

Metro Arts



JAN-JULY

97 BOUNDARY STREET | WEST END | BRISBANE

WELCOME

TO METRO ARTS 2023



JO THOMAS
CEO + ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

What moments make up a life?

What will you take with you and what will you leave behind? What special magic will you remember? What will make you think and question and make change? What will make you laugh or touch your soul?

Let's see if you can find some of these moments and magic in our 2023 program of new work by incredible artists. This year we question what it is to create, and to break; we shine light on female mental health, personal struggles and cultural expressions. We play with paper, fight with form and let an ear-worm run wild. There's dance, sculpture, theatre, video, photography and more beyond easy definition. And all new.

Local artist Washington says in her 2010 song "Underground", "I hope in the final moments, I hear every song I've ever sung. At once."

I'd like to see all of these spectacular experiences in our 2023 program. Slowly, one by one.

Jo

WHAT'S ON



THEATRE / PERFORMANCE

Hold Me Closer Tony Danza

24 - 28 January

Betwixt

1 - 4 March

The People's Dance Party

25 March

The Architects of Sound

6 April

SHE (See us, Hear us, Engage with us)

3 - 13 May

Break

21 - 24 June



ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

Josh Taliani

2023



EXHIBITIONS

CTRL+ALT+DEL

21 Jan - 4 Feb

Open Video - Various Artists

11 February - 4 March

Belloo, Phluxus2 Dance Collective and Good Company Arts

8 - 11 March

Renee Kire

18 March - 15 April

Tiana Jefferies

18 March - 15 April

Easton Dunne

18 March - 15 April

Precision -

BAD Group Exhibition

6 May - 10 June

MAVA Pathfinders

Caitlin Franzmann, Elizabeth Willing and James Barth

24 June - 22 July



**DISCOVER
WHAT'S
ON AT
METRO
ARTS**



Image: ArtWorkAgency

Hold Me Closer Tony Danza

BY THE FARM

Who's right when we're all wrong?

Taking pop music, dance, and theatre to its limits, *Hold Me Closer Tony Danza* asks the audience to pick a side, show their true colours for the ultimate dance-off.

A commonly misheard song lyric contains a

deeper proposition about how we form meaning - and that perhaps our understanding of the world is intrinsically flawed.

In a world driven by information overload, this deeply seductive and satirical

work asks how we can all still connect when we feel so far apart.

From award-winning dance collective The Farm, just see if you can get this one out of your head!

DATES	Tues 24 – Sat 28 Jan	TICKETS	\$45 \$39 + booking fee
TIME	7:30pm	SUITABLE	For ages 15+
OPENING NIGHT	Wed 25 Jan	ARTIST Q&A POST SHOW	Friday 27 January

Betwixt

BY PINK MATTER

Fiercely staunch, mega hot, and serving home truths all at the same time.

After a sell-out season as part of the 2022 Mad Dance Festival, *Betwixt* returns to shine the light on the constantly evolving artform of Street Dance.

Fusing street dance with spoken word, *Betwixt* explores

rich cultural perspectives, delving into everything from relationships and upbringing to identity and sense of self.

Propelled by the power of community and collaboration, five artists

become heightened versions of themselves embodying the energies of the five elements – water, air, fire, earth, and spirit.

Experience a rallying cry for street dance - a reckoning of cosmic proportions.

DATES

Wed 1 – Sat 4 Mar

TICKETS

\$35 | \$29
School Groups: \$29

TIME

7:30pm

SUITABLE

For ages 15+

OPENING NIGHT

Thurs 2 March

ARTIST Q&A POST SHOW

Friday 3 March

“This work is truly phenomenal.”

– Nothing Ever Happens In Brisbane

Image: Sinead McBrien



ONE NIGHT STAND SERIES: POP UP EVENTS

We're getting a little frisky with some of Australia's freshest artists - for one night only.

The People's Dance Party

BY BRING A PLATE

No more backs against the wall - it's time to dance.

Lose yourself in an immersive dance experience like no other, celebrating diverse bodies, identities and movement!

With pop-up performances featuring a range of different

dance styles, get ready to *lose your inhibitions* and *dance the way you feel* as the stage becomes a dance floor.

Witness the passion, artistry and diversity of Brisbane's thriving dance community.

Feel the beat, dance to the rhythm...

All. Night. Long.

DATES

Sat 25 Mar

TICKETS

General - \$25 | Youth \$15

LITTLIES EARLY SHOW

3:30pm:
for ages 3+

SUITABLE

For all ages
5 years and under - Free

LATE SHOW ADULTS ONLY

8:30pm:
for ages 18+



Image: Cecilia Martin

“Pure fun for all ages.”

– Stage Whispers



Image: Georgia Wallace

Rough, Red & Raw

ARCHITECTS OF SOUND

This intimate scratchwork concert will leave your earholes quivering for more.

Live, loose and LGBTQIA+, get ready for a sonic experience that critics are already describing as “greater than Live Aid and Fyre Festival combined.”

Bringing unhinged visuals, sensual choreography and their trademark deadpan comedy, get a glimpse into the creative minds of Brisbane’s self-proclaimed

“most influential band ever.”

Get set for electro-pop bangers as AOS preview songs from their second debut album ARTFAP.

This intimate scratchwork earworm extravaganza is not-to-be missed!

DATES

Thurs 6 April

TIME

7pm

TICKETS

\$25

SUITABLE

For ages 15+

**WORLD
PREMIERE**

SHE

ENGAGE
WITH US

Image: Patch Creative

SHE (See us, Hear us, Engage with us)

**BY INDELABILITYARTS IN COLLABORATION WITH PIP THEATRE
AND THE GOOD ROOM**

A show about women and mental health.

Let's face it, the last couple of years have been rough (to put it mildly) and we want to talk about it. The good, the bad, and the ugly.

Let's talk about the impact on our collective mental health - we've dealt with; covid, #metoo, shitty politics, floods, fire, famine, and all the things in between.

Led by Amy Ingram from The Good Room, and built from the stories you have shared with us, SHE will have you laughing one minute and hit you in the feels the next.

DATES

Wed 3 - Sat 13 May

TICKETS

\$45 | \$39

TIME

7:30pm

SUITABLE

For ages 15+

**OPENING
NIGHT**

Thurs 4 May

**ARTIST Q&A
POST SHOW**

Friday 5 May

Break

BY THE FARM & CECILIA MARTIN

A story told from the inside out, about a body reaching breaking point.

What is it to break? What is it to fall apart? Ceci travelled the world as a professional acrobat for many years but after a series of accidents and complex injuries, the career she carefully crafted fell to pieces.

Now she's somewhat healed, somewhat broken, actively defiant and left asking: what is the cost of our ambition?

Intensely personal and raw, *Break* is an autobiographical work that sits between dance,

theatre and circus, an investigation into how we define ourselves and how we recover when our dreams shatter.

DATES	Wed 21 - Sat 24 June	TICKETS	\$45 \$39 School Groups: \$29
TIME	7:30pm	SUITABLE	For ages 12+
OPENING NIGHT	Thurs 22 Jun	ARTIST Q&A POST SHOW	Friday 23 June



Image: Jax Oliver





ARTIST IN RESIDENCE PROGRAM

Our Artist In Residence Program offers artists the opportunity to work with Metro Arts, to develop and experiment with their creative practice, and create new work. We provide artists with studio space to develop works, alongside producing support, professional development and mentorship.

This year we welcome
JOSHUA TALIANI
as our **2023 ARTIST
IN RESIDENCE**



Joshua Taliani is a First Nations (Bidjara/Kullali/Wakka Wakka) Italian Artist and Performer.

Working across genres, from street dance to dance theatre, Joshua's practice has been grounded in hip-hop but his experience includes contemporary dance.

Joshua's signature style is heavy on open choreography and infused with the art form of vogue (a part of the Ballroom culture).

Joshua is also the Father of the Trailblazing **House of Alexander** – a leader in the queer BIPOC community which continues the legacy of Harlem's Ballroom culture of creating space for, and helping to nurture, Trans and queer BIPOC. Commercially Joshua has been a part of campaigns for "Bonds" and "Adidas" through his work with Pink Matter.

He is now pushing the boundaries of his practice, crossing his work with learnings of culture and the queer movement.

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Metro Arts' Creative Development Program supports artists in the creation of new work - as they experiment with ideas, new forms, collaborations and new ways of working.

Within our studio space in West End, artists are supported with designated space, advice and financial assistance - so they can dream big, create new work, practice and prepare ideas for the next big step in their careers.

Discover more about the artists involved in our 2023 Creative Development Program via our website.



Image: Russell Shakespeare

The Road Knows

GREG MANNING

During his creative development, poet and writer Greg Manning will delve into the history of Brisbane via the 199 Bus Route. The ideas underpinning *The Road Knows* were conceived in 2014, when he was an operator of the City Sights bus tour.



Image: Amy McDonald

Black Girl Rising

LINNEA TENGROTH

Linnea Tengroth is an emerging theatre-maker and performer from Stockholm, Sweden. Her work is driven by the desire to give a voice to those who aren't given the space or freedom to speak.

Black Girl Rising is an original dark comedy piece interrogating black lives and mental health as a result of systemic racism.



Image: Anna McGahan

Carcass

**ANNA MCGAHAN
& DANIEL WILSON**

Writer/Performer Anna McGahan and Actor/Writer/Chef Daniel Wilson examine the horrors of the food industry and the culinary world, delving into immersive techniques, and experimental food theatre to create a multi-sensory storytelling experience.



Image: Ivan Trigo

Chaos in Concert

**ASHLEIGH MUSK, ANNA WHITAKER
& JENNI LARGE**

Three women entangle themselves in a press conference of microphones and a cacophony of loop systems.

Working in collaboration with sound designer and composer Anna Whitaker, dancer and choreographer Jenni Large and dancer, choreographer and dramaturg Ashleigh Musk explore the connection between sound and dance.

**Metro Arts' Creative Development Program is
proudly supported by Brisbane City Council**



CTRL+ALT+DEL:RECLAIM

VARIOUS ARTISTS

Synonymous with the computer system command pressed by a user to terminate an application and shut down the operating system, CTRL+ALT+DEL: RECLAIM is a multidisciplinary arts event that reboots and reclaims arts and cultural spaces.

Expect visual art, spoken word, music, dance and culture by artists and communities who identify as First Nations, Pacific Islander &/or culturally & linguistically diverse.

Join us for the Ctrl+Alt+Del: Reclaim publication and exhibition launch party on Saturday 21 January from 6-8pm.

**METRO ARTS GALLERIES
(ALL GALLERY SPACES)**

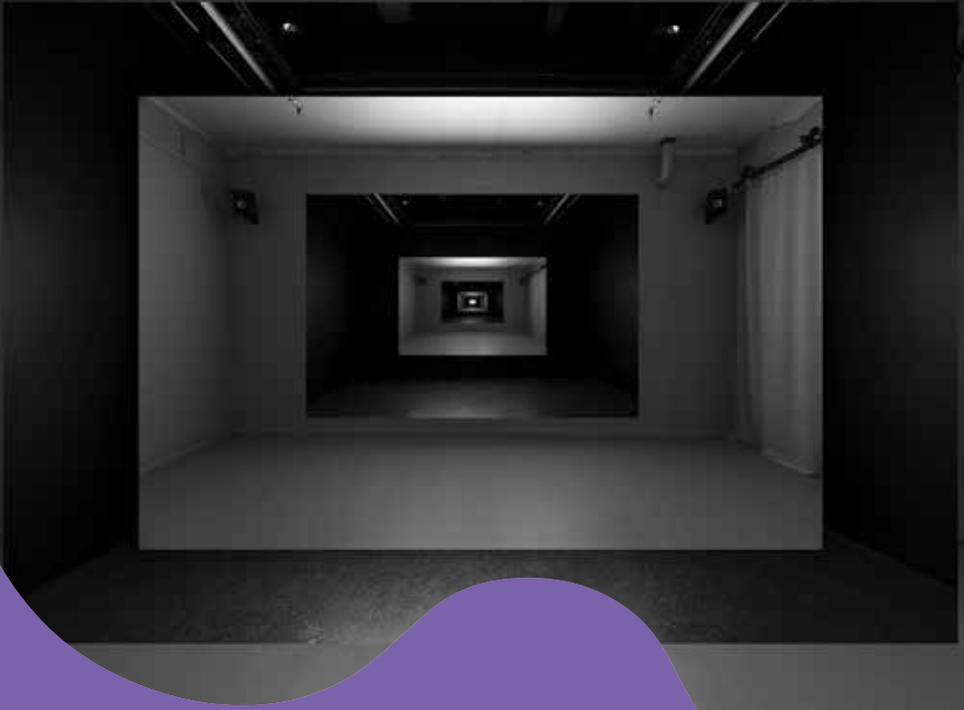
DATES Sat 21 Jan - Sat 4 Feb

**FREE OPENING
EVENT**

See website for gallery opening days and times.

Sat 21 Jan, 6-8pm





OPEN VIDEO

VARIOUS ARTISTS

A month of moving image works presented across the Metro Arts galleries.

The Metro Arts galleries will host a dynamic selection of contemporary moving image works, featuring works programmed via an open-call for proposals, as well as works programmed by Composite Moving Image Agency & Media Bank in Melbourne.

As part of a partnership between Metro Arts and Composite, a Queensland artist will also exhibit at Composite later in 2023.

**METRO ARTS GALLERIES
(ALL GALLERY SPACES)**

DATES Sat 11 Feb - Sat 4 March

**FREE OPENING
EVENT**

Sat 11 Feb, 4pm- 6pm

See website for gallery opening days and times.



Image: Barbara Lowing, edited by Good Company Arts

The Woman Remembers

VARIOUS ARTISTS | BELLOO CREATIVE

The woman remembers the day the earth shook and the sea came rushing inland...

Presented as part of International Women's Week, *The Woman Remembers* is a sophisticated and visually stunning digital work about belonging and loss, addressing our

relationship to landscape and our experience of climate emergency.

The work traverses text and physical language across multiple art forms to produce

an original, contemporary transcultural cinematic experience for audiences.

This exhibition is a collaboration between Belloo, Phluxus2 Dance Collective and Good Company Arts.

METRO ARTS GALLERIES (ALL GALLERY SPACES)

DATES Wed 8 - Sat 11 March

**FREE OPENING
EVENT** Wed 8 March,
5:30pm - 7:30pm

Featuring a special short performance by dancer Hsin-Ju Ely between 6pm-7pm

See website for gallery opening days and times.

Be There or Be Square

RENEE KIRE

A site-specific exploration into three-dimensional forms and viewer engagement.

Through the merging of sculpture and painting, this site-specific installation is an exploration of three-dimensional forms and their relationship to space.

With the use of perspective and viewer interaction, Renee Kire introduces a new way of observing and understanding – promoting inquiry through fragmentation of knowledge.

The viewer is a vital part of this work, as they are required to adapt to their surroundings.

**METRO ARTS
WINDOW GALLERY**

DATES Sat 18 March - Sat 15 April

**FREE OPENING
EVENT**

Sat 18 March, 4-6pm

See website for gallery opening days and times.

Image: Lorissa Towee



teetering, tittering, tits up

TIANA JEFFERIES

Structures for queer and multispecies intimacies...

Playful reconfigurations of outdoor equipment such as tarpaulins, tentpoles, and trampolines offer refuge in their corrugations and curvatures.

Developed in response to wetland bird hides and other cruising sites, the exhibition takes an irreverent, ironic, and absurd approach to ecological relationships.

METRO ARTS GALLERY ONE

DATES Sat 18 March - Sat 15 April

FREE OPENING EVENT

Sat 18 March,
4-6pm

See website for gallery opening days and times.

Up late 9:00pm

5 years and under - Free

Image: Louis Lim





Image: Easton Dunne

Main Drag

EASTON DUNNE

An exhibition playfully exploring queer experience and perceptions of regional Queensland.

Main Drag applies aesthetics of kitsch and camp queer visual culture to the stereotypical signs and signifiers of local and communal identity, often seen along the national highway running through Rockhampton, the town in Central Queensland where Dunne resides.

Dunne resurfaces images that the area uses to market itself to visitors, and frame its own identity for locals, with hot pink, fluffy faux fur that resembles cowhide. Dunne resists and reframes the hyper-masculine narrative of being the “beef capital of Australia” as offering the potential for an alternate queer utopia in this regional location.

METRO ARTS GALLERY TWO

DATE

Sat 18 March - Sat 15 April

FREE OPENING EVENT:

Sat 18 March, 4-6pm

See website for gallery opening days and times.



Anna Carey. Everything you imagine is real (2022). Giclee Print. 100x88 cm. Edition of 6 (Detail).

Precision: The Art of Cutting

CURATED BY STEPHANIE LINDQUIST, WITH MINQI GU

An innovative and thought-provoking exhibition on incising, folding and cutting paper - presented as part of Brisbane Art Design (BAD).

Precision engages with the process of paper cutting as a medium, to transcend the folk tradition and aesthetically shift the practice into the realm of contemporary art.

At a time when climate change and the environment are central, this approach to a traditional, recyclable and

renewable art medium is in itself a political statement.

For some artists, ecology and sustainability inform their work, for others it is secondary to an often cutting, critical engagement with the medium or other socio-political issues.

Artworks will include paper, photographs, installations and three-dimensional wall sculptures.

Presented in partnership with BAD and Museum of Brisbane.

**METRO ARTS GALLERIES
(ALL GALLERY SPACES)**

DATES Sat 6 May - Sat 10 June

**FREE OPENING
EVENT**

Sat 6 May,
4pm - 6pm

See our website for gallery opening days and times and special events in conjunction with this exhibition.

MAVA PATHFINDERS: In Review

**CAITLIN FRANZMANN, ELIZABETH WILLING
AND JAMES BARTH**

After a year creating work at the Norman Park Substation... the Pathfinders provide reflections on their Metro Arts' journey.

At the close of their residency, MAVA Pathfinder Artists, Caitlin Franzmann, Elizabeth Willing and James Barth share developments and learnings from their time in the MAVA studio.

Upskilling and resourcing mid-career artists to thrive, the MAVA Pathfinder Program supports artists to explore new opportunities to build a sustainable creative practice.

**METRO ARTS GALLERIES
(ALL GALLERY SPACES)**

DATES Sat 24 June - Sat 22 July

**FREE OPENING
EVENT** Sat 24 June,
4pm - 6pm

See website for gallery opening days
and times.



Image: Courtesy of the artists.





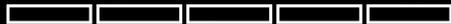
BOLD. BRAVE. BEAUTIFUL. ART.

At Metro Arts, you'll always be surprised, bewildered, challenged and confronted. The stories you see here - you won't see anywhere else.

For over 40 years, Metro Arts has been the incubator and launchpad for some of Australia's finest artists.

Based in West End, Brisbane, we support artists every step of the way – from the early development of ideas through to presenting and touring work.

Metro Arts



METROARTS.COM.AU



**METRO ARTS EXISTS
TO ENSURE NEW ART
IS CREATED TODAY,
TOMORROW AND
BEYOND.**

We champion all contemporary art forms and the creation of thought-provoking and exhilarating art.

Every day within our theatres, galleries, workshops and studio spaces, there are artists taking risks, experimenting, developing and creating.

So - join us as one of the first audiences to see something new, and show your support for the renegades, dreamers, and risk takers.

Events and Function Hire

HOST YOUR PARTY OR EVENT AT METRO ARTS!

Our unique venue spaces can accommodate a range of events:

New Benner Theatre

Private parties, conferences, product launches, theatre productions, film festivals and more!

Studio Spaces and Galleries

Photography and video shoots, table reads, auditions, workshops, classes and more.

Factory Lane

Parties, cocktails, speeches and pre-and-post event functions.

With affordable options, we can take care of food and beverage, entertainment, tech and sound, wait-staff, whatever you need.

And - by choosing to host your event at Metro Arts, you also directly support the future of Australian contemporary art.

Find out more: metroarts.com.au/venues or email us at info@metroarts.com.au



Bookings

metroarts.com.au or

Phone: 07 3002 7100

BOX OFFICE Opening Hours

Mon – Fri 10am – 4pm and 90 minutes prior to performance start time

Visiting Us

Location

The easiest way to access Metro Arts is to enter West Village from Boundary Street, wander through the garden area known as The Common, and make your way down Factory Lane.

Factory Lane is our outdoor bar and foyer space, and the centre of our Metro Arts precinct. From there you can access our bar and galleries or venture downstairs to our intimate, underground theatre space.

Transport

The closest stops are the 199, 198, 196, 192 and 60 bus routes. We are also located within a short walk from the South Brisbane train station and Cultural Centre busway. Visit the Translink website to plan your best route.

Parking

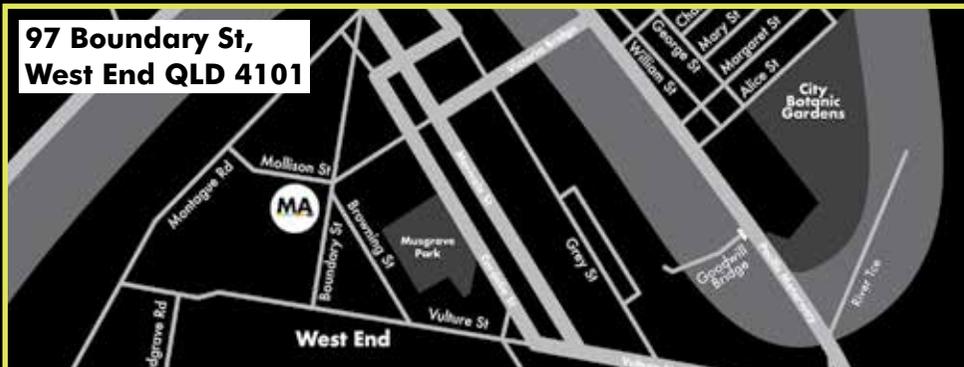
West Village has 450 secure on-site parking bays (free for 2 hours) accessible via Mollison Street. For further pricing details visit metroarts.com.au/visiting-us. Alternatively, there is limited on street parking available but please note parking meters may apply.

Accessibility

Metro Arts is dedicated to supporting access and making everyone feel welcome. Please contact Metro Arts on 07 3002 7100 or info@metroarts.com.au for patrons requiring assistance.

Metro Arts supports the Companion Card program. For patrons who require the assistance of a companion or carer, a second ticket is issued at no cost to the Companion Card holder. Please phone Metro Arts during business hours to organise.

**97 Boundary St,
West End QLD 4101**



OUR PARTNERS

Government Partners



Dedicated to a better Brisbane

Metro Arts is supported by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body. Metro Arts is supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland, part of the Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy. Metro Arts' Creative Development Program is proudly supported by Brisbane City Council. Norman Park Substation No. 9 is assisted by Brisbane City Council. Metro Arts Visual Arts (MAVA) Substation is supported by Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) Fund – an Australian Government initiative.

Programming Partners



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Metro Arts Patron, Wesley Enoch AM.

We acknowledge Tim and Gina Fairfax for their generosity as founding donors of the Metro Arts Future Fund. Metro Arts gratefully acknowledges the generosity of all our donors

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Helen Flint

Helga McCallum

Huika Li

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Lucy Mills

Lynette Green

Lynn Rainbow-Reid AM

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Mandy Quadrio

Margaret Banister

Margaret Ridley

Marg McGrath

Maria Garcia de la Corte

Marion Hubbard

Mary Maher

Maryanne Nucifora

Matthew Roach

Mauricio Zárate Castillo

Meg Smale

Michael Cottier

Michelle Boswell

Michelle O'Connor

Mila Sheludkova

Nadia Santini

Nathaniel Blackman

Nhi Lam

Nic Dunning

Nicholas Stevens-Hoare

Nicholas Woodward

Nicky Whichelow

Pamela Atkinson

Penelope Edwards

Patrick Mckinney

Peter Myska

Peter O'Sullivan

Shoeb Hilan

Puneet Khandandani

Robyn W...

Rohan Cassell

Ros Williams

Ruth Faresa

Sam Peacock

Sarah Friedrichs

Sheryl Cornack

Shirley Glennon

Sid Jayasinghe

Simon Wood

Sophie Loades

Stella Knief

Stephanie Ridgway

Summer Bland

Tammy Oakden

Tara Hastings

Taylor Bast

Tegan Mortimore

Tessa McEvoy

Trevor Galbraith

Tricia Thomas

Ursula Lovelock

Vanessa Stenhouse

Wayne Tumataroa

Wesley Enoch AM

Maryanne Nucifora

Matthew Roach

Mauricio Zárate Castillo

Meg Smale

Michael Cottier

Michelle Boswell

Michelle O'Connor

Mila Sheludkova

Nadia Santini

Nathaniel Blackman

Nhi Lam

Nic Dunning

Nicholas Stevens-Hoare

Nicholas Woodward

Nicky Whichelow

Pamela Atkinson

Penelope Edwards

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Sam Peacock

Sarah Friedrichs

Sheryl Cornack

Shirley Glennon

Sid Jayasinghe

Simon Wood

Sophie Loades

Stella Knief

Stephanie Ridgway

Summer Bland

Tammy Oakden

Tara Hastings

Taylor Bast

Tegan Mortimore

Tessa McEvoy

Trevor Galbraith

Tricia Thomas

Ursula Lovelock

Vanessa Stenhouse

Wayne Tumataroa

Wesley Enoch AM

SUPPORT US

All these great humans came forward last year with a gift.

A gift that supported local artists to create and present work right here in Brisbane, and beyond.



Join Metro Arts in supporting the future of Australian contemporary arts practice, now.

Art
Starts
Here

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