

2022 Annual Grant Recommendations

Arts Development

AG22-007: **Mx Stef Panoschi**

There is no difference between Shepherds and Picasso

Project Description: 'There is no difference between Shepherds and Picasso'
2022 Exhibition The Old Bar Gallery

Emerging queer Romanian-Australian artist Stef Stefescu Stefanea's first exhibition. Projected onto a hanging sheet dipped in wax, two short films loop back to back. The first, depicting a masked visage of Picasso making love with himself. The second, depicting a Hugo Ball-esque Shepherd being fed by the hand of god which reaches out from art depicting a sheep-faced Jesus. Both black and white but colourful, meaningless yet poetic and both referencing dada and early arthouse cinema. Floating within the gallery space, the shepherd and Picasso float, noted by their garbs and headwear but with no vessels bearing them. These hanging costumes made from wax, donned by the gallery's negative space bring dimension and materiality and scale to the the characters. In contrast the films highlight the reconstruction of movement the characters endure whilst bearing the heavy and cumbersome costumes.

Total Project Cost: \$2400.00

Recommendation: \$1,000.00

AG22-010: **Divisi Chamber Singers**

Queering Jonah

Project Description: This project is a collaborative recital between Divisi and Ensemble Ancien. Ensemble Ancien are a cohort specialising in the performance of early-music, specifically, 16th-17th century Italian baroque music. Each group will demonstrate their individual talents before coming together to perform an early-baroque masterwork by Guilio Carrissimi titled, "Historia di Jonas", a story based on the old testament Book of Jonah. In keeping with Divisi's mission statement to elevate the voices of diverse artists, this project also seeks to transform this traditional recital into a contemporary voice for change by adopting a queer/feminist reading of the biblical plight of Jonah. This will be done using a newly commissioned work by upcoming queer composer Christopher Healey, which uses new text by emerging writer and screenwriter Rose Forrest to add depth and modern relevance to the original story. This new work will contrast the Italian Oratorio by evaluating Carrissimi's conservative interpretation of the source biblical text, which frames Jonah as a repentant hero. Together, Rose and Chris will craft a new take on the story that reworks these binaries of virtue and sin into more ambiguous shades of grey, in a way that better represents the text's original meaning in the Hebrew bible. In this, Jonah's confusion and anger at God cause him to question his Lord, his faith, his society, and own beliefs. In this retelling, the artists will insert their own experiences and identities into the work, presenting a queer/feminist take on these very old, yet inexplicably modern themes. The new work will also employ authentic baroque instrumentation supplied by Ensemble Ancien, such as the Lute/Theorbo, Harpsichord, and Violone. This is a unique prominent feature not included in most contemporary works that will allow the composer to explore unusual sound worlds.

Total Project Cost: \$21966.55

Recommendation: \$7,592.00

AG22-203: **Mr Ian Sutherland**

Rewilding the city

Project Description: I want to create a unique, highly accessible and engaging ephemeral outdoor pasteup art installation celebrating the wildlife of the City of Yarra.

Despite its inner-city location and heavy urbanisation Yarra hosts surprisingly diverse wildlife including birds such as yellow-tailed black cockatoos, tawny frogmouths, nankeen night-herons and sacred kingfishers, reptiles such as marbled geckos, blue-tongue lizards and eastern water dragons, mammals such as grey-headed fruit bats and ringtail possums and many and diverse invertebrates such as red-winged stick insects and praying mantises. The project 'Rewilding the city' uses high-quality, high resolution photographic images of local wildlife printed 'lo-fi' in full colour on 80 to 160 gsm bond paper then pasted up on outdoor locations using flour-and-water paste. Images are used in a playful, tactile and highly accessible way to create a living, breathing highly accessible artwork.

The images created are large and realistic and have a three-dimensional quality that gives them a slightly surreal air. Individually they are surprising, intriguing and uplifting while together they form a unified and aesthetic whole. Images actively engage viewers, appearing as they do unexpectedly in the urbanised context, and gently lead them to a greater awareness of the natural environment around them.

The installation also would include images of wildlife with strong visual appeal once common but now absent from Yarra such as grey kangaroos, wombats and echidnas and even broilgas.

The project is firmly grounded in place and time, yet is very flexible and highly adaptable to many different locations. Three possible locations have been identified for the installation: walls within Victoria Park; public walls near Main Yarra Trail; and a wall on the northern side of Australian Education Union Building, all in Abbotsford. Permission has been sought for the walls in question and should be known well before grants are announced.

Total Project Cost: \$7905.00

Recommendation: \$5,205.00

AG22-085: West Space

West Space Community Engagement Programs 2022

Project Description: In 2022, with the support of the City of Yarra, West Space will deliver a program of exhibitions in West Space Window, a suite of community engagement activities, and a series of complementary educational videos. These three avenues fulfil our 2020-2024 strategic goals of connecting with three target communities: early career artists, local Yarra communities, and secondary and tertiary students.

West Space will deliver a suite of strategic community engagement programs across 2022, that will provide targeted engagement to key demographics within our locality, including local Yarra artists, culturally diverse Yarra residents and broader communities, young people, and students.

Our community engagement programs are informed by commissioned artists within our artistic program, and are intended to extend the themes of the exhibition whilst connecting with new audiences. Each set of programs will be presented in partnership with peer organisations in Collingwood Yards and the greater City of Yarra.

Running alongside, and complementing these programs, we will run a year-long program of exhibitions in West Space Window (WSW). Conceived as an accessible entry point to contemporary art for the general public, WSW is a public facing micro gallery on the exterior of our space at Collingwood Yards. Programmed entirely through our open call, WSW provides presentation opportunities to 9 early career artists across the year, offering them an exhibition in a highly visible location and supportive environment.

For each commissioned or WSW exhibition, we will also produce a short interview with the artist/s, which will be published on social media and our digital platform West Space Offsite. These videos will provide insight into the artist's practice, and become a valuable educational tool for students.

Total Project Cost: \$116771.00

Recommendation: \$14,000.00

AG22-127: Gertrude Contemporary

Gertrude Glasshouse Exhibition and Audience Engagement Program 2022

Project Description: - Gertrude Glasshouse opened in late 2015 as the project space of Gertrude and is situated in Collingwood, the heart of the City of Yarra. In 2019, our organisational visitation reached over 60,000 visits to our exhibitions, and throughout 2020 our digital impact expanded to include over 40,000 followers (via social channels). Glasshouse alone contributes over one-quarter of public attendance and provides a significant point of connection for Victorians with the solo exhibitions of our studio artists.

- 8 artists are invited annually into the studio program through a competitive open call process, with Gertrude housing 16 highly subsidised studios in our Preston space. Space to conceive and create is critical

for contemporary artists, especially at key moments in the development of their careers. Each artist is offered the opportunity and financial resources to develop a new body of work or project for Glasshouse.

- Gertrude commissions new projects and exhibitions by artists participating in our studio program and presents them at Glasshouse. The near majority of studio artists are City of Yarra-based practitioners and providing a space to produce and present their work is a core responsibility of our organisation.

- We are seeking funding to directly support presentation outcomes in our Collingwood space. This project will consist of 6 artist-driven solo or collaborative projects, 2 curatorial projects with group exhibitions and a residency with two public performance outcomes in 2022.

- All exhibitions and events at Gertrude are free. Funding will go directly to artist fees, production budgets and artist speaker fees.

- Operational costs are covered through Gertrude's own contribution and the generous support of Glasshouse Patrons Michael Schwarz and David Clouston's in-kind provision of the gallery space. This enables funding resources to have a greater impact on the professional and artistic outcomes of our studio artists.

Total Project Cost: \$163681.00

Recommendation: \$10,000.00

AG22-287: **Weave Movement Theatre**

Sense of Place

Project Description: This first creative development of a new work, SENSE OF PLACE by WEAVE Movement Theatre explores places in our hearts, minds, memories and lived reality. We will probe a sense of place that is meaningful in a world where there is displacement, disorientation, migration, being locked into our local place and with original inhabitants displaced from their spiritual homelands.

The development involves disabled performers. Disabled people in our society are often seen as not having a place and are made to feel out of place, invisible, yet like all fellow humans they have places they feel deeply connected to. This will be explored by performers from Weave Movement Theatre, a disability led, physical theatre company of disabled performers, co-directed by Zya Kane and Janice Florence, Weave Artistic Director.

We will investigate these themes through an approach called Sensory Theatre, which uses the senses to discover story - What place does this smell evoke, this sound, this sight, this texture? The developing narrative will be expressed in collaboratively devised movement, dance and theatre interpretations of these sensory evocations of place. A film-maker will film performers and places evoked by performers, which may be used as digital segments in a later live performance or become an online or outdoor projected outcome in the later presentation phase, depending on conditions. A sound artist will develop soundscape excerpts to be developed in later phases of this project. A Forest Therapist/Theatre practitioner will lead an outdoor sensory and movement experience in Alphington parklands. The outcome in this phase is planned as a one-off live showing with some filmed elements, however it could become an online filmed or outdoor outcome, depending on lockdown status. It will be photographed. Photographic images may play a role in an outcome. We have a partnership residency at Dancehouse, Carlton.

Total Project Cost: \$18420.00

Recommendation: \$9,000.00

AG22-078: **Mx Bon Mott**

Intergalactic Plasma photographic portraits and filmic interviews

Project Description: My current project focus of 2SP is a series of 5 minutes x 10 film conversation projects that focuses on artists that identify as as Queer, transgender, non-binary, Indigenous, neurodiverse, and feminist.

The films will be shot by first nation film makers Adam Saturday (DOP) and Simon Rose, who will also help write the interview questions and conversation prompts.

Seven confirmed artists:

N'arweet Dr. Carlyne Briggs AM- Bunerong Elder, activist and scholar

Jess Gall- non-binary artist

Nuncia Madden- transgender artist

Simona Castricum- transgender activist, artist, scholar

Penelope Trotter- feminist, activist, performance, scholar

Alexander Powers- activist trans-gender artist

Vishnu Hazel- artist and designer, activist who works specifically with disability

I have interviewed and selected these artists based on their contribution and significant influence as queer and non-binary voices. These are all artists with considerable impact within Yarra and greater Melbourne's cultural landscape.

The film will centre intimate conversations with each individual artist and the film makers.

The film will then be edited by Adam and Simon through their own artistic lens.

The resulting film will have three artistic components that can be exhibited in unison and in separate parts as 1. The recorded sound 2. The film visuals (silenced) and 3. Projected as an art installation.

Once the collection of 10 films are created, they will be exhibited throughout the Yarra arts community.

The films will also be accessible to the public (Covid inclusive) online and physically accessible at Second Space Projects (2SP) ongoing through street front window display.

Total Project Cost: \$30280.00 **Recommendation:** \$8,000.00

AG22-217: **Bus Projects**

Bus Projects' 2022 Artistic Program

Project Description: Bus Projects' 2022 artistic program will respond to the ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic by investing in paid exhibition opportunities for artists and arts workers and providing a wealth of free and accessible exhibitions, talks, and workshops for our local community.

Through our program we will foster grassroots engagement with diverse publics, and contribute to best-practice sector development for artist-run initiatives throughout Australia. Key to our future success is our new venue at Collingwood Yards where inter-organisational collaborations have already supercharged our capacity. This program will showcase the vibrancy and innovation of local art practice today and celebrate our community as creative co-producers.

Total Project Cost: \$216500.00 **Recommendation:** \$15,000.00

AG22-228: Ms Mig Dann

Mig Dann: A Retrospective

Project Description: 'Mig Dann: A Retrospective' is a survey exhibition and accompanying publication presenting the work of esteemed artist and long-time Yarra resident Mig Dann. The exhibition and book launch will coincide with the artist's 80th birthday, with works spanning Dann's six-decade long career. Crossing the mediums of sculpture, installation, video, text and sound, this immersive exhibition will be housed in the North Magdalen Laundry at the Abbotsford Convent in March 2022. Curated by Josephine Mead and Dr Zoë Bastin, the exhibition will explore Dann's work thematically, delving into issues of childhood trauma, feminist practice and queer culture. The publication will detail Dann's artistic achievements and fascinating life story, commemorating her extraordinary achievements and her impact on the artistic community, crossing multiple continents.

Through reflections on the past and creating space within contemporary practice for open dialogue in the present, Dann has produced a vast body of work with ongoing multi-generational relevance. A series of public programs, consisting of conversations between Dann and younger queer-identifying artists, will take place during the exhibition, opening up wider discussions involving the Yarra Community, regarding what being an older queer person means in contemporary life.

The publication will contain documentation of forty works by Dann examining her work thematically, with

reference to her lived experiences. An essay by Josephine Mead will examine the works and chronologically discuss Dann's life, including her experiences working as translator for David Bowie, research assistant for the production of a book about the life of Kiki de Montparnasse in Paris, and her experience working for Billy Klüver for Experiments in Art & Technology in New York. Avant-garde figure Cherry Vanilla - who introduced Dann to Bowie - has agreed to write a reflection on her experiences during this time. 200 copies of the publication will be produced.

Total Project Cost: \$57081.51 **Recommendation:** \$12,500.00

AG22-137: Ms Celeste de Clario Davis (Auspiced by Auspicious Arts Projects Inc)

"Things Will Be Different" - Counter Storytelling + Addressing Narratives of Stigma

Project Description: 'Things Will Be Different' captures the stories and layers of impact when public housing residents are forcibly dispersed. The film is the creation of two young women who lived in public housing. The production includes public housing residents who have been displaced as a result of the public-private redevelopment of public housing estates in inner-Melbourne. Because the filmmakers and participants have an 'insiders' understanding of life in public housing the film provides the viewer with insights into the emotional and physical disruption that dislocation has on the lives of tenants that counters the often negative narratives of stigma presented about 'public housing'. The redevelopment of public housing into the public-private model is not widely understood as a 'loss of public housing'; the film and associated activities address this important ambivalence and the implications that renewal has on the loss of community cohesion and the development of areas of 'exclusion'.

'Things Will Be Different' screenings will be held in the City of Yarra during March 2022, with screenings at the 'Collingwood Yards' and Atherton Gardens housing estate. Along side the screenings there will be discussions led by the Save Public Housing Collective and will feature public housing residents from City of Yarra and housing advocates representing people with disabilities and trans communities. It is envisaged that the discussions will provide audiences with the opportunity to reflect on the important role public housing has in a democratic society.

Our aim is to use a creative, inclusive process to counter the narrative stigma promoted by mainstream media when presenting the lives of public housing tenants, to encourage support for public housing residents and to promote the importance of ensuring there is space for all in our cities.

Total Project Cost: \$30524.00 **Recommendation:** \$9,321.00

AG22-171: Centre For Projection Art Inc

Evanesce - public art projections exploring the effects of climate change

Project Description: EVANESCE is an outdoor, free, public projection art exhibition, highlighting the climate emergency and human effect on climate change. The term EVANESCE means to pass out of sight, memory, or existence and is frequently used in the present, referring to extinction that can be accounted for mainly by climate change. Over three weeks across Yarra, we will present site-responsive projection works that are

thought-provoking and publicly accessible by eight artists exploring this concept. These works will be displayed as a series of public art projections in shop windows and building facades over three weeks, upskilling our community to be climate champions, advocating for climate action, and linking back to International Day of Light and World Environment Day to present these works through social media on a global platform.

The Centre for Projection Art will ask artists to use these concepts to create new works that highlight the climate emergency and EVANESCE as it translates to global existence. Aligned to Yarra's Climate Emergency Plan we will explore new partnerships with renewable electricity retailers as potential supporters to offset any carbon emissions and sponsor renewable green energy.

Total Project Cost: \$56508.00

Recommendation: \$8,500.00

AG22-265: **Dr Michael Currie**

Yarra Longings

Project Description: We are requesting funds to assist us to prepare Yarra Longings: an uplifting, research-based, live audio-visual performance project

designed to map the resilience of Yarra, past and present, place and community, seeking to restore hope, balance and beauty denied to us by the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Moving image, familiar sound and musical composition create powerful statements that motivate us to reclaim and celebrate our freedoms as we navigate our be-longing to past and present, reconnecting private and public spheres.

Musicians Michael Currie (Double Bass), Anthony Schulz (Piano Accordion) and Jutta Pryor (Visual artist/filmmaker) shall collaborate and build on their collective experiences as longterm residents of Yarra by visually documenting neighbourhoods, recording site specific sounds and composing musical odes to place, empowering the voice of Yarra Longings. The Yarra Longings project shall be presented as live musical performances accompanied by live projected visuals. The project will be progressively documented with sound and film recording and edited into a descriptive 'trailer' that serves as an online presence of the project suitable for promotion of the live performances that constitute the second part of the Yarra Longings project.

We will hold a debut performance at the Palace of Magnificent Experiences (POME). Following this debut performance we envisage performing in the usual community accessible venues in Yarra - The Boite, Abbotsford Convent, Fairfield Ampitheatre, council venues and galleries. We also will perform in venues that are fit for purpose for our project, such as disused halls, closed factories, underneath bridges – insofar as they can be safely used. Our aim is to find the magic of the unknown and forgotten what is abandoned and derelict and use it as the centrepiece setting for performance to inspire a post COVID re-discovery of Yarra places in our audience as well.

Total Project Cost: \$26190.00

Recommendation: \$3,500.00

AG22-113: **3CR Community Radio**

this mob mural development workshops commissioned by 3CR

Project Description: First Nations arts collective this mob will host a series of four mural-making creative development workshops with six emerging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander creatives. The purpose of these workshops is to develop new skills within the cohort of emerging artists, while developing a new mural design for 3CR. 3CR have invited this mob to renew their existing mural on their iconic Smith Street building, under the guidance and mentorship of Kamilaroi artist Reko Rennie, and Kalkadoon artist Arkie Barton.

3CR are applying to City of Yarra for creative development funds to support this mob to deliver this workshop series and support young First Nations artists to gain new skills, and build confidence in mural design – in preparation for the end goal of painting/delivering the mural at 3CR. Indigenous artists are in high demand for mural work in the City of Yarra and beyond. This creative development will give emerging artists who have the talent and the interest in designing and painting murals, the skills and know-how to do so. The four workshops will be hosted over a period of four months, each session focusing on a different element of designing and painting a mural; ideas generation (which includes consultation with both Wurundjeri and Boon Wurrung Traditional Owners, and the Indigenous Broadcasters at 3CR), graphic design and painting techniques. The young artists will learn hands-on skills in collaborating with one another, form intergenerational connections with mentors, Traditional Owners and with 3CR's Indigenous Broadcasters, and will develop a mural concept ready to be delivered to 3CR.

These workshops will be hosted both at 3CR, and at this mob's studio at the Collingwood Yards. These workshops will be documented through photographs and audio recordings – in which the young people can share their experiences and what they've learnt.

Total Project Cost: \$16950.00

Recommendation: \$14,600.00

AG22-208: **Ms Jessie French**

'We Are All Bees Now' Exhibition and pandemic-proof public programs at Bus Projects in 2022

Project Description: 'We Are All Bees Now' is a group exhibition inspired by the artist's and curator's work with *Apis mellifera*, the common honeybee. By drawing attention to key ideas proposed by biologist Lynn Margulis 'We Are All Bees Now' reflects on collectivity, symbiosis and earthly survival.

This proposal will make possible the development and production of new works by three artists and provide support for four artists to exhibit existing work at Bus Projects in early 2022. A complimentary public program designed to be durable for pandemic times, with the ability to be delivered remotely if required will also be included during the show. See outline below for detail on public programs.

Biologist Scott Gilbert's phrase 'we are all lichens' underlines a symbiotic view of life, referring to symbiosis theory (which was substantiated and popularised and by evolutionary biologist Lynn Margulis), by situating us in the context of lichens, an organism formed by the symbiotic association of fungi and algae.

Through the lens of work made by multidisciplinary beekeepers part of the Honey Fingers Collective and *apis mellifera*, the subject of our human-insect relations called beekeeping, the works presented in the exhibition and its complimentary public programs will emphasise two main points:

- 1) A celebration of symbiosis and collectivity with elevating vital symbiotic interdependence in place of an individualistic human view; and
- 2) A folding of humans into the widely understood fragility of the common honey bee to draw attention to the position of our species with those currently facing collapse, hinting at the existential risk (and crisis) we face amid this climate emergency.

Public program outline (to be altered in response to COVID guidelines)

Total Project Cost: \$29654.00

Recommendation: \$9,760.00

AG22-187: no more poetry

no more poetry, 2022 Publications

Project Description: no more poetry is engaging the assistance of Yarra City Council for the production and distribution of eight major publications of poetry and visual art throughout 2022. These eight publications will directly support each author through the sales and distribution of their work, as well as engage them exponentially in the local arts community by placing them within a kind and well-respecting publishing house of diverse writers and artists. Additionally, these publications will spill outwards and support a cacophony of conduit organisations including venues, printers and various performers through a range of launches and reading events. Within our first year of publishing we have seen the expansion of a thriving community of poets, with an abundance of engaged support that is only set to expand further into next year.

Total Project Cost: \$56665.54

Recommendation: \$12,666.00

AG22-056: Music in Exile

Open Plan: Creating New Work in Public Spaces

Project Description: Music in Exile, a NFP that provides artist services to Australian musicians from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, proposes to host a residency program at the Abbotsford Convent which will see Mindy Meng Wang 王萌 and her collaborator Tim Shiel develop new work inside a temporary, open-access recording studio situated inside the Convent. The studio will be accessible to members of the public, and a series of scheduled public programs will accompany the residency, allowing City of Yarra residents to engage with established artists, share knowledge and skills, collaborate in the creation of new ideas, and build valuable networks for local emerging artists and community members.

All public programs, including a live performance that will take place at the end of the residency, will be live-streamed and accessible for all audiences. Music in Exile has consulted with local community groups and NFP's, such as the Collingwood Neighbourhood House and BANH, in mapping out how this project might be curated to meet the needs of community members, and to offer the most value to emerging artists within the community or those with an interest in music and the arts.

Upon completion of the residency, Mindy and Tim will have created a body of new work that will be released internationally via the Music in Exile label in conjunction with our distribution, publicity and marketing partners. These works will reach audiences across the country and internationally, showcasing the City of

Yarra and Abbotsford Convent as leaders in arts innovation, creativity, inclusion, and community connectedness. In addition to this, new connections will be formed between the artists and community members taking part, providing emerging artists throughout the City of Yarra with the tools, encouragement and networks they will need to develop into practicing arts professionals.

Total Project Cost: \$14390.00

Recommendation: \$6,550.00

AG22-149: **Miss Sarah Aiken**

Deep Soulful Sweats – 1 year program

Project Description: Support from City of Yarra will allow us to present a yearlong program of activities, developing new work through audience participation, through:

-2 free and open access Deep Soulful Sweats events at Collingwood Yards and Abbotsford Convent for up to 80 participants, exploring new participatory models, activating spaces with movement, music and accessible creative practice open to everyone.

-2 workshops at Dancehouse facilitated by artists from the DSS team. Developing and trialing new DSS participatory events that are adaptable to different contexts and restrictions through testing ideas, movement development, research and working with collaborators, sharing and building dialogue around dance, movement and art practice.

-Reaching new audiences/participants- we know that people would love Deep Soulful Sweats events to be more regular and, in more locations, it is time to reach out from the arts community and share it more broadly.

-Work with a range of artists building on existing and creating new creative relationships

We will partner with City of Yarra organisations, Dancehouse, Collingwood Yards and the Abbotsford Convent, to assist us in delivering these outcomes, deepening our relationships with them and utilising their audience bases and networks and reciprocally bringing our networks to their venues. Each presentation of DSS will be unique, designed to fit context and to invite members of the community into creative practice.

This project supports a large team of incredible artists providing individuals with employment in what is an incredibly precarious time to be an artist. Selected for their expertise, distinct and diverse experience and perspective, each artists skills and cultural backgrounds contribute to creative choices in the process. This diversity allows for multiple perspectives to work in chorus, providing various points of entry for audiences and complexity of ideas.

Total Project Cost: \$16408.00

Recommendation: \$8,500.00

AG22-123: **Mr Matthias Schack-Arnott**

CIRCADIA

Project Description: Matthias Schack-Arnott will collaborate with acclaimed lighting designer Amelia Lever-Davidson on the creation of an innovative 40-minute integrated percussion and light work, presented by Play On at the Collingwood Underground Carpark.

CIRCADIA explores the warping of time that occurs during altered physical and psychological states. Informed by the fluid experience of time during the pandemic, the work will use subtle (and sometimes extreme) shifts in light and sound to explore an elasticity of time. The work uses cutting edge technology that allows for Matthias to trigger the lighting design from his drum sticks. Using a tiny trigger inside each of his drumsticks, Matthias' playing activates synchronous pulsations in light and electronic sound. Matthias will be playing layered rhythmic patterns that build over time, creating a textural and rhythmically dynamic musical world. His drumming is translated real-time into layered pulsations of light, that illuminate different aspects of the space. The result will be the transformation of the Collingwood Underground Carpark into an immersive audio-visual experience, trance-like and visceral in nature.

The work will be commissioned and presented by Play On, culminating in two concert performances at the Collingwood Underground Carpark. The work will be developed at Tomikeh Studio (Collingwood) and Play On studio (Collingwood Yards) and will feature an 'Artist in Conversation' session hosted by Play On's Director Lydia Dobbin. Additionally, Matthias will collaborate with Yarra based film production company KEWL Studios on a multi-camera music film of the performance, for online release after the event through the Play On, KEWL Studio and Matthias Schack-Arnott websites and social media platforms.

Total Project Cost: \$30800.00

Recommendation: \$8,000.00

AG22-248: **Ms Miranda Hill**

Homophonic! Video Portraits

Project Description: The Homophonic! Video Portraits are an extension of the RESPECT commissioning project started in 2021. The RESPECT project brings together queer elders with queer composers to share their stories and set them to music. It is a curated artistic relationship between LGBTIQ+ elders and queer artists to share our community history. It has been an emotional, meaningful, and important journey to tell these stories, and I'm committed to continuing to set as many stories in art as possible. The power in these works comes from not only the individual stories, but also from cementing them in a work of art that can stand the test of time. There's only a small set of stories that are regularly told in western art music, and by setting these stories we are correcting the record and opening the door to a more inclusive and accurate social history.

The Homophonic! Video Portraits expands this idea to include film, and to be more accessible in a COVID world. Working with Switchboard and their Out and About program participants in Yarra, and the Bent Twigs Alliance. This will be a series of short films, functioning as visual portraits. The Community elder is filmed in a blackbox environment, engaging in an element of self-care: make up, hair tending, cufflinks, shaving, plucking whiskers, moisturising... whatever speaks to that person. The film is scored with a solo instrumental work, written by a local queer composer, and inspired by conversation with the elder involved. No words spoken, this is a visual and aural portrait that speaks to both the individuality of the person represented, and the universality of our stories.

Melbourne Queer Film Festival have expressed interest in showing these video portraits as pre-screeners for their festival, and also in conversation with Victorian Seniors Festival for their 2022 season.

Total Project Cost: \$14050.00

Recommendation: \$8,000.00

AG22-274: **Hotham Street Ladies**

Hotham Street Ladies Street

Project Description: As women who originate from, live and work in City of Yarra we feel that it is timely to re-examine history of our local area through a gendered lens, and to consider the implications of honouring historical white male figures through street and place names. Our hope is that this work will play a role in igniting discussion and debate about the role women and others have played in the history of the Yarra area. It will also challenge the precept that place names are fixed, opening up a discourse about how cultural change can and must be reflected in our public spaces for equity and diversity.

In this project we will:

- fabricate a set of “City of Yarra Historical Street Signs” which will celebrate women and include humorous commentary on women’s inclusion in the history of Yarra including the renaming of Hotham Street to Hotham Street Ladies Street
- undertake a large scale photo shoot of the Hotham Street Ladies at various locations in City of Yarra with the signs. We will be accompanied by a group of male ‘assistants’ dressed as builders. The photographs will explore the juxtaposition of women and how history is documented, or erased
- hold an exhibition, exhibiting both the signs and the photographic work. We may also fabricate other pieces for the exhibition, and will hold at least one community event, such as a workshop, to accompany the exhibition. The exhibition will be held in City of Yarra.

The project team will be the four Hotham Street Ladies and Samara Clifford, photographer.

Total Project Cost: \$12150.00

Recommendation: \$5,000.00

Community Arts

AG22-025: **Mx Caitlin Dear (Auspiced by Dancehouse Inc.)**

GREEN ARTS ACTION

Project Description: Pilot program, GREEN ARTS ACTION is a series of free workshops, bringing together artists and environmentalists/activists/scientists who make diverse contributions to Climate Action.

Across 4 months, Dancehouse will support me in hosting 4 unique, free workshops. Each featuring an artist whose work confronts the climate emergency plus a facilitated action led by an environmental activist group. Thus, bringing together different approaches to climate action, both creative and practical.

The 4 workshops will be facilitated by individuals with a breadth of experience, highly regarded in their fields. Artists include myself, Deep Soulful Sweats, Fast Fashun and environmental organisations including Yarra Climate Arts Now (YCAN), Friends of the Earth, Collingwood Childrens Farm and Narrup Rangers.

This series will:

1. Explore with, and advocate to workshop participants, what the arts and environmental fields can achieve in collaboration
2. Foster new and ongoing connections between artists and environmentalists through networking activities
3. Connect participants to existing environmental groups in Yarra. Further strengthening, broadening and interconnecting the local climate movement.
4. Generate accessible opportunities for further community participation in both the art and climate action.
5. Work and establish relationships between a diverse range of partners and their networks across the City

of Yarra.

Through a series of regular activities, GREEN ARTS ACTION will create bridges between climate activists and artists - building community, sharing skills, with tangible outcomes. Focusing on growing the knowledge through person-to-person sharing, creating spaces to exchange, develop and transfer skills and networks.

GREEN ARTS ACTION connects with the people of Yarra, those who live and work here, who generate its vibrancy and life and dedication to climate action. This project seeks to allow space for the individuals and communities of City of Yarra to express themselves through participation, collaboration and knowledge exchange

Total Project Cost: \$20110.00

Recommendation: \$3,000.00

AG22-167: Herding Cats Management & Events

Learn to Dance the Kulin Nations Six Seasons in the Park.

Project Description: Monthly dance classes in the park teaching Kulin Nations dances and songs. The sessions would be for 2 hours, a regular Saturday of each month, with food and drink provided. 4 dancers will be employed for 3 hours each week, two men and two women, these people will be able to teach the dances.

The framework will be the Six Seasons and each couple of months, new seasonal dances and songs will be taught and learnt. This is open to all and an audience participation series of classes.

Directed by Amos Roach, two dancers each from the Murrundaya Yepengnga Dance Troupe (men) & a women's dance group will conduct classes, explaining the meanings behind each song and dance and teaching the words and dances. The dancers will be accompanied by recorded music as well as live clap sticks and Yidaki.

Example: Term 1, Late Summer, Buniya– (Jan – Mar) Flowering plants, fruits, animal behaviour, parched landscape. Hottest driest time of the year. Season of the Eel. Days are longer. Streams can dry up completely during this time. Eel song & dance. The Eel dance is sung and danced by every Kulin Nation Clan group, it's like a progressive dance where each Clan group has their own part of the story. (The language used here is Djab Wurrung. We are happy to create this using Wurundjeri/Woiwurrung language.)

Total Project Cost: \$22121.00

Recommendation: \$10,000.00

AG22-255: Mzuri Dance Artistree Fund Inc

We are Colourful

Project Description: In this project we plan to build on the success of the community arts programs from 2021 as part of a longer-term strategy to create a more sustainable program that builds partnerships between local organisations, stakeholders, and community groups in both the Richmond and Fitzroy Estates. We see the potential in the powerful impact of reconnecting through the arts and the social impact and

community well-being from our dance music programs, bringing people together and diffusing community tension and anxiety through covid times. We see the positive impacts on mental health and social cohesion we can achieve through engaging young people in an ongoing arts program for community connection. Our strategy includes the creation and maintenance of a Dance Connect Arts Access Live Stream - an online platform to maintain connections through lockdowns and stay on track with social connection for sustaining community well-being.

We Are Colourful is an African Australian cultural project which will utilise contemporary dance to create access and engagement of the African young people in both Richmond and Fitzroy. Experienced and skilled Dance Artist Ayel Akot – Mou (South Sudanese Heritage) and Suzie Mzuri Watts from Mzuri Dance will run a weekly street 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 depending on covid restrictions and in concert with the planning and program strands such as the young people's program.

Total Project Cost: \$78850.00

Recommendation: \$8,500.00

AG22-094: **Future Tense**

Activating the Blak Pearl Aboriginal cultural and creative studio

Project Description: We are seeking funding to increase support to users of the Blak Pearl Aboriginal cultural and creative studio and increase visibility of and engagement with their artistic work. Specifically, we will use the funding to run artist development workshops and stage open studio and exhibition events.

Blak Pearl is a community-led creative studio providing a culturally safe environment for Aboriginal peoples in the City of Yarra and Inner Melbourne - many of whom are members of the Stolen Generation and continue to experience significant hardship and socio-economic disadvantage. Although the community hold some of Yarra's lesser known and undocumented histories and knowledge of its expression through various mediums and manners of communication, most cannot access mainstream spaces, and do not have a space of their own to pursue cultural artistic activities. The studio is located at the Florence Peel Centre in Fitzroy - on the land of the Kulin Nation's Wurundjeri people and a significant historical meeting place and home for Indigenous peoples. It is a wheelchair accessible place to gather and connect, develop and expand on artistic skills, showcase the artistic outcomes of a talented and underrepresented community, and fosters pathways into the formal arts sector,

If we are successful in securing the funding we will:

- Run a series of cultural artistic and technical workshops (ideally 10) to assist the development of creative works. These workshops will be facilitated by emerging and established Aboriginal artists that are skilled in particular creative cultural areas such as possum cloak making, bead making, and wood carving.
- Establish a website to promote the studio, events and showcase works produced
- Hold an Open Studio event mid-2022
- Hold an end of year exhibition at Collingwood Yards

Total Project Cost: \$22115.00

Recommendation: \$11,000.00

AG22-204: Jesuit Social Services Artful Dodgers Studio

Master Classes in Improvisation and Cross Cultural, Cross Genre Music Collaborations

Project Description: Collaboration and improvisation can uniquely reflect contemporary Australian culture. Involving spontaneous creativity and interaction, this project will enable musicians from various backgrounds and different genres and instruments to generate new expressions that transcend conventional styles and categories. The master classes will explore the many facets of cross-cultural, cross-genre musical creativity and the ethical implications of cross-cultural practice. This work will foster a valuable professional development experience between emerging musicians and established artists. This project proposes to run six workshops for a group of ten young (aged 17 to 25) emerging musicians from the Artful Dodgers' participant community. Each workshop will feature an accomplished musician proficient in a particular genre of music and/or from a different culture and/or a different generation from the participating youth. The workshops will be structured as a closed session in the morning with the musicians and youth exploring genre and technique (4 - 5 hrs) followed by an improvisational, collaborative performance /artist talk in the late afternoon (2 hrs). The afternoon talks/performances will be open to the general public.

Total Project Cost: \$16900.00

Recommendation: \$10,000.00

Festivals and Events

AG22-211: **Tibi Access**

Groove Tunes

Project Description: In January 2022, Tibi will bring Groove Tunes to life as an all accessible gig. I (Dina-founder) want people of all abilities to feel included & enjoy a night of live music. In planning this event, additional features have been included that may be of assistance to people. These features include; AUSLAN interpreters (Deaf/Hard of Hearing), an accessible webpage, a sensory zone/pack (Neuro Diverse), braille tickets (Blind), large signage and a team of volunteers who will undertake Tibi's disability awareness training. Groove Tunes will not only be a night of live music but an educational night for industry professionals.

1 in 5 people in Australia are living with a disability. Through a survey Tibi conducted, people living with a disability expressed their love of attending live music events, however the fear and lack of access stopped them from going.

This event will be held at the renowned venue in the City of Yarra - The Corner Hotel. After much research and discussion, Corner Hotel is the chosen venue due space to include accessibility features (e.g. ramp). The City of Yarra is a chosen location for this event due to its access to public transport and central location.

Employment will be provided to; musicians, graphic designers, merchandise production company, Tibi staff, AUSLAN interpreters, production team, venue staff, accessibility website auditor, photographers/videographers.

Tibi has made a conscious effort to support people with disabilities in employment. Eliza Hull (artist), Dina Bassile (event manager and founder), Simply Photographz (photographer) and Ben Pettingill (websites accessibility) are all people who are involved in this project who live with a disability. We are seeking funding so that we may add two more acts to the line who represent peoples living with disability. We will first be looking to source City of Yarra artists to fill these slots.

Total Project Cost: \$62433.00

Recommendation: \$4,379.00

AG22-022: **Collingwood Housing Estate Arts Committee (CHEAC) (Auspiced by BANH Neighbour House)**

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 and the broader community to connect through music, arts and food. The Festival has been running for 20 years and is an integral part of Yarra's cultural calendar.

Festival activities include:

Opening speeches by local estate resident, a dignitary from the local council and an MP (In 2021 this included Adam Bandt, Richard Wynne and Yarra Deputy Mayor Cr Claudia Nguyen).

Aboriginal sacred fire and Welcome to Country from local Wurundjeri Elder

Performances by local estate residents including 'Yuling Chinese Choir,' 'Race-Rage Rhymes' and professional acts encouraging crowd participation. PBS DJs to play between performances. Professional sound engineer / stage manager engaged and professional equipment hired to ensure high production quality.

Arts and crafts workshops facilitated by partner agencies including Drummond Street, Stitches, Carringbush, The Wellington and CHEAC.

Stalls by local agencies and groups providing information about their services

Food stalls (food by donation) provided by BANH Inc.'s Cultural Catering team. Includes Somali, Vietnamese, Chinese and East-Timorese cuisine.

"Conversation Pit" - a community engagement space for anyone to connect and mingle with the community

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: \$27620.00

Recommendation: \$12,000.00

AG22-037: Agency Projects

UNTOLD

Project Description: UNTOLD is a series of talks by inspiring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from diverse creative fields. Tailored for audiences who are interested in the process of ideas that shape our surroundings and experiences, UNTOLD brings people together to talk and listen, and to share their intangible capital: knowledge, experience, histories, culture and ideas.

In 2022, Agency will present four UNTOLD talks featuring leading local Indigenous creative practitioners at Collingwood Yards. With a focus on showcasing artistic and cultural practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders who live, work or exhibit in the City of Yarra, UNTOLD will serve the dual purpose of both celebrating and elevating Indigenous voices, and attracting and engaging new audiences.

The series will create new presentation opportunities for locally based Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists, providing a dedicated and culturally safe platform from which they can discuss, share and promote their work with diverse audiences from across the Collingwood Yards precinct and beyond. They will be marketed as an engaging series of talks that audiences can attend / subscribe to as individual sessions or a package. (NB. The talks will be free events).

Confirmed keynote speakers for the series include Uncle Jack Charles, Jenna Lee, Kimberley Moulton and Lisa Waup. Agency will work with these four speakers to identify and invite an additional two featured speakers for each session.

UNTOLD will be presented in partnership with COMPOSITE at Collingwood Yards - a dedicated space run by Bus Projects with the technical capacity to stream in guests, project visuals to enhance the talks, and film contributing speakers for a virtual audience.

Total Project Cost: \$23480.00 **Recommendation:** \$9,000.00

AG22-012: **Progressive Broadcasting Services (PBS 106.7FM)**

PBS Rock A Bye Baby

Project Description: Rock-A-Bye Baby (RABB) is an ongoing series of family friendly events produced by PBS 106.7FM as an opportunity to deliver high quality, live and contemporary music to local families. In 2022 PBS will hold four Rock A Baby events at the Fitzroy Town Hall. A musical act that represents the City of Yarra's rich and diverse culture is programmed for a one-hour daytime musical performance (11am to midday) for a crowd of children and parents/guardians.

Rock A Bye Baby has been running for over ten years but the aim of the event is to make it as accessible as possible and this is done via the ticket price, \$5 for adults and kids (infants under 12 months free), and by offering free entry to the first 50 concession card holders.

Total Project Cost: \$27936.00 **Recommendation:** \$6,600.00

AG22-138: **Midsumma Festival Inc**

Quippings: The Experiment at the 2022 Midsumma Festival

Project Description: Quippings is an inclusive disability and queer-led spoken word and performance troupe, under the creative direction of a team of producers, founded in the City of Yarra in 2011. As a collective of queer disabled creatives and performers, Quippings has a long and proud history of creating and presenting work through variety shows and collaborative projects.

Quippings embraces emerging and established artists who identify as being:

- Deaf and/or disabled and queer, or
- Deaf and/or disabled and allies to the queer community

Quippings work centres on the lived experiences of Deaf and disabled embodiment, and only performs original work created by artists within the troupe.

For Quippings, defining disability rights politics in performance is a model for expressing disability and/or Deaf pride. The Quippings troupe employs the social model of disability in developing and delivering performances, rather than the medical model of disability, constructing performance events in order to reflect on the struggles of artists with disability, while also celebrating the success and achievements of Deaf/artists with disability. Using performance to address the ongoing need for access and inclusion, Quippings is on the forefront of pushing for evolution in disability arts aesthetics approaches. Quippings challenge expectations and present high-quality performance.

For the 2022 Midsumma Festival, producers and performers from Quippings will enter a phase of artistic development from November 2021-January 2022, in order to develop a new work to be performed in

Nebula, Arts Access Victoria's mobile accessible arts space, as part of the 2022 Midsumma Festival.

This presentation at our 2022 Midsumma Festival will be part of our keynote program AND/OR, which platforms and highlights work driven by artists at the intersection of LGBTQIA+ and disability communities, and will be presented in the City of Yarra 3-5 February 2022, in partnership with Arts Access Victoria and Circus Oz.

Total Project Cost: \$34630.00

Recommendation: \$15,000.00

AG22-214: **Multicultural Arts Victoria**

Upclose

Project Description: UP-CLOSE is a new MAV program that responds directly to both the challenges of inequality and equity in the music industry and the devastating impact of Covid-19 on the Yarra Music scene and burgeoning careers of young Yarra-based culturally diverse artists.

The project aims to produce and promote high quality audio-visual new live performance work that will assist in career recovery. These performances will take place at a venue in Yarra and (depending on Covid-19 restrictions) will have an element of live audiences.

We will produce 4 live music videos for 4 diverse creatives (total of 16) that are either Yarra residents or who regularly perform or work in Yarra. Each video will have a duration of 10 to 15 mins with 2 original songs by the artists and a short interview.

Through a mix of small funding allocations, MAV has produced previous episodes (<https://www.mav.org.au/event/upclose-2021/> in partnership with Harmonic Whale team; and have been successful in securing support for a 2nd edition in Darebin thanks to recovery grant support from City of Darebin.

Total Project Cost: \$34626.50

Recommendation: \$8,000.00
