

Round 2 Arts and Culture 2024 Annual Grants - Recommended

ACG2-005: Ms Isabella Brown (Auspiced by Belgium Avenue Neighbourhood House Inc)

Resident Frequency Projects

Project Description: Projects to take place at Resident Frequency Recording Studio that was built by residents of the Collingwood Housing Estate on the grounds of CNH. rov

1. Resident Frequency Album- I want to record a compilation of songs by locals on the estate from diverse cultural backgrounds, these songs will form an album that will be launched on the estate as a concert/ community event.

2. Three Towers Podcast- It has been requested by long term residents that we record a podcast of local history about life in Collingwood and the estate. The product will play on 3CR radio. The community podcast builds on the successful 'Wander the Wood' podcast which was a similar concept that I helped to produce for Rising festival 2020

This will result in combined launch events for songs and podcast in conjunction with other CNH events. The role I will play in this is as a workshop facilitator and producer. I hope to have the studio open Tuesdays, Wednesdays between 9.30am-2.30pm. Residents can book times or just drop in. I will also make myself available to work with resident artists in times that suit them by appointment. I will be working with Live Wires between 3pm-5pm Wednesdays.

Total Project Cost: \$31580.00

Amount Requested: \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$10000.00

Recommendation: \$10,000.00

Panel Comments: A worthwhile initiative with community benefit. The project has confirmed funding from Homes Victoria and with evidence of substantial volunteer support. Panel commended the project for enabling funding partners engaging with the City of Yarra.

ACG2-008: **Aboriginal Housing Victoria**

NAIDOC Family Day at the Farm

Project Description: For more than two decades, AHV's NAIDOC Family Day at the Farm has brought thousands of people together to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, histories and community connectedness in the heart of the City of Yarra.

The annual event is held at the Collingwood Children's Farm and is a culturally appropriate, informative, safe, welcoming and inclusive space for families living in Yarra and beyond. Not only does the event support broader community awareness of Aboriginal people and knowledges, it fosters local pride in Aboriginal history, culture, languages and achievements.

In 2023, the event was attended by more than 2000 people and was featured at the top of The Age's list of events to attend during NAIDOC Week.

Our event program is full of exciting activities and performances for all ages, including Aboriginal contemporary and traditional dance, an exhibit of our Aboriginal renters' artworks, performances by Aboriginal entertainers and a range of cultural craft and physical activities. These include boomerang painting, face painting, emu feather jewellery making, beading, colouring in, etching, a Weaving Workshop and an Australian Rules football clinic. A traditional Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony starts the day, and in the past we have featured incredible Victorian Aboriginal performers including Indigenous Outreach Projects hip hop, Kutcha Edwards, Maylene Yinarr and Uncle Herb

Patten.

Our renters and their families often face challenges accessing cultural or recreational activities. This even is for them and the broader community, regardless of background or race, to come together in the spirit of celebration.

Total Project Cost: \$70415.00

Amount Requested: \$20000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$15000.00

Recommendation: \$15,000.00

Panel Comments: A strong application for a long-standing event (over twenty years) that is well aligned with the Arts & Culture strategy - with demonstrated benefit for the community, particularly the Aboriginal community that engages many Aboriginal artists and organisations.

ACG2-014: **Kewl Studio**

On Gore Street

Project Description: 'On Gore Street' gathers the stories of the residents of Gore Street, in Fitzroy, Melbourne's oldest suburb. Interviews with residents are threaded together, painting a picture of the street and a history of Fitzroy as it's moved through the process of gentrification. These stories are diverse, and precious, with new generations of residents moving into the area all the time. This short documentary will be created by Zoe Coldham, who grew up on Gore Street through the 90s to now and who has witnessed a community that has transformed over the years. This insight will provide an exploration into the effects of gentrification and an opportunity to promote connection to heritage as a way of increasing social health within the City of Yarra. Confirmed interviewee involvement from a number of prominent residents includes:

Edward Rush; first gay mayor of Fitzroy, resident since 1970

Sister Shakina; The Sisters of Mercy, established 1962

Angela Theodorou; Greek immigrant, resident since 1965

Rose Chong; owner of iconic Rose Chong Costumes, resident since 1985

The production will send a letter to current residents of Gore street to gather archival imagery and to select three additional stories. For our final story, we have engaged First Nations storyteller's, Yalinguth, to collect stories from the Woi Worung tribe, who are the initial owners of the land prior to first settlement, ensuring we are representing a comprehensive history of the land. On Gore Street will be screened at Collingwood Yards with a Q and A with key contributors following the screening. As mentioned in the Yarra Heritage Strategy, 'promoting a greater understanding of heritage within the community' is a key priority for the council, and this project contributes by capturing the stories of Yarra residents that may otherwise be lost in time.

Total Project Cost: \$17987.50

Amount Requested: \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$8350.00

Recommendation: \$10,000.00

Panel Comments: Strong initiative with evidence of community support. The project provided confidence in the panel for successful delivery with confirmed interviewees are ready to tell their stories. Artist had a strong working history in film and is collaborating with a reputable studio in Yarra provided the panel with confidence for capacity to deliver.

ACG2-034: **Mr Mert Berdilek**

Tersine Göç ('Reverse Migration' in Turkish)

Project Description: During September-November 2023, Mert Berdilek traversed by road and 95 rolls of medium-format film, 8000+ kilometers across Turkey exploring his roots. These 6 weeks, coincided with the preparations of the 100th anniversary of the Turkish Republic, and the final frame from his images was shot on the eve of the centenary celebrations. The project is named Tersine Göç ('Reverse Migration' in Turkish), as Mert believes at one point, anybody living in diaspora will gravitate back to their roots, searching for a

sense of self.

The project will be an exhibition of already shot portrait photography, at Sol Gallery in Fitzroy. The exhibition will run for 2-weeks, and the audience will be the; extensive migrant communities living in diaspora, Melbourne's large Turkish & Kurdish communities, artists, photographers, filmmakers etc. The exhibition will contain 20-30 large-print portraits, to be curated from the archive of more than 350 120mm 6X7 medium-format film photos, already lab developed and to-be scanned via industry standard Imacon Flextight. On opening night, there will be a large and exhaustive invitation to all the various audience communities mentioned, with a Q&A, and detailed walkthrough for all the photos exhibited. The exhibition hopes to inspire, encourage and also allow introspective exploration for those attending.

However, one of the tenets for this exhibition, is that it aims to solve something in my youth that was not accessible to me which is: Middle-Eastern artists producing important work in Australia. I hope to solve this, by inspiring the next generation of artists, to go out and discover their heritage, reclaim their roots, and harmoniously work in a symbiotic nature with the culture of their ancestors, and the multicultural home we have today.

Total Project Cost: \$12053.00

Amount Requested: \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$7000.00

Recommendation: \$7,000.00

Panel Comments: A strong proposal that engaged the panel in the artist's vision and rationale for undertaking the projects. The project enables an important story within Yarra through high quality photography and exhibition.

ACG2-038: Ms Michaela Coventry (Auspiced by Auspicious Arts Projects Inc)

Rage of Sites

Project Description: Rage of Sites brings together the three choreographers represented by Sage Arts with guests to create a remarkable weekend of contemporary performance for roving audiences as part of Melbourne Fringe 2024.

Under the artistic direction and curation of Jo Lloyd, this event involves the work of four of Melbourne's most fascinating and celebrated choreographers/ performers, who have each been commissioned to make new works with the body as the site within the context of the Convent's remarkable range of sites.

Rebecca Jensen, Harrison Ritchie-Jones, Lee Serle and Jo Lloyd herself, are all known for engaging the body at the core of their works. Each of the four dance artists will make and then perform a solo or duet work as part of the program and select a site, specifically suited to their work within the Convent, with the audience moving from one work to the next across the two evenings.

The performances will occur in specific locations mapped out across the Convent buildings and grounds, allowing the audience to navigate and move between the different rooms and locations of the convent. Audiences will be given a clear map indicating the time and location for each work.

Cam's will provide a centralised hub within the grounds, as a meeting place for those attending, to enjoy music by DJ Shio Otani and refreshments as the evening commences and to gather after experiencing the four works, encouraging valuable dialogue and interactions at the event.

Rage of Sites will expand the experience of performance as a social encounter, allowing viewers to encounter works which involve the body in live performance across sites at the Convent. This event will encourage viewers to witness live performance, linger at the centralised hub and appreciate the atmosphere of Yarra's Abbotsford Convent whilst traversing the wonderful grounds and buildings.

Total Project Cost: \$52112.00

Amount Requested: \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$10000.00

Recommendation: \$10,000.00

Panel Comments: A strong application, with a strong financial resource plan and confirmed support from both Fringe and Australian Cultural Fund confirming their cash support. The panel's confidence was evidenced in the applicants strong artistic and capacity to delivery.

ACG2-041: no more poetry

nmp.2024 July – December Publishing Roster.

Project Description: With publications planned through the end of 2024, nmp seeks your support for the publication of the houses roster for the second half of 2024. Including four single author titles and six monthly newsletters, supporting upward of 12 writers and artists, while promoting their work within City of Yarra and abroad.

Run by two queer people, the house curates with a focus on Lesbian, Gay and Transgender literature. So far nmp's publications have explored approaches such as bi-lingual writing, somatic poetry techniques, time-based writing rituals, hybrid forms of screenplay and poetry, song, visual and concrete poetry, tanka, erasure poetry, found text poetry and autofiction, among others. nmp will release four single authors collections in the second half of 2024, including three poetry collections and one fine art title.

four single author publications
including one art book & three poetry publications.

nmp.23: Hana Pera Aoake

nmp.24: Jack Mannix

nmp.25: Samuel Acres

nmp.26: Amrita Hepi

public launches

for each title, which are always free to attend

nmp.23 – Saturday, 26 July 2024

nmp.24 – Saturday, 30 August 2024

nmp.25 – Saturday, 4 October 2024

nmp.26 – Saturday, 8 November 2024

all to be held at Russian House in Collingwood.

six news letters

a monthly newsletter by nmp, consisting of one double side a4 page, featuring a book review by Tim Coster, film review by Brenna O, perhaps a poem from an existing or forthcoming publication, an artwork, scribble or sketch from the editors, and poetry, music and art event listings for the forthcoming month. anyone can submit an event listing to be featured in a forthcoming issue, nmp will include as many event listings as space allows. listing is free.

Total Project Cost: \$51050.00

Amount Requested: \$8557.00 **Minimum Required:** \$

Recommendation: \$8,557.00

Panel Comments: A strong application supporting local writers and delivering publications that engage readers and new audiences. Project supports a diversity of artists with a proven track record of promoting and creating work in Yarra.

ACG2-043: Ms Susan Giles

Land of the Lost

Project Description: Land of the Lost invites audiences of very young children and their adults to explore a strange and beautiful world of lost things. In a sensory installation that keeps shifting and moving, children will encounter strange, wondrous and funny stories that are attached to objects that have been lost or discarded. If you are lost, how can you find your way?

Land of the Lost is about understanding belonging: to the world, to each other, to place. The work also

explores parent and child connection at this very early stage of relationship: how does the parent support its child to wander or roam in uncertainty? What can the adult learn from child explorers?

The goal of the work is building trust in the child's process of exploring an unknown area - a magical, strange and unusual place that offers the audience connections that are new. It draws on the natural curiosity and eagerness of the young child to touch, follow and be involved – seeing how the very young flow with change and uncertainty, unimpeded by adult structures and meaning. It deals with rising levels of social and existential (climate) anxiety present in today's world, especially around the path of the young, and how they navigate the unexpected.

The project will involve a two week stage of development as well as a presentation:

One week to develop the drama of the play with children including the Early Learning Centre on Hellier St in Abbotsford,

One week to build and create the installation

One week for performance with participating audiences.

Dates: September/October 2024 - to coincide with the Melbourne Fringe. The project began as a supported concept development process through the Valuing a Young Audience training course developed in partnership between the Convent and Melbourne Fringe and Sue Giles AM.

Total Project Cost: \$26720.00

Amount Requested: \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$

Recommendation: \$10,000.00

Panel Comments: A strong application centred around children and families. The panel spoke favourably to the concept of this work and the intergenerational dynamic between one of the country's most experienced makers of theatre for families and an emerging artist.

ACG2-048: **Conners Conners Gallery**

Encounters: Emerging and Established Artists in Conversation:

Project Description: ENCOUNTERS: EMERGING AND ESTABLISHED ARTISTS IN CONVERSATION is a series of exhibitions that pairs established and emerging artists in an open dialogue to explore methodologies, ideas and conceptually-driven visual arts practice by way of comparison and contrast. The project acknowledges that ideas and ways of making are explored in diverse ways, that art is not created in a vacuum but rather, by shared concerns, exploration and interests, and that practice is not defined by generation or period but instead is fluid, with ideas developing, intersecting and manifesting over time.

The project builds on four years of programming by Conners Conners, which has provided a platform for artists to experiment, take risks and be in conversation with each other and audiences. It is underpinned by a coherent strategy focused on experimental and conceptual practice and dialogue. Artists are paired based on shared elements in their work, including conceptual, methodological and aesthetical, enabling audiences to engage on multiple levels: as independent exhibitions and as a broader investigation of ideas and practice. The project facilitates relationships, conversations – including directly with our volunteers – and in some cases mentoring between the paired artists. Moreover, it aims to pay artists fees, acknowledging their central importance to the sector.

Post covid the importance of your digital presence has been elevated. The project seeks to develop our website a shared repository of exhibition content, which shares knowledge, acts as an additional site of interaction and enables ongoing conversation. This aspect further expands the reach of this program while cementing the aim of open and ongoing dialogue with a broad audience.

The project consists of five exhibition cycles, dedicated website content, and artist talks. Three exhibitions are confirmed to date:

Tarquin Charlesworth - Tamsen Hopkinson

Camille Cargill - Ruth Hoflich

Francis Carmody - Raafat Ishak

Total Project Cost: \$92860.00

Amount Requested: \$20000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$11000.00

Recommendation: \$15,000.00

Panel Comments: A worthwhile initiative supporting independent artist based in Fitzroy. The project will enable a range of exhibitions to diverse audiences within the Fitzroy precinct. Adds value and compliments Yarra's visual arts landscape.

ACG2-050: **Seventh Gallery**

Seventh Cinema - Season 2, Community Learning Program and Banner Project

Project Description: In the second half of 2024, our mission is to elevate Richmond's cultural vibrancy and strengthen community bonds through three key initiatives:

Seventh Cinema-Season 2:

Following foundational support from City of Yarra and Suburban Development Victoria in 2023, we are seeking support to launch the second season of Seventh Cinema, our outdoor film program. With existing infrastructure in place, this streamlined initiative will run from October- December 2024, featuring curated film programs and activities in collaboration with a guest artist. Our goal is to host a minimum of 6 screenings with 2 films per screening, creating an accessible space for artistic and social discourse in Citizens Park, enriching Richmond's cultural fabric.

Community Learning Program:

In response to insights gathered from community consultations in 2023, Seventh aims to initiate a pilot Community Learning Program. Complementing our upcoming Community Library and Reading Room, this program will consist of eight half-day workshops led by artists within our network. By engaging the broader Richmond community in practical and participatory learning, we aim to provide a unique platform for artists and community members to connect beyond traditional exhibition and event formats.

Banner Project:

Building on the success of "Divine Intervention" in 2023, featuring public artworks created in collaboration with local activist Robbie Thorpe, we propose a series of three exhibitions featuring banners fixed to our gallery's exterior. Through an open call, selected artists will collaborate on the development and printing of their artworks onto banners. This project not only provides exposure for artists through public exhibitions in Citizens Park but also transforms the gallery's surroundings into a vibrant and dynamic space, actively engaging and welcoming the local community, reinforcing Seventh as an accessible public art space.

Together, these initiatives contribute to the enrichment of Richmond's cultural tapestry, fostering interaction, learning, and creativity within our community.

Total Project Cost: \$40688.80

Amount Requested: \$20000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$15000.00

Recommendation: \$20,000.00

Panel Comments: A strong application that builds on existing programs to expand their reach further and establish a cinema series as part of their regular gallery program. This project builds on the first Seventh Cinema in the first part of 2024, demonstrating ability to achieve outcomes with already established community engagement.

ACG2-051: **3MBS Melbourne 103.5FM**

Classically Kids 2024

Project Description: Classically Kids (CK) is part of the 3MBS Youth Music Program that introduces live classical music performance to children 5-12yrs and their families through interactive and narrative-centred productions and will be presented by youth music educators, the Inveni Ensemble (Yarra-based ensemble) and Arcadia Winds.

3MBS is seeking funding to support the four remaining music-storytelling events during the 2024 Victorian school holiday periods in July and September/October at Collingwood Children's Farm. This project will feature newly commissioned productions by 3MBS based on familiar classical music favourites and newly composed music by Melbourne composers arranged for musical ensemble.

Audiences will be able to experience the following new productions:

Inveni Ensemble.

-'One Thousand and One Nights' (incorporating music from Rimsky-Korsakov's Scheherazade and new music by Melbourne composers Tristan Coehlo, Caerwen Martin and Andrea Keller).

-'Cinderella' (based on Prokofiev's musical score).

Arcadia Winds.

-Peer Gynt (based on Edvard Grieg's two suites).

-Saint-Saëns' 'Carnival of the Animals'.

The objective of Classically Kids is to:

-Introduce and build greater awareness of classical music to children from an early age in fun and creative ways that incorporates audio-visual stimulus and hands-on participation.

-Fill an significant absence of curated children's classical music programs that locally available/accessible.

-Provide paid performance contracts to local musicians.

-Develop new relationships with Yarra schools and early learning centres.

-Engage with/build a new local youth audience, including CALD families, that will encourage a lasting positive connection to classical music.

-Produce increased content for recording and future youth music podcasting.

These ticketed events will encourage new space activation at Collingwood Children's Farm and compliment its existing children's activities during school holiday periods, as well as promote 3MBS as an essential service for local artists by providing scope to create new works, provide performance and recording opportunities, and to support their audience building and branding.

Total Project Cost: \$18804.64

Amount Requested: \$8000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$6000.00

Recommendation: \$8,000.00

Panel Comments: Classically Kids is an established program run by Yarra-based radio station 3MBS. The focus on children's programming and substantial community support has been favourably evaluated by the panel. This project builds on an existing program of event, often selling out. Strongly recommended.

ACG2-056: **Future Tense Pty Ltd**

Blak Pearl 2024 Public Artistic Activations and Community Engagement Program

Project Description: We are seeking funding to support Blak Pearl Studio's public artistic engagement program for 2024. Blak Pearl provides a safe environment for Aboriginal peoples in the City of Yarra experiencing significant hardship and socio-economic disadvantage to pursue creative and cultural endeavours.

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. Public activations and displays of work produced by Blak Pearl Studio Artists increase the visibility of the Studio, the artists we represent, and engagement with their work, which holds both artistic and cultural value significant for the local Aboriginal community and the broader creative industry.

Specifically we are seeking funding to:

- Assist with the development and production of two exhibition opportunities
 - An exhibition with Seventh Gallery in August 2024
 - Gertrude St projection festival partnership with Centre for Projection Art x Charcoal Lane x Blak Pearl in July/August 2024.

If we are successful in securing the funding we will:

Assist key Blak Pearl artists to develop their work for one or all of the two public activation opportunities.

Development and production of Gertrude St Festival event hosted at Charcoal Lane.

Development and production of Seventh Gallery exhibition

Total Project Cost: \$35400.00

Amount Requested: \$20000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$12500.00

Recommendation: \$16,441.00

Panel Comments: Strong application building on the work of Black Pearl over the last few years. This project seeks to expand its scope to include Yarra based artists organisations such as SEVENTH and the Gertrude Street Projection Festival which was favourably endorsed unanimously by the panel.

ACG2-058: **MAV (Multicultural Arts Victoria)**

I Know My Place presented by MAV and Alter State

Project Description: 'I Know My Place' is an intentional return to Yarra to centre ourselves on land and in history, as part of MAV's 50th Anniversary program RETROSPECTION.

Designed specifically to deepen ties between Deaf and/or Disabled as well as culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) and/or as communities of Colour (PoC), 'I Know My Place' defiantly carves out space for Disability-led arts leadership, artmaking and networking.

MAV will partner with Arts Centre Melbourne and award-winning Disability arts initiative Alter State on 'I Know My Place', engaging trail-blazing CALD/POC artists who may not identify as Disabled, but may be Neurodivergent, Deaf or Chronically Ill, increasing visibility and opportunities.

MAV and Alter State are aligned in creative interventions that bring significant cultural equity and structural change in our contexts, while RETROSPECTION aims to celebrate spaces that have supported artists to reframe the margins through history.

The I Know My Place collaboration in Yarra will include;

A high calibre Disability/POC arts-leadership networking event and panel centred around authentic artmaking as a tool of connection. Wednesday 25 September, Reading Room FTH;

A community justice pop-up celebration led by creative practitioners who strive for land-based justice, during Alter State 2 - 13 October, Artist Private Studio TBA

Development of original works by four multi-disciplinary artists who also identify as People of Colour (PoC) to be presented at the above and other venues.

MAV evolved alongside First Nations, LGBTQIA+, Aboriginal, Disabled, Deaf and other significant 'movements of the people' aimed at dismantling existing inequitable systems of power and privilege. Spanning fifty years, MAV's own grassroots movement to improve livelihood, visibility and participation for culturally diverse, refugee and migrant communities began with an inaugural event in Yarra in 1974.

Through the lens of 2024, we ask - just whose voices were missing that day at Fitzroy Town Hall?

Total Project Cost: \$58044.00

Amount Requested: \$20000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$14000.00

Recommendation: \$14,000.00

Panel Comments: This project marks a significant milestone in a key cultural Melbourne based organisation. The project seeks to return to MAV's site of its first meeting in Fitzroy 50 years ago. This project, part of MAV's 50-year celebrations, is a strong idea and an excellent opportunity for engaging the local arts community.

ACG2-059: **Ms Melanie Cobham Sapriza**

body / building

Project Description: I am seeking support for the completion and publication of my first photo book. The project, titled 'body / building' is a photographic account of my migratory experience, and is currently in its development stage, having completed approximately one third of the projected work. Once printed, I expect to present this publication at Meridian Sculpture, also located within the City of Yarra.

'Body/Building' is a playful yet tender survey of the city from the perspective of an outsider. It documents an untimely migration, immediately followed by a two-year confinement period that exposed the fault lines between the physical and psychological dimensions of our lived realities.

Combining black and white and colour photography, the book considers how deeply our surroundings contribute to welcoming, transforming, alienating, and overall informing the cadence of our lives.

The photographic series shot primarily across the City of Yarra and the broader Melbourne serves as an archive that, at times, highlights the daunting absence of bodies over the portrait of the body itself. The title is a play on words - a nod to the body as a sculpture in transformation.

Between the flaneur and the domestic, the photographs invite us into the regenerative process of becoming, of finding solace in the foreign, and a place in the in-between spaces.

Total Project Cost: \$19632.00

Amount Requested: \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$

Recommendation: \$10,000.00

Panel Comments: The panel expressed a keen interest to support a local emerging artist. The work is strong, the community support is strong, and has the potential to elevate the artist into their next career stage.

ACG2-063: **Rubiks Collective**

Rorqual

Project Description: Contemporary classical ensemble Rubiks, jazz singer Gian Slater and composer Wally Gunn will present the avant-premiere of Rorqual, a new song cycle inspired by the true story of the 52Hz whale – often referred to as "the world's loneliest whale".

This real-life, modern mythological creature has roamed the seas alone for decades. First detected on recordings by scientists in the late 1980s and continuing to sing to the present day, the whale has never been sighted and cannot be identified; though its migration patterns resemble those of the rorqual whale family (blue and fin whales specifically), its 52Hz call is 30-40Hz higher than typical for these species. The whale continues to travel the seas alone, without pod or mate, earning it the name "the world's loneliest whale". The fascinating story of this elusive creature serves as the departure point for a cross-genre song cycle interrogating themes of loneliness, solitude, independence and connection.

Rorqual will premiere in 2025 as a multimedia song cycle, featuring electronic interludes and film vignettes. Ahead of developing the work's multimedia elements, Rubiks are seeking support to stage a more intimate avant-premiere/preview of the song cycle material for City of Yarra residents. This event will include a concert and afternoon tea, encouraging attendees to engage and connect with other audience members and the artists.

Rubiks will spend a week at Bakehouse Studios (Richmond) for final workshops of the song cycle, ahead of

the concert and afternoon tea event at 75 Reid (Fitzroy North). This event will be offered free of charge for Yarra residents to address isolation in the wake of Covid and cost of living pressures, and as a low-fee event for non-Yarra residents. Rubiks will particularly target isolated community members through Yarra's youth centres, homework clubs and organisations working to foster social inclusion.

Total Project Cost: \$32022.00

Amount Requested: \$10522.00 **Minimum Required:** \$

Recommendation: \$10,522.00

Panel Comments: A strong proposal centred on Yarra's local music production sector, delivered and centred around a significant music institution – Bakehouse. The project reflects how music is made and shared with audiences.

ACG2-064: **West Space**

West Space Community Engagement Programs: July-December 2024

Project Description: With the support of the City of Yarra, West Space will enliven our program with a suite of differently scaled community engagement programs. Bringing people together around contemporary art and ideas, and connecting artists with new audiences, this suite of programs will fulfil our 2020-2024 strategic goals of engaging with 3 target communities: under-represented artists, local Yarra communities, and students.

We are seeking funds to remunerate 30 artists/arts practitioners, commission 5 new artworks, 3 performances, and offer audiences 8 distinct public programs.

The heart of our July-December program is the 'Stranger than fiction' Symposium, Saturday 24 August, 11am-4pm at Music Market, Collingwood Yards. Building on the success of 2023's 'Unison' Symposium, this program will present talks, discussions and performances that expand on the ideas within the exhibition. The Symposium will centre hospitality, generating a sense of care for our community with experimental and playful programming that provides multiple access points to ideas for our broad audiences, and by serving home-cooked lunch.

West Space will work with artists Akil Ahamat (ACT) and Gabi Briggs (Vic) to present discussions that expand on the ideas within their exhibitions. Creating opportunities to engage with conceptually rigorous artwork in a number of ways is vital to the strength, development and well-being of Yarra's thriving artistic community.

Running alongside these programs will be a suite of presentations in the West Space Window. An accessible entry point to contemporary art, the Window is a public-facing micro-gallery on the exterior of our space, visible during all Collingwood Yards open hours. From July-December, West Space seeks to commission 5 artists to create new work and develop a small-scale talk, discussion, reading or workshop. Workshops will be artist-led and playful, with participants learning the artists' process in working with their medium of choice while discussing the concepts underpinning their practices.

Total Project Cost: \$90668.00

Amount Requested: \$18680.00 **Minimum Required:** \$12580.00

Recommendation: \$18,680.00

Panel Comments: A significant cultural organisation in Yarra proposing a high level of artist and community engagement. Strongly recommended.

ACG2-074: **Mr Alex Clayton**

Playback Jul-Nov 2024

Project Description: Playback needs funding to continue throughout 2024. We would focus on 4 main areas:

1. Continue to employ industry experts as hosts
2. Increase marketing spend
3. Upgrade website

4. Cover operational costs

Playback connects professional and emerging artists in a welcoming and low-barrier environment to foster valuable development opportunities. Playback seeks to continue programming industry experts to maintain the provided level of value. These experts bring specialised knowledge and real-world experience to emerging artists who have submitted music.

Playback ensures events are as accessible as possible with open-door and 'pay-as-you-feel' policies. All donations are reinvested into the project; however, the current income is not sufficient to sustain the cost of paying hosts. We are requesting funds to continue programming these industry experts throughout 2024.

We are also looking to increase our overall awareness and diversity of submissions through a digital marketing campaign, as well as bolstering existing cross-promotional partnerships with MESS, The Gasometer, and Music Victoria. Through paid Instagram and Facebook campaigns, we seek to encourage a wider array of identities to submit tracks and attend events.

We plan to upgrade our website to improve communication, engagement, and accessibility. This includes a dynamic and automated events system with submission guides and deadlines and an embedded submission form. Our goal is to make participating as easy and seamless as possible.

Funds will also go towards producing merchandise to grow brand awareness and give participants a visible sense of pride in their involvement in the initiative.

Currently Playback is completely volunteer-led. We seek funds to sustainably continue the initiative while fairly compensating ourselves for our time and skills as well as safeguarding against burnout.

Additional operational costs include fees for domain hosting, Google Workspace, and Airtable; as well as formalising our organisation as a general partnership.

Total Project Cost: \$12016.00

Amount Requested: \$6800.00 **Minimum Required:** \$2820.00

Recommendation: \$6,800.00

Panel Comments: Good initiative to support electronic music scene and emerging artists. Proposal included a range letters of support from venue, participant and music industry peers. Strongly recommended.

ACG2-079: **Miss Kate Hutton**

Awariness for the Rebellious - One Eighty Collective's solo art exhibition

Project Description: One Eighty Collective (Kate Hutton), proudly presents her solo exhibition, "Awareness for the Rebellious." This exhibition delves into Kate's personal journey of triumph over adversity and her lifelong battle with mental health challenges. Functioning as a comprehensive 5-step program, the exhibition guides visitors through overcoming depressive struggles. Drawing from Kate's knowledge from over a decades work with psychiatrists, psychologists, life coaches, mentors, and holistic well-being practices, the exhibition features 15+ artworks and murals organized into themed "steps." Each step serves as a beacon, sharing stories and tools to empower individuals in navigating their way out of depression and unlocking a realm of healing and self-discovery.

Opening Night Highlights:

The opening night promises to be a memorable affair, offering an immersive experience filled with art, music, and charitable endeavors. Highlights of the evening include:

Live music performances to set the mood and uplift your spirits

Mesmerising live projections that create an enchanting ambiance

Striking murals that serve as a backdrop for the exhibition

Live auctions and silent auctions, providing an opportunity to acquire unique artworks while donating to

mental health awareness

A raffle hamper, offering an assortment of prizes to raise funds for mental health initiatives

Day Two and Three Activities:

The second day of the event continues to offer enriching experiences aimed at promoting well-being and mindfulness. Highlights include:

Breath-work, meditation, and sound healing classes that provide an opportunity for deep relaxation and self-reflection

Public access to the exhibition, allowing visitors to explore the artworks at their own pace

Substance Abuse Recovery workshop

Painting classes held in the evening,

Artistic workshops run by industry lead artists (TBC)

Performance and skill building workshops (TBC)

Total Project Cost: \$43406.89

Amount Requested: \$5000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$3500.00

Recommendation: \$5,000.00

Panel Comments: The panel supported the proposal which has a focus on artistic practice that explores a journey to overcome adversity. The panel found the application to be rigorous in its planning and articulation of mental health themes.

ACG2-090: **Ms Katie Sfetkidis**

We the People: "Yarra"

Project Description: "We the People x Yarra", is an ongoing arts research project that delves into the concept of legacy within activism and examines the enduring importance of public demonstrations. This Yarra iteration will investigate the rich histories of political struggles across various communities in Yarra, including LGBTQ+, environmental, housing, and First Nations activists.

Research activities will include:

Community Engagement: Conducting one-on-one interviews and group conversations with local activists from different backgrounds, fostering cross-generational dialogues. All participants in these activities will be paid their involvement.

Historical Research: Tracing the history of demonstrations and political action within the Yarra area, exploring collections at the State Library Victoria, Yarra Heritage Collection, Women's Art Register (Richmond Library) and Gay and Lesbian Archives.

Site Visits and Mapping Exercises: Retracing the steps of previous protests and visiting historically significant sites to gather visual and audio materials, such as photographs, drawings, sound recordings, and videos

Studio Experiments and Drawing Practice: Utilizing the social and historical research to inform and inspire my ongoing drawing practice, leading to the creation of new protest posters and drawings centered celebrating political history of Yarra.

The culmination of this research take the form of a day long event (possible sites include Collingwood Town Hall). The event will bring together historical research & community connections, creating an open & inclusive space that encourages the local community to think politically; remember past actions; and imagine better futures. Throughout the day the artist will host a series of talks by local community who she has met through the research & invite audience members & participants to add their own memories & ephemera to the research already collected. These documents will be collated into artist book which will be gifted to the Mayor of Yarra at the conclusion of the event.

Total Project Cost: \$12000.00

Amount Requested: \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$8000.00

Recommendation: \$10,000.00

Panel Comments: This proposal is a significant theme relevant to Yarra. The panel recognised the solid frameworks in place for a successful execution and the strong connections to the local community.
