrate and acknowledge Aboriginal history and culture with our local City of Yarra community,

2021 will mark our 22nd year celebrating NAIDOC Week at The Collingwood Children's Farm. We plan to provide a culturally appropriate, safe, welcoming and inclusive winter festival for the whole community. We explored digital communications in 2020 due to COVID and believe we could bring these learnings into to promote our activities to a broader audience.

The day has become a loved tradition in the community, thanks to our long-standing supporters and partnerships. The event supports broader community awareness of Indigenous issues; provides an essential opportunity for sharing knowledge; and creates a platform to show and celebrate pride in our First Nations history, languages, culture and achievements.

Our program showcases Indigenous performers, including traditional dancing, hip hop acts and musicians. The event also hosts a range of cultural craft activities, performed and led by Aboriginal professionals.

Entry, activities and food are free for the whole community. Past activities including Boomerang painting, weaving, Emu feather crafts and bead jewellery making. In 2020 we created creative competitions to generate engagement and they had prizes from blak businesses. We would like to bring this into future years to help showcase Aboriginal owned businesses and their creativity during NAIDOC Week.

Performances have included Djirri Djirri Dance Group, Indigenous Hip Hop Projects, Dave Arden and Alex Splitt.

The event is enjoyed by AHV tenants and their families (many who face challenges accessing cultural or recreational activities) and by the broader community, regardless of cultural background or race.

**Total Project Cost:** \$40290.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$12,500.00

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## **AG21-00072**

### **Carringbush Hotel / The Old Bar**

*Post-Iso Langridge Street Party (Official Event Name for marketing purposes TBD)*

**Project Description:** This community street festival aims to showcase local artists to new audiences while promoting diversity on stage. It will encourage neighbourly interaction and provide an opportunity for the community to come together again in a safe and enjoyable environment following COVID-19 lockdown. It will equally promote and support local businesses (Peddlr, Slow Eddy's BBQ, Three Bags Full, Loosie's Grind, Kelso's) and encourage trade and visitation in the area.

Main activities in planning:

- Stage with live bands from diverse backgrounds
- Encourage "Pay it Forward"/"Random Acts of Kindness" in the lead up to and throughout the event (e.g. Buy a coffee for your neighbour and get it half price)
- Giant LED screen with community spirited content (e.g. rolling photos of local residents during lockdown, video montage of people's experiences and positives they've discovered as a result COVID-19 and associated events of recent months)
- Pop up bar from local breweries (e.g. Moon Dog and/or Bodriggy breweries)
- Food trucks/stalls (e.g. Slow Eddy's BBQ (Langridge Street) and Kelso's (Johnston Street))
- Inflatable soccer pitch and face painting for kids

**Total Project Cost:** \$42112.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$13,000.00

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## **Arts Development**

### **AG21-00171**

#### **Gertrude Contemporary**

*2021 Gertrude Glasshouse Program*

**Project Description:** Gertrude Glasshouse was established in late 2015 as the designated project space of Gertrude Contemporary to commission and present new solo projects and exhibitions by artists participating in Gertrude's two-year studio program. Between March and December 2021 Gertrude will present 8 solo exhibitions and a parallel series of public programs.

Founded in 1985, Gertrude is an independent, not for profit organisation with a unique model of supporting both the presentation and production of art. The artistic and studio programs at Gertrude support the expanded field of contemporary art practice, including painting, photography, sculpture, video, installation, performance and dance. Each year, 8 artists are invited into the 2-year studio program through a competitive open call process, with Gertrude maintaining 16 highly subsidised studios for visual artists at key moments in their careers.

During their respective residencies, each of the 16 artists are offered the opportunity and provided financial resources to develop a new body of work or project to be presented at Glasshouse. The gallery maintains Gertrude's presence in Collingwood and Fitzroy, where the organisation has creatively contributed to for over three decades.

The program of exhibitions across the year reflect some of the most diverse artists and practices in Melbourne. Changing monthly, the program creates a dynamic and world-class program of audience experiences and engagements, for both locals and visitors to the City of Yarra. Glasshouse is a welcoming space for artists, the creative community and locals to meet artists and share ideas.

This funding support from Yarra will go directly to artists through artist fees and production budgets, as well as speaker fees for public programs. Additional production support as well as all other operational and administrative costs are covered by Gertrude.

**Total Project Cost:** \$91790.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$8,000.00

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## **AG21-00052**

### **Mr Joel Bray (Auspiced by Auspicious Arts Projects)**

*I LIKED IT... BUT I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT THE F#!K IT WAS ABOUT*

**Project Description:** People like art. Australia Council research says that 72% of Australians attended live arts last year, and 81% engaged online: way more than footy! But contemporary dance, experimental theatre and performance art get a bad rap, and struggle to secure audiences.

I reckon a big reason is that people feel alienated by Contemporary and Experimental Performance. People walk out of a contemporary dance or experimental theatre show, scratch their heads and say "I just didn't understand it. Now, I feel stupid", and then they never return.

That's a shame! Contemporary and Experimental Performance is the engine room of the theatre. That cool move in Beyonce's latest video was innovated by some 'weird' contemporary choreographer.

"I LIKED IT... BUT I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT THE F#!K IT WAS ABOUT" will be a casual performance-cum-conversation at a pub with one of Melbourne's hottest emerging choreographers...me! :-)

Modelled on the successful 'Politics in the Pub' and 'Science in the Pub', "I Liked it..." will leverage the familiar: drinking a beer at Yarra's much-loved ROYAL OAK pub (and live music venue) to demystify Contemporary/Experimental Arts. Through a simple format of me, on stool and microphone, I'll engage people in conversation, creating a space to ask questions about contemporary art, how it makes them feel and why it's so 'weird'.

Over 50 minutes, I'll share my creative process and samples of monologues and dance material from my successful shows- BILADURANG and DADDY. We'll do 8 shows over six days, with cheap \$5-10 tickets.

Musical duo 'COME HEAVY SLEEP' will join me onstage to play a couple of their songs, creating that familiar feel of a pub gig. We'll chat together about making art, COVID times and share a dance-and-music improv jam.

A public service to audiences, contemporary artists and venues everywhere. You're Welcome.

**Total Project Cost:** \$9302.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$6,580.00

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**AG21-00053****Mr Matthew Fung***The Talking Wall*

**Project Description:** 'The Talking Wall' is an open space installation that will be a dynamic cultural space, catering for a diversity of community programming and youth activities. We envision a new public space as an innovative display of how we can transform our cities with materials that are otherwise obsolete and re-configured as a tool for communication. We intend to draw the community into the design process itself, to foster community stewardship and empowering a new generation of thinkers and makers to help build a new bright spot in another urban environment.

**Flexible space:** The Talking Wall is a modular, inexpensive and easy to assemble. It is reminiscent of the 'tin can telephone' and acts as a communication device for visitors and serves as a community hub to enhance social and educational purposes. The installation will also be designed in a way that is a flexible space and can host entertainment and events that draw attention to the community's heritage and culture, yet also function as a canvas for local artists to display artworks and musicians to perform.

**Inclusivity:** The design of the installation will be factored in to include the community in the construction process. It will be a designated place for story telling via integrated recorded audio in which visitors can experience stories from different cultures and experience the different vernaculars. This is an effective method to create a sense of ownership towards a place, as they would have physically participated in the process of making. The project will also function as a play space for children and adults, with the architectural elements designed to direct circulation and ensure social distancing. The activities I want to do will ultimately improve sensory and human interactions that can generate social, cultural and educational outcomes and sustainability goals.

**Total Project Cost:** \$27500.00**Grant Awarded:** \$10,000.00

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**AG21-00180****Ms Prue Lang (Auspiced by Auspicious Arts Projects)***PROJECT F#2*

**Project Description:** PROJECT F#2 consists of 1-week rehearsal, 4-days filming, Editing, Screening with Q&A at Abbotsford Convent streamed online.

Created in collaboration with an all-female team: Niharika Senapati, Amber McCartney, Jana Castillo and Lauren Langlois (Performers), Chiara Costanza (Music), Jenny Hector (Lighting), Dr. Phillipa Rothfield (Research-Dramaturgy) and Alison Halit (Producer), the work explores and illuminates outstanding artistic, intellectual and technical achievements by local women; providing positive and powerful female role models

Building on momentum of the successful stage iteration of PROJECT F, I now wish to transform our feminist dance investigation into the medium of film. Upon the 28th-year of my prolific career, I'm experiencing our most significant shift due to COVID-19, making it crucial to conceive of new, relevant and meaningful ways to present dance on screen. I'm convinced the nuances of choreographic detail can be captured on film in ways that will elevate the work for the spectator. Likewise, the conceptual framework can be further enhanced by

filming historic, urban and bush locations in and around the Convent. I will work closely with composer Costanza (soundtrack winner Palme D'Or Cannes International Film Festival 2018) and filmmaker Pippa Samaya to find a cinematic language that ensures PROJECT F#2 is not just a filmed version of the stage work, but a whole new engagement with dance through screen.

The PROJECT F#2 Screening will be framed by a Q&A, opening new discourse around dance on screen. We will invite artists, scholars, art-lovers, feminists and residents to debate dance, film, and feminism. PROJECT F was programmed to open prestigious festivals in Europe 2020, sadly cancelled due to COVID-19, so PROJECT F #2 enables a way to share our feminist production models and choreographic material safely both here and abroad. The online streaming will open greater ACCESS welcoming new audiences to dance.

**Total Project Cost:** \$60320.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$12,000.00

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### **AG21-00057**

#### **Melbourne Writers Festival Inc**

*MWF Film+Writers*

**Project Description:** MWF's Film+Writers Project convenes invigorating conversations with writers about literature and the creative life of Yarra that has nurtured them.

This project aims to capitalise on Yarra's rich creative life through the perspectives of Australian writers. Through the production of a mini documentary, this project enlists writers to refresh the public's appreciation of Yarra's creative offerings and to inspire new perspectives about arts and creativity in post-pandemic life. The outcome is a 12-15-minute documentary of self-narrated neighbourhood tours set in Yarra by three Australian writers with a close connection to Yarra: 1) Tony Birch, an acclaimed novelist growing up in Fitzroy with a shrewd eye for urban, multicultural life; 2) Sophie Cunningham, a renowned writer and a dedicated nature-walker with a residency in Abbotsford Convent; 3) A young, emerging author living/working in Yarra.. Directed by filmmaker and visual artist, Will Huxley, the film traces a unique portrait of Yarra, following the authors' footsteps as they share anecdotes and insights about their creative practices and connection to the area. The film will be made in 2021 and presented in September during MWF2021.

Through filmmaking and digital broadcasting, this project is MWF2021's in-festival highlight to inspire new thinking after the pandemic and celebrate Yarra's cultural heritage with books and ideas.

**Total Project Cost:** \$38780.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$10,000.00

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### **AG21-00189**

#### **West Space Inc**

*2021 West Space Yarra Community Engagement Programs*

**Project Description:** In 2021 West Space will maintain a year-long accessible presentation platform for early-career artists: West Space Window (WSW) is a new public-facing micro gallery on the exterior of our space at Collingwood Yards. Programmed entirely through our open call, WSW will provide presentation

opportunities to 11 emerging artists across the year. WSW has been conceived as an accessible entry point to contemporary art for the general public, as well as a presentation platform for emerging artists, offering them an exhibition in a highly visible location and supportive environment.

In addition, West Space will deliver strategic community outreach programs that will provide targeted engagement to key demographics within our locality. These demographics include people living with a disability, First Nations peoples, and people from the African diaspora. These community engagement programs are each led by commissioned artists within our artistic program and are intended to extend the themes of the exhibition to connecting with new audiences. Each set of programs will be presented in partnership with peer organisations in Collingwood Yards and greater Yarra.

Curator Samira Farah will present a dedicated music program that will engage local communities, specifically people from the African diaspora. Arts, curator and disability justice advocate, Faye d'Evie will lead accessibility workshops for staff and communities, including the learning of Auslan, and will lead tactile tours of her exhibition. Her project seeks to proactively support marginalised communities, and break down barriers to participation, and builds engagement and access for people living with disability. Two early-career First Nation practitioners will be engaged to devise a program of activities to accompany the exhibition by Yikkala-based artist collective The Mulka Project. Programs may include artist talks, panel conversations and discussions about regional arts centres, communities, contemporary art. All events will be free and accessible to a wide range of people.

**Total Project Cost:** \$122007.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$10,000.00

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## **AG21-00191**

### **Mr Aaron Claringbold**

*Tracks*

**Project Description:** This application seeks funding for the continued development and screening of new photographic/moving image work by Rebecca McCauley and Aaron Claringbold; examining fantasy, fragility, colonial mythology, and its contradictions across so called 'Australia'.

The work will be realised as a short run of screenings/performance lectures held in 2021 at Long Play Cinema (Fitzroy), with a view to pursuing future touring opportunities beyond that outcome. Alongside employing a First Nations consultant, the artists will work with artist film-maker Paddy Hay, and composer Louis Marlo, all of whom will be funded by this grant, and are based within Yarra.

Today, tracks that early colonial explorers travelled and died upon can be covered in hours. These 'nation forming' journeys of hardship are enjoyed with snacks from the comfort of air-conditioned SUVs; memorialised through the naming of places, on plaques by public toilets and rest-stops; they are sold back to us on souvenir stubby holders, and are formative in the migration routes of fleets of grey nomads.

The echoes of the archetypal 'explorer/battler' permeate our consciousness and media landscapes in varied ways and manifest themselves in half-remembered appeals that clash with the reality of the lives of leisure and abundance enjoyed by white Australia. Today, sites of settler-colonial struggles against and upon the land operate as tourist hotspots; photo destinations in our mobile, leisure-filled lives.

Sequences of our photographic/moving images will be used alongside Australian advertising material and Google-maps imagery of monuments to colonial explorers, highlighting how fantastical these archetypes have become. The project takes the form of a live narrated video work, mining the chasm between the

reality of how we see and move across the land, and the imagined Australian identity sold to us through popular culture — sketching the fragility and fantasy of settler Australia's collective psychosis.

**Total Project Cost:** \$10360.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$5,560.00

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## **AG21-00192**

### **Forest Collective**

*In Focus: Forest Collective 2021 season*

**Project Description:** In 2021 Forest Collective will present In Focus – a series of four chamber music events that explore and interrogate different aspects of contemporary life. Over a total of 10 performances, we will provide unique, diverse, and engaging chamber music experiences in a COVID Safe environment. The centrepiece of this project will be a series of new commissions by some of the most original voices in contemporary composition, including Dan Thorpe, Cat Hope, and Emily Koh. The project will take place at Abbotsford Convent.

Forest Collective regularly creates and performs in and to City of Yarra audiences, with a strong presence in Abbotsford Convent and other smaller arts hubs such as Collingwood Arts Precinct, 75 Reid Street, Fitzroy Town Hall, and local community spaces such as St Stephen's Anglican Church and Richmond Uniting Church. After successful collaborations with Abbotsford Convent for the 2019 and 2020 Midsumma Festivals, including the premiere of a new ballet-opera Orpheus, Forest Collective will once again partner with Abbotsford Convent for their 2021 concert series. The project will continue our commitment to presenting diverse and experimental programming with a wide audience reach and marketing support.

In addition to Abbotsford Convent (co-presenter and venue partner), a host of other partners will also contribute to this project, either financially or in-kind, including , Underground Media (multimedia partner), CutCommon (media partner), TickTick (publicity partner), and MoonDog (beer partner). Funding support will go towards a Welcome to Country for each of the four projects, marketing and publicity, with TickTick (publicity partner) and Underground Media (multimedia partner), and to support promotion in the City of Yarra.

**Total Project Cost:** \$219134.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$6,500.00

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## **AG21-00193**

### **Ms Lara Kose (Auspiced by Cinespace Incorporated)**

*You Are My Tomorrow*

**Project Description:** You Are My Tomorrow is a short narrative film that captures the nuances of a relationship between a young woman and her mother; Exploring themes of parenthood, immigration, and intergenerational trauma.

The activities that would be carried out for the execution of the production would involve gathering cast through an extensive auditioning process, including open casting calls for supporting characters. Crew will need to be booked, starting with our heads of department - made up of our close collaborators, who will be supporting the project voluntarily. We have begun the process of scouting locations for the project, with the intention to shoot a minimum of 85% of the project in The City of Yarra. Equipment will need to be sourced for the project, as well as props and set dressing. This is all in preparation for a tightly scheduled 3 - 4-day

production process where we will be filming the project.

The final phase of the project is postproduction, where we will put together the filmed content into a short and cinematic viewing experience; This includes editing, sound production, colour grading, and potentially some light visual effects work.

Building on our personally invested funds, and the voluntary contributions of our crew, this funding would allow us to create a short narrative film with high artistic merit.

**Total Project Cost:** \$127390.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$8,800.00

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## **AG21-00108**

### **Mx Jinghua Qian (Auspiced by Community Radio Federation)**

*Underfoot: The Facility*

**Project Description:** It's said that prisons resemble factories, schools, barracks, hospitals, which all resemble prisons. In the history of Yarra Bend, this was more than a resemblance; they were the very same places. The land between the Merri and Yarra holds the story of an extraordinary number of institutions - schools, prisons, hospitals, barracks, and insane asylums - that sought to regulate the body and soul to create ideal workers, citizens, and subjects.

Underfoot: The Facility tells the story of carceral logics over the last 150 years and reveals whispers of resistance that still resonate today. A series of self-guided audio tours with accompanying maps, photos, annotated transcripts, and on-site activations uncovers the unsettling stories of local institutions like the Yarra Bend Insane Asylum, and its use as a holding pen for immigrants who had outlived their years as productive workers; the Fairhaven venereal disease clinic, a de facto prison for suspected sex workers; and the imprisonment of anti-Vietnam War protestors in Fairlea Women's Prison.

What constitutes freedom, how has that changed, and who deserves it? Where does power come from? And how does power create resistance? The answers are right here, in our history, underfoot.

**Total Project Cost:** \$10420.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$8,000.00

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## **AG21-00111**

### **Fine Lines Company (Auspiced by Auspicious Arts Projects)**

*Firebird*

**Project Description:** This application is for the creative development activities and production costs associated with a powerfully original new work for Fine Lines Company. In 2019 Fine Lines company presented 'The Right,' a work that explored political power and manipulation, performed to Stravinsky's score. (Fine Lines has been short-listed for an Australian Dance Award for this work.) The new work, 'Firebird' will examine the concept of fire arising from within, performed to a contemporary sound score.

'Firebird' references a wild creature from Russian folklore. This bird embodies a dangerous unpredictability and ability to ignite change. The firebird is spontaneous and unreflexive, with an immense power that is barely contained within her own form. This new work takes a deep dive into the embers and asks, what sparks human transformation?

This grant will enable:

- Choreographer, Katrina Rank, to work closely with the dancers to build a movement language that will be unique to this work and this combination of artists. Katrina will create a dark, dangerous and potent work, with solos, duets and trios, contained within a series of spotlights. These choreographic interludes will synchronise, clash and collide, generating a force and friction that synthesises and transforms. Please see proof of concept video in the support material.
- Fine Lines to engage a creative voice facilitator, to free the performers' voices and to experiment with the development of a live soundscape that may be used in the final moments of the work.
- Early and sustained consultation with master lighting designer, Jamie Henson. His advice and experience in lighting and stage design is critical to directing the audience's attention and imbuing a sense of the elemental, expansive and explosive potential of internal fire.
- Promotion of 'Firebird' and the work of Fine Lines Company, through a well-developed, targeted marketing and media campaign.

**Total Project Cost:** \$80239.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$6,000.00

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**AG21-00062**

### **Melbourne Fringe**

*Melbourne Fringe presents XS: a program of contemporary, experimental and live art for children*

**Project Description:** Melbourne Fringe will present XS: a program of contemporary, experimental and live art for children aged up to 12 years. The program will be presented at multiple sites and venues in the Abbotsford Convent precinct during the 2021 Melbourne Fringe Festival.

Funds of \$15,000 from the City of Yarra will support commissions for three exciting independent artists to each create a new work and access costs to ensure these works are accessible. The works are Chatterboxes by Alex Walker / House of Muchness, Untitled by Deafferent Theatre and The Show and Tell Show! by James Welsby and YUMMY productions.

In addition, Alex Walker / House of Muchness will host a skills development workshop for artists resident in the City of Yarra interested in learning how to create experimental work specifically for children.

XS commissions leading independent artists and supports them to create risky and innovative new work for children, to extend their skills, experiment with form and content, expanding the body of artistic practice for children in Victoria.

Strategies to reach diverse child and family audiences are embedded in each work. Chatterboxes by Alex Walker and House of Muchness will be created by an inclusive ensemble of kids, including those on the autism spectrum.

Deafferent Theatre's work will incorporate their bi-cultural methodologies, using authentic representation, sign language and a Deaf aesthetic.

The Show and Tell Show! By James Welsby and YUMMY is a rainbow cabaret, comedy and circus show for kids. Focusing on a fresh ethos for a new generation of children's theatre, this show treats gender as unshackled, celebrates difference and challenges the notions of predefined gender roles for children.

**Total Project Cost:** \$75500.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$10,000.00

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## **AG21-00119**

### **Seventh Gallery**

*SEVENTH Mentorship & Professional Development Program*

**Project Description:** In 2021, SEVENTH will implement a rigorous mentorship and professional development program to run alongside our artistic program. Each artist in our 2021 artistic program will be paired with two mentors: one internal to SEVENTH and one external. Throughout the year, the mentors will provide curatorial guidance, technical assistance, marketing and promotions direction, fundraising and grant writing assistance, and cultural support. The program will assist emerging artists to develop and present the best exhibition or public program they can but will also stretch beyond the exhibition timeline to provide ongoing support and development throughout the year.

This vision follows our Strategic and Development Plan (2021-2025), where we are committing to building a community of care with our artists, rather than simply showing art in monthly exhibitions. We believe this is an important response to the issues facing the arts industry. Since our artists are at the earliest stages of their career, we have identified their need for additional support, and seek to build stronger communities of care for them.

We are structuring this project as a series of internal and external mentorship sessions, in the lead up to exhibitions, but also set to continue after the show is over. This is a strategy to foster continuity of relationships, where we are committing to the development of our artists beyond their one-month exhibition.

We have approached external mentors who have a strong affinity with our program, and pairing them with three artists at a time, who will benefit from their cultural, professional and technical knowledge. Since we are also pairing them with internal mentors drawn from our Board, we are 'sandwiching' our artists with a wealth of expertise. The aim is that they graduate from SEVENTH with a community and a place in the arts industry.

**Total Project Cost:** \$168150.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$10,000.00

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## **AG21-00151**

### **Ms Yumi Tsuchiya-Umumare (Auspiced by Auspicious Arts Projects)**

*ButohOUT! 2021 - New Ab/Normal*

**Project Description:** The 5th iteration of ButohOUT!, a collection of events inspired by the dance theatre artform of Butoh, explores the artistic theme 'New Ab/Normal' during the post-pandemic era with the question: what is normal? Led by artistic director Yumi Umumare (AUS/JPN) and the producer Takashi Takiguchi (AUS/JPN), it offers five public workshops including one for children and seniors, a performance-making laboratory, a forum and two performance presentations, one at Dancehouse and the other at Abbotsford Convent (AC).

ButohOUT! 2021 will undertake a series of activities to respond to our urgent question of 'what is normal?' through the anarchic and idiosyncratic form of Butoh. What we used to think as 'normal' is no longer so. The term, 'new normal' has been coined, which contains the paradoxical nuance that an abnormality can become 'normal'. We hang onto a semblance of normalcy like a security blanket - but why?

Forming a creative team of new collaborators, Emma Bathgate (Voice), Jacqui Stockdale (Visual Arts) and Ai Yamamoto (Sound), ButohOUT! 2021 will develop and present two new works, through a series of public workshops and creative laboratories, to amplify diverse voices in contemporary dance/theatre work.

We will deliver three core activities:

(i) A site-specific performance & installation at Dancehouse in March 2021

The first creative development with eight ButohOUT! Ensemble members was completed in Aug 2020.

(ii) One-week performance season at Abbotsford Covent in May 2021

A new performance work with live voice and sound, visual installation and collage, run by the creative team of professional artists, ButohOUT Ensemble, and long-term associate Dan West (Sound).

(iii) Five public workshops and a forum between Feb-April 2021

Series of workshops appealing to members of the public with diverse ages, gender, cultures and body condition. The materials collected will be embedded into the performance season.

**Total Project Cost:** \$83232.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$8,000.00

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## **AG21-00231**

### **Ms Zoë Bastin (Auspiced by )**

*That Which Was Once Familiar*

**Project Description:** That Which Was Once Familiar (TWWOF) brings together seven dancers exploring collaborative and affective performance through dance, choreography and sculpture. TWWOF will be presented over four performances in December 2020 at Dancehouse, simultaneously live streamed by Bus Projects.

TWWOF is performed by dancers who include people of colour, female, non-binary, differently abled, queer, and senior practitioners. Speaking to each of their unique experiences of objectification through solo dances dispersed throughout the piece, performers explore personal and political notions of what it means to be an embodied object. Furthering Bastin's investigations and research, this piece looks to durational, embodied means of being together in order to realise a performance outcome that engages both scored movement and improvisation, solo performance, and dancers performing in chorus.

Supported by Dancehouse and Bus Projects, TWWOF will be realised as a live performance for in person audiences, with accompanying live stream. Within the live performance there are slippages between what is being broadcast and what is happening live around the audience. During the work the audience is invited to participate in the movement score by standing within the field of action (stage), as the dancers engulf the crowd in movement and potentially encouraging them to dance as well. The camera also occupies this position, inviting in digital audiences to experience the work from a similar, embodied but digital perspectives.

Bastin is particularly excited to share this work to both performing and visual arts audiences, and the cross-

organisational partnership between Bus and Dancehouse offers exciting new opportunities to engage with both these communities in Yarra who haven't had access to live works for quite some time.

**Total Project Cost:** \$24125.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$5,000.00

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#### **AG21-00154**

##### **Dancehouse Inc**

*Now Pieces*

**Project Description:** NOW PIECES is a monthly performance event at Dancehouse throughout 2021.

Curated by local artists (Kevin Jeynes and Paea Leach) and featuring between 2-6 artists at each of the 11 events, NOW PIECES is billed as a casual regular Sunday evening 'scratch night' free (or by donation) to audiences.

NOW PIECES can accommodate any local dance artist or style interested in improvisation. Each NOW PIECES will feature a mixture of artists and practices and welcomes dancers back to performing for audiences, and in each other. The event is gentle, considered and a regular touchstone to promote exchange, dialogue and movement: community-building one body at a time and encouraging the dance community to recover after COVID.

Importantly too, NOW PIECES welcomes audiences back to theatre and dance after a long hiatus. NOW PIECES is a friendly way to return to live performance and experience the works of local dance artists in a casual, COVIDSafe setting.

NOW PIECES will have 11 presentations in 2021 and feature 44 independent local dance artists. NOW PIECES is an old idea in a new setting; building on decades of history and research to honour and reference similar dance improvisation and monthly performance events across Queensland, Victoria and New South Wales.

**Total Project Cost:** \$54502.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$11,825.00

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## **Community Arts**

#### **AG21-00035**

##### **Genesis Baroque Inc**

*Lifting Spirits Community Market Concerts*

**Project Description:** Musicians from Genesis Baroque will perform two free concerts in 2021 as part of the proposed Lifting Spirits Community Market; a series of events run by Belgium Avenue Neighbourhood Houses (BANH Inc.) that include a weekly outdoor pop-up restaurant to be held at the North Richmond housing estate. The restaurant will be led by Lentil as Anything (Abbotsford Convent) who will work together with estate residents to create meals for residents and the broader community. The program will initially run at the North Richmond estate, but is similarly planned for the Collingwood housing estate once established. Meals will be free for residents and health care card holders and 'pay as you feel' for others. Concerts performed by Genesis Baroque for the events will be free for all and will further strengthen the Lifting Spirits

project aims of promoting social connection, reducing COVID-19 social isolation, and reducing stigma associated with the housing estates.

The concerts will also enhance the joy of shared food and celebrating community diversity through the addition of live music. This is a unique opportunity for Genesis Baroque to engage directly with the community housing estate residents and share music in an environment that is accessible and familiar. Baroque music is notable for its beauty and broad appeal, and for its expression of emotion – particularly joy and pathos – and these qualities enable the music to connect strongly with diverse audiences when stripped of the formal and exclusive environment of the concert hall. Genesis Baroque maintains a strong commitment to performing in venues and environments that destigmatise classical music, and the partnership with BANH Inc. and the Lifting Spirits Community Market is one facet of the ensemble's plans to share performances with audiences who would otherwise not be able to access this timeless, beautiful music.

**Total Project Cost:** \$8400.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$4,800.00

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## **AG21-00201**

**Mr Jordan Giusti**

*DOOMER*

**Project Description:** DOOMER is a collaboration with the Yarra Youth Centre on a public moving image work that explores the dreams and fears of multicultural millennials struggling to define their collective futures in the face of impending climate catastrophe.

Based on research conducted in 2018, my producers and I decided we wanted to design a project specifically for and with creative young individuals within the Yarra Youth Centre that will work to showcase the diverse skills, experiences and voices present there.

DOOMER is designed as a choral work where distinctive individual voices feed into a collective narrative about a coming doomsday event, building on the idea that the catastrophe of climate change is just over the horizon.

It will be a multi-disciplinary project incorporating moving image, audio storytelling, music and sound design elements to authentically capture the temperature of contemporary multicultural youth's hopes and fears about the future.

By pairing richly visual, slow-motion sequences of youths skating with audio storytelling led directly by up to 25 community participants, the project will take the framework of diverse personal experiences and elevate them into an elevated ensemble portrait.

Together with industry mentors, participants will also be involved in the filming, editing, performance, sound design and music elements of the piece, helping to build on their existing creative capacity.

Our hope is that by working together to share stories that express the fears and desires our multicultural youth have about their future, we can highlight moving, authentic voices typically ignored by mainstream media.

At the same time, the work will spotlight important issues in the community around eco anxiety and emotional well-being that will provide valuable insight for audiences into what Yarra youth envisage about their futures, and provide a case study to council for how to engage youth participation to address these issues.

**Total Project Cost:** \$23790.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$5,800.00

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#### **AG21-00212**

**Ms Bigoa Chuol**

*dichotomi mag*

**Project Description:** My project is to develop dichotomi mag, a digital literary and arts platform (by and for African creatives), dedicated to the multitudes and multiplicity of Black creativity in Australia, through words, sounds, visuals and conversations. It is created in response to the lack of representation of African Creative in the art sector and to counter the inaccessibility of opportunities, systemic, cultural or otherwise. The platform will digitally publish 12 - 10 creatives four times a year. March, June, September and December. I ran a crowd funding campaign that did not reach the target. But I can pay the remaining fees for the web development (partly funded by Creative Victoria as a research & development) the crowd funding campaign will also cover the fees of the artist for the first edition of dichotomi and some project and maintenance fees. For this grant I wish to cover the costs of the second, third and fourth edition, project running costs and marketing for the launch.

**Total Project Cost:** \$26400.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$8,000.00

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#### **AG21-00120**

**Melbourne Electronic Sound Studio**

*MOBILE MESS*

**Project Description:** MOBILE MESS is a proposed incursion pilot program that will take the magic of electronic sound creation to a selection of schools and community institutions in metropolitan and regional Victoria in 2021-22. The incursion pilot program will provide workshops with children and young people from upper primary school through to secondary school (Years 5-12), showing participants how to use electronic musical equipment and experience a direct link between electronic music, STEM and creativity. Abbotsford Convent have kindly agreed to participate in the pilot program in 2021. Funding sought in this application will support the delivery of three inclusive and accessible workshops at their Industrial School venue. Created especially for children and families, the workshops will be presented as part of their Convent Kids program which attracts over 7200 children and families each year. Children of upper primary school age (9-12) become the artist-music creators, supported by their parents and guardians, while MESS staff guide participants in a hands-on exploration of electronic sound creation.

Abbotsford Convent are offering the venue at a subsidised rate and offering specialist support from the ACF Producer Marketing and Communications Manager, Venues and Facilities team, totalling over \$3000 in-kind. Following a successful series of workshops at the Artful Dodgers Studios (ADS) in Collingwood in 2019, ADS are also happy to engage the MOBILE MESS program in 2021 to provide more workshops to their cohort of young people (15-27) who come from disadvantaged backgrounds/difficult living circumstances.

The program directly aligns with ADS' aims to engage young people in the making of art and music, encouraging positive re-engagement with learning, and increasing social connection, self-esteem and employability.

**Total Project Cost:** \$10923.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$3,651.00

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### **AG21-00223**

#### **Mr Logan Mucha**

*I can't remember how to dance at nightclubs*

**Project Description:** The project sees the development and creation of an approximately 10-minute video artwork to premiere at the Brunswick Street Gallery from the 7 to 24 October 2021. The work explores historic queer meeting spaces in the City of Yarra. Specifically, I'll explore how space and location has defined and built queer communities over the last century including beats, LGBTIQ+ organisation spaces and nightclubs. The work explores what impact the closure of these spaces has made on our community's ability to connect, from moral outrage to gentrification and COVID-19.

Through remote community consultation with diverse members of Melbourne's queer community, I'll uncover their collective memories of these spaces and source archival materials for inclusion in the works, such as newspaper microfilms, police records and ALGA reference. Collaborating artist and choreographer Adolfo Aranjuez, will use archival footage to replicate historic queer club dancing for inclusion in the work.

The 10-minute video artwork centres around the medium of volumetric filmmaking: a process that connects depth sensors with digital cameras to record full motion video with embedded depth information (known as 2.5D). Creative Victoria has already assisted development through providing the hardware to support my preliminary technical education in the medium (references attached).

This development moves past the technical, connecting the visual and thematic potential of this emerging technology in line with my practice of community-based art. The technology's unique aesthetic will underpin the project's themes of intimacy, memory and the digital preservation of history. I'll utilise the technology through recording interviews, dance performances and architectural models, then superimpose this visual data over traditional location-based cinematography.

I'll edit the resulting materials together with dreamlike momentum, to craft a remembered communal portrait of queer spaces in the City of Yarra and the communities forged over the years.

**Total Project Cost:** \$18547.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$5,000.00

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### **AG21-00127**

#### **Ms Suzanne Watts**

*We are colourful! Same and different.*

**Project Description:** 'We are colourful! Same and different' is an African Australian youth cultural project which will utilise dance to engage African young people in the City of Yarra. Experienced and skilled Dance Artist Ayel Akot – Mou ( South Sudanese Heritage ) and Suzie Mzuri Watts from Mzuri Dance will run a weekly dance program to be held at Florence Peel Centre out of school hours that will culminate in a community contemporary dance performance , 10-20 performers, creating new audience engagement at

The Abbotsford Convent for young African Australians in the community and their families. This performance outcome is in partnership with Abbotsford Convent as a longer term relationship strategy with the local African Australian community and will include designated outdoor spaces and/ or indoor performance in the Oratory or Rosina Auditorium depending on covid restrictions and in concert with the planning and program strands such as the young people's program.

Following consultation with the young people and participants of former programs through Mzuri Dance and in collaboration with Suzie and Ayel, we have listened and are responding to strong messages of hope, vision and inclusion from the young people. One such message that resonated with many participants and community members was Let us dance "and express a story that sends our audience a message. Always appreciate people even if they are not the same."

We will explore the values & expressions that define us as a community – we may look different, but we all have the same need to belong. It will provide a stimulus and a foundation on which we will start our creative process. The outcome will culminate in performance(s) at The Abbotsford Convent.

**Total Project Cost:** \$39450.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$10,000.00

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## **AG21-00129**

### **Black Hole Theatre**

#### *Spin a Yarn*

**Project Description:** BHT is seeking support to collaborate with the Yarra community to create 5 self-devised, short puppetry works for video, made from the members' stories. With support from Yarra City Libraries and Belgium Avenue Neighbourhood House, BHT will pair puppeteers with diverse individuals and/or community groups. Together they will shape the story, choose the best style of puppetry, sound, and production, and then film it. Once the participants and the artist have come together, the creative process will unfold over a few meetings. The community members' ideas will drive the process and shape the final creative outcome. The "story" could be an event from real life, a fantasy, a poem, a short story, or anything that they would like visualised. To engage diverse participants and reach beyond those who normally participate in cultural activities, we will be guided by Yarra City Libraries (with whom we have a well-established relationship) and BAHN to target particular community groups, aiming to include members of the CALD community, First Nations, young people, and elders. The aim is to engage each person's creativity and place their ideas at the centre of an artwork that will last forever, and can be shared with family, friends, and communities – both here and internationally. With help from the Libraries and BANH, BHT will introduce the project through print media (translated appropriately), social media, e-news, networks, and face-to-face meetings.

Translators will be engaged where needed. Yarra City Libraries will have offered the services of their video artist to make the videos. The videos will be delivered digitally to the authors, YC Libraries, BANH, & also to our website and video platforms – but only with the authors' consent and agreement.

**Total Project Cost:** \$16047.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$6,500.00

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## **AG21-00074**

### **Ms Zya Kane (Auspiced by Auspicious Arts Projects)**

#### *The Memory Go Round*

**Project Description:** The Memory Go Round- MGR project is driven by the stories of disabled artists.

This year VALID focused on an initiative called 'Stories from Home' (see link info) based on responses to prompts sent in lockdown, the MGR is a process of extending these stories and others into immersive/sensory experiences and engaging with other disabled/non artists in the VALID/BANH and Yarra community.

The project aims to share a process of storytelling through the exploration of the senses. We will extend through 'Stories from Home' and open to story-telling beyond necessity of written or spoken words, to create a multi-disciplinary, immersive sensory installation & artist presentation where lesser heard stories are woven and transformed into sensory story to be delivered in a Covid safe, accessible space where smell, image, sound, texture and taste envelop the visitors.

**WORKSHOPS:** For participating disabled artists to creatively investigate memories, stories and sensory exploration, develop, share skills and engage in artistic practice.

**CONSULTATIONS:** Engagement of deaf, blind and mental health consultation to be informed of distinctive cultural characteristics, delve into understanding of senses and communication for story development to embed, and align aesthetic access.

**MENTORING/ENSEMBLE CREATION:** Creating with each artist, to transform personal stories into sensory stories for immersive installation.

**ARTIST PRESENTATION:** A sharing of this process including immersive presentation with wider community and open forum with the artists.

**DEBRIEF:** For all participants to share feedback, feelings and future plans.

The projects purpose is to give rise to a voice lesser heard in our communities and create a sensory story experience that crosses artistic formats between theatre/gallery/film. MGR aims to give insight into memories and a shared experience of intimacy and connection with a broad audience and to draw together artistic merit and recognition under the umbrellas of community and creative arts that is accessible.

**Total Project Cost:** \$15540.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$10,000.00

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## **AG21-00167**

### **Brunswick Street Gallery**

#### *Ground Floor Gallery Project*

**Project Description:** In 2021 Brunswick Street Gallery will launch our Ground Floor Gallery Project, a dedicated exhibition space to showcase the work of emerging artists based across Australia, focusing on inclusion and promotion of artists from marginalised communities, working with partnering local community organisations and remote national Indigenous Art Centres.

We will activate our ground floor level exhibition space, Ground Floor Gallery, working with local artists and collectives, community groups and national Indigenous Art Centres by hosting 7 exhibitions within a contemporary inner-city environment, connecting them with new audiences, emerging and established collectors, and extending their art networks.

Though initially named for its location within the building, we have identified our Ground Floor Gallery space as an accessible opportunity for emerging artists to get in, as the saying goes, at the ground floor – a valuable opportunity for an artist, curator or collective in the beginning stages of their career, allowing the chance for them to develop an exhibition in a professional setting.

The Ground Floor Gallery Project is designed to build solid community networks in the City of Yarra, providing the opportunity to promote and strengthen connections with remote arts organisations and art centres – namely, Buku-Larrnggay Mulka Art Centre (Yirrkala, Northern Territory), Warmun Art Centre (Warmun, Western Australia), as well as local outreach organisations The Ownership Project, Fitzroy North and Yarra Youth Services, Fitzroy – with the City of Yarra community, creating a more enriched and diverse local Yarra art scene.

Brunswick Street Gallery will partner with these organisations to curate and facilitate an exciting, diverse exhibition program that extends the opportunity for emerging artists to showcase their work within a professional, gallery environment in the centre of Yarra’s vibrant art scene – while also providing an opportunity for local audiences to engage with these organisations in a meaningful way.

**Total Project Cost:** \$22400.00

**Grant Awarded:** \$4,800.00

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