

# Metro Arts

## 2023 CALL FOR PROPOSALS



## 2023 CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION GUIDE

# ABOUT METRO ARTS

**Metro Arts is developing the future of Australian contemporary arts practice, now.**

At Metro Arts we:

- Develop and co-present contemporary arts
- Create and champion quality contemporary arts
- Professionally and artistically develop, challenge and support artists
- Nurture existing audiences and develop new audiences
- Unite artists and their work with these audiences

Visit [our website](#) for more information.

This Call for Proposals is for the 2023 Creative Development Program at Metro Arts.

A Call for Proposals for the Exhibition Program is also currently open.

Please see the Metro Arts website for further details.



Where We Meet by Eve Klein and Taitu'uga Kirih Wesche, 2022. Image by Jade Ellis.

# PERFORMANCE PROGRAM OVERVIEW

In 2023, Metro Arts will continue to support the creative development of new contemporary works.

The creative development program will feature works by early career through to established performing arts practitioners. The program will emphasise quality contemporary practice that demonstrates innovation, experimentation, and critical engagement.

For us, the contemporary works we are looking for are new, ambitious and rule-breaking, by artists taking risks, creating, developing, and experimenting. Typically, we do not program traditional arts disciplines unless there is something that makes it fresh and exciting. Perhaps it's genre bending/crossing and reimagined. Perhaps it's an artform not typically envisioned in a theatre setting. Some artists Metro Arts have worked with in the past to create and premiere new contemporary work include Counterpilot, Pink Matter, Eve Klein and Taitu'uga Kitch Wesche.

The 2023 Call for Proposals does not invite applications for Metro Arts' Performance Presentation Program. We are currently only seeking proposals for the Creative Development Program.

## Why aren't we accepting 2023 Performance Program Proposals this time?

You may be wondering why we are strictly seeking applications for Creative Developments, and not presentation-ready productions like previous years.

In the past, the Metro Arts Performance Program has comprised of a combination of works from Call for Proposal applications, past creative development showings, and new works from artists with a standing relationship with Metro Arts. With the last few years of rescheduling and postponements of presentations due to COVID and weather events, we have previous presentation agreements in place which we need to honour.

While we may not be able to program your work in 2023, there remain opportunities available for Venue Hire in both our New Benner Theatre, and Studio spaces. We aim to keep our hire rates discounted and affordable for artists, so please reach out to [bianca@metroarts.com.au](mailto:bianca@metroarts.com.au) if you would like more information.

# WHAT DOES A CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT AT METRO ARTS MEAN?

Our Creative Development opportunities support work in all stages of development, from early career through to established practitioners; offer flexible platforms for presentation; and engage with artists and teams to interrogate the work at every phase. Creative Developments typically run for two weeks in one of our studios. However, every Creative Development process is different and is completely dependent on the Artists' goals for their work. For some, it's an opportunity to explore an idea further with new collaborators and gain ground on a concept, while for others the work is in its final stages of development and is just needing a final nudge towards being stage-ready.

Works in creative development in 2023 will be considered for final development and premiere presentation in 2024 as part of Metro Arts' performance season; with considerable additional resources including cash support, venue, mentoring, producer support and marketing. It is crucial you work closely with the Metro Arts programming and creative team in 2023 so you can be considered for 2024 programming.

Some past Creative Development artists and projects include:

Bring A Plate Dance Company – **Dance Leads to Chaos**

<https://metroarts.com.au/dance-leads-to-chaos/>

Bare Legs Circus - **Disturbo**

<https://metroarts.com.au/disturbo/>

Dance Masala - **ITEM**

<https://metroarts.com.au/item/>



*This Time It's Personal* by Sam Evans, 2022. Image by Jade Ellis.

# WHAT DO YOU RECEIVE?

We offer artists the opportunity to try out new ideas, new ways of working and new collaborations. The emphasis is on **PROCESS** rather than outcome – it's about giving artists a space in which to experiment. You will receive:

- A cash investment from Metro Arts of up to \$5,000.00 (depending on the scale of the work)
- Time and space to experiment unreservedly with contemporary arts practice. You will have access to one of Metro Arts' studios for up to 2 weeks (depending on the scale of the work)
- Venue-standard technical equipment. If you have specific or extensive requirements for your development, please consider this in your proposal.
- Creative mentoring and consultation with Metro Arts staff and other potential mentors – this will involve meeting with staff prior, during and post creative development
- Industry links to develop pathways for your work, to audiences and market;
- The option to hold a private work-in-progress showing.



*Fertile Ground* by Ashleigh Musk and Michael Smith, 2021. Image by Jade Ellis.

# WHO SHOULD APPLY?

Metro Arts is committed to engaging with a diverse range of artists within our programs and encourages applications from members of the creative community across spectrums of ability, age, race, gender identity and sexual orientation. Metro Arts operates under a Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan and has officially adopted the "Protocols for using First Nations Cultural and Intellectual Property in the Arts" which can be viewed here: <https://australiacouncil.gov.au/investment-and-development/protocols-and-resources/protocols-for-using-first-nations-cultural-and-intellectual-property-in-the-arts/>

Metro Arts is seeking contemporary performance makers who are brave and curious. Artists who are open to collaboration and conversation, who will dedicate their time and commitment to the project, including pre and post project tasks, are favourably considered.

Metro Arts actively supports artists and uses public funds from Brisbane City Council, Arts Queensland and the Australia Council for the Arts. Metro Arts is responsible for ensuring these funds have maximum reach and impact and as such your commitment and dedication to the project is crucial.

Through seed funding and collaborations, we aim for dialogue between artists and audiences creating a hub for innovation and independent practice. We **do not** support work as part of under-graduate university study but will consider collaborations as part of post-graduate studies.

Interstate artists are welcome to apply, however please consider that Metro Arts may not be responsible for the costs associated with travel and accommodation if successful.



Boyle and Waters in *LEOTARD* by Bridget Boyle and Neridah Waters, 2021. Image by Stephen Henry.

# PROGRAM PARTICIPANT RESPONSIBILITIES

- Transportation/travel, bump-in, bump-out and insurance for loss and/or damage of equipment and/or set items
- Providing high quality images and all necessary information required for the promotion of your work by marketing deadlines
- Liaising with Metro Arts for contractual arrangements and use of venue and equipment
- Adhering to the rules and policies specified in the contract and following the direction of Metro Arts' staff with respect to venue use
- Providing written feedback and evaluation of the project at the project's conclusion
- Sourcing special equipment required for your project, outside of Metro Arts' standard stock
- Sourcing production personnel necessary for the delivery of the project (this may include, but is not limited to, Lighting Designers, Sound Designers or Engineers, Operators, and Stage Managers)
- Program Participants must have **Public Liability Insurance to the value of \$20 million**



*Where We Meet* by Dr Eve Klein and Taitu'uga Kitch Wesche, 2022. Image by Jade Ellis.

# APPLICATION FORM

Please complete the online application form, available via our website or [this link](#). Please ensure you have read this application guide carefully BEFORE commencing. The application can be saved and completed in a later session if you are logged into a Google account.

The application form includes:

- Basic questions such as your contact details, availability in 2023, name of proposed project and short synopsis (max 300 words)
- Upload of attachments (details below)
- Data and Demographic questions (note answers to this section will not be used to assess your proposal)



*Distinct by Anniki Chand, 2022. Image by Jade Ellis.*

# APPLICATION ATTACHMENTS

## 1. CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM PROPOSALS: 1 – 2 PAGES ONLY

A clear and concise proposal that details what the concept is about – in synopsis and philosophy.

You must tell us about...

- Your practice: how would you describe it? How is it contemporary/experimental?
- This project: What ideas, concepts, and/or forms are you interrogating? Why is this important now?
- The timeline: What has already been accomplished? What do you want to accomplish with us? What do you see as the trajectory or future of this work? Please indicate your willingness to work with Metro Arts towards the potential of a 2024 premiere presentation at Metro Arts.
- The Audience: What is their relationship to the work? How do you position them?
- Your partners: Any other confirmed or potential partners on the project including those providing in-kind support, other presenting or developing partners, mentors etc. Please indicate any connection to post-graduate studies.

You may not yet know firm answers to some of these questions. That's fine. Just let us into your thinking.

## 2. A LIST OF KEY CREATIVES

Provide one paragraph biography for each key creative: 1 – 2 pages only

## 3. SUPPORT MATERIAL

Support material can take whichever form best speaks to the work – you can supply a script or concept (10 pages max), an edited 5-minute video extract from a previous creative development, a visual concept style guide. Think about what captures your aesthetic and inspiration. Be sure to note clearly if this support material is past work, documentation of the current work, or stimulus material.

All support material, including digital images and footage should be supplied as a single PDF document with links to a Dropbox or Google Drive folder. Please ensure the link has correct permissions to allow anyone with the link to access the folder.

### File Naming Convention...

Please use the following file naming convention when uploading your attachments:

'Applicant Surname, Applicant First Name\_Project name\_Attachment Name'. ►

For example,

- 'Smith, Lesley\_The Art Project\_Proposal'
- 'Smith, Lesley\_The Art Project\_Key Creatives'
- 'Smith, Lesley\_The Art Project\_Support Material'

### **SELECTION PROCESS**

All applications are assessed by the Metro Arts Artistic Advisory Group (MAAAG) along with the Metro Arts' Programming Team. Should a MAAAG member be part of, or associated with, an application they do not participate in the selection round. The MAAAG acts as a forum for the review, selection and evaluation of the organisation's artistic initiatives, and is made up of a rotating assembly of external industry professionals.

### **INFORMATION SESSION**

Monday 11th July, 5pm.

Metro Arts: 97 Boundary Street, West End.

### **APPLICATIONS CLOSE**

Tuesday 26th July 11.59pm.

Apply online – Please use [this link](#) to apply online.

Applying online is highly preferred however if you have trouble applying online, a pdf application form is available for download from the website, and can be submitted via email to [info@metroarts.com.au](mailto:info@metroarts.com.au)

### **NOTIFICATION**

You will be notified whether you are successful or not by Friday 2nd September.

### **HAVE QUESTIONS?**

If you have any questions about the Creative Development Program application process, please contact:

**Metro Arts Producer, Danielle Carney**

(07) 3002 7100 | [danielle@metroarts.com.au](mailto:danielle@metroarts.com.au)

**Metro Arts Associate Producer, Nicholas Southey**

(07) 3002 7100 | [nicks@metroarts.com.au](mailto:nicks@metroarts.com.au)

OR

**Metro Arts Company Administrator, Shani Gould**

(07) 3002 7100 | [shani@metroarts.com.au](mailto:shani@metroarts.com.au)

# THE METRO ARTS PROGRAMMING TEAM:

**Jo Thomas** CEO + Artistic Director

**Genevieve Trace** General Manager

**Danielle Carney** Producer

**Kyle Weise** Curator (Exhibition Program)

**Shani Gould** Company Administrator

**Jenna Green** Producer - Special Initiatives

**Meg Hamilton** Associate Producer

**Nicholas Southey** Associate Producer

## METRO ARTS PARTNERS



**Queensland  
Government**



**RISE Fund**

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 Visual Arts (MAVA) Substation is supported by Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) Fund – an Australian Government initiative.



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*Dedicated to a better Brisbane*

Metro Arts is proudly supported by TAFE Queensland as Education Partner.  
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