

friday 1 dec creative practice Venue: Lismore City Hall

8.00am - 8.45am Registration and coffee on arrival

9.00am - 9.10am Welcome to Country

9.10am - 9.40am

Keynote 1: Tuning 2 You: Lost Musicians of India

Soumik Datta travelled to remote corners of rural India in search of extraordinary musicians to make his first film on the fading heritage of folk music hidden from the mainstream. His film, *Tuning 2 You*, has exposed rarely seen communities on the brink of extinction. This keynote presentation discusses his journey discovering ancient melodies and polyrhythmic systems and its impact on his creative practice. This is accompanied by photographs and footage from rural India.

Soumik Datta is award winning contemporary British musician and sarod virtuoso.

9.45am - 10.45am

Panel 1: Regional Creative Practice

The challenges and opportunities for Northern Rivers practitioners.

Julian Louis Artistic Director, Northern Rivers Performing Arts (NORPA)
Cate McQuillen Mememe Productions, creator of Dirt Girl.
Leigh Carriage performer, composer and recoding artist
Gavin Webber co-Artistic Director. The Farm

Moderator: Stephen Champion, General Manager, Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre

10.45am - 11.15am **Morning Tea**

11.15am - 11.45am

Keynote 2: Aboriginal Creative Practice - A cultural narrative, but why do I also have to be the consultant?

Our Widjabul oral chronicle, of country, clan and custodial responsibility shapes us, guides us and encourages knowledge, values and fosters a cultural narrative that is all encompassing. Our cultural legacy comes with a real national responsibility. Is it an Aboriginal duty for those engaged in the culture sectors or is it a concern for us all in the creative industry? In this presentation Rhoda Roberts examines the current policies relating to grant funding and questions the methodology of measuring the value of our First Nation's artists, performers and companies. There is a disconnection between the evaluation requirements and the rhetoric that consistently speaks of treasuring and nurturing. She suggests we should encourage tenacity, allow the practice to germinate with a values based dialogue that has a long - term narrative, that enables risk taking and failure as part of the process.

Rhoda Roberts AO Head of Indigenous Programming, Sydney Opera House, Festival Director, Boomerang Festival, Curator of the second annual Parrtijima – A Festival in Light event in Alice Springs and Djanda Mandi Gingerlah Creative Director for Artstate Lismore. Rhoda is a member of the Bundjalung nation, Widjabul clan of Northern NSW.

11.50am - 12.50pm

Panel 2: Aboriginal Creative Practice in diverse art forms

This panel will examine contemporary Aboriginal Creative Practice through the lens of three of three different arts forms and how cultural practices frame their work.

Kirk Page Director, NORPA's production of Djurra

Mariaa Randall Dancer and choreographer from the Bundjalung and Yaegl people

Karla Dickens Interdisciplinary and hybrid artist

Moderator: Sharni Jones, Manager, Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Collection, Australian Museum.

1.00pm – 2.00pm **Lunch**

Parallel Sessions

2.00pm – 3.15pm Screen Masterclass

Living Regionally Working Nationally

A panel of highly experienced regional filmmakers and practitioners will disclose their key success factors and work practices, and provide advice on how to be prosperous working in the creative industries and living in a regional area.

Presenters: Lisa O'Meara, Cate McQuillen, Will Gammon and Dustin Clare

Venue: St Paul's Hall

2.00pm – 3.15pm **Presentation**

Living Culture for Living Centres

Museums & Galleries NSW discuss their recent research project that gives a snapshot of the current status of Aboriginal collections in cultural centres, keeping places, museums, galleries and knowledge centres.

Presenter: Steve Miller **Venue:** Workers Club Room 8

2.00pm – 3.15pm

Panel

First People's literature, language and renewal

Join a dialogue introduced by Professor Adam Shoemaker, Vice Chancellor, Southern Cross University as he leads a panel discussion featuring Dr Philip McLaren, Kamilaroi author and academic, Melissa Lucashenko, widely published award-winning novelist, essayist and short story writer of Goorie and European heritage, Rachel Lynwood, Bundjalung woman, Deputy Director, Gnibi College of Indigenous Australian Peoples and Nigel Stewart, Awakabal / Bundjalung man, Indigenous Park Ranger and Educator.

Panellists: Adam Shoemaker, Philip McLaren, Rachel Lynwood

Venue: Event Space @ Lismore Gallery

2.00pm - 3.15pm

Presentation

Growing Live Music in NSW 1 Building Regional NSW scenes with the Live and Local Micro Music Festivals Program.

Developed in partnership with and supported by Create NSW and the Live Music Office the Regional Live are

Developed in partnership with and supported by Create NSW and the Live Music Office, the Regional Live and Local Micro-Festival Strategic Initiative is designed to build capacity within local government for presenting live music whilst also providing jobs for artists and activating streetscapes and venues. This presentation takes you through the program structure, provides case studies of various micro-festivals that have been delivered, as well as looking at the findings from the program evaluation and next steps. Co-presented by the Live Music Office and MusicNSW.

Presenters: John Wardle and Emily Collins

Venue: Workers Club Room 6

2.00pm – 3.15pm **Panel**

3 Creative Disciplines; 3 Creative Practices

Developing a career as an artist is always a challenge, so how do artists fare in a regional environment? Simone O'Brien, Creative Director of Spaghetti Circus looks at the broad spectrum of creative practices existing under the banner of 'circus' as a contemporary art form. Sophie Masson, Chair of the New England Writers Centre, is an award winning and internationally published author of over 60 books for children, young adults and adults. She will profile literary creative practice and its challenges and opportunities in the context of a distinctive regional community. Matt Hill will look at the typical portfolio career pattern for musicians living in the Northern Rivers.

Panellists: Simone O'Brien, Sophie Masson, Matt Hill

Moderator: Adam Deusien **Venue:** Workers Club Room 7

Break

3.45pm – 5.00pm **Screen Masterclass**

Putting Virtual Reality into Arts Practice

For the first time this year, Create NSW offered funding to artists and cultural practitioners to develop virtual reality (VR) work. At this session, regional NSW based VR practitioners, will reveal how they use VR technology to create an immersive experience. They will explore a range of examples showing how it can be put in to practice across different art forms to create unique experiences.

Presenters: J'aimee Skippon-Volke, Ossie Alfaro

Venue: St Paul's Hall

3.45pm-5.00pm **Presentation**

Emergency - Call the Arts!

Sam Sangster, Chief Executive of NSW Health Infrastructure and Scotia Monkovitch, Director of the Creative Recovery Network will present two different aspects where the arts makes a difference in the lives of people facing the burdens caused by illness, injury and hospitalisation or the impact of natural disasters on their lives. At times these impacts will overlap. Sam will present two regional NSW case studies showing how arts programs are enabling collaboration and community spirit as art becomes an integral part of hospital redevelopments.

The Arts are increasingly playing a role in community cohesiveness and regeneration post natural disaster in Australia. Scotia will examine the rigorous structures and support mechanisms for communities and artists working at the coal face of community recovery with tools and knowledge as well as the need to activate policy shifts within Emergency Management.

Presenters: Sam Sangster, Scotia Monkovitch

Venue: Workers Club Room 8

3.45pm – 5.00pm **Presentation**

NSW Cultural Infrastructure Plan

The NSW Government is developing a Cultural Infrastructure Plan on what New South Wales needs to do to sustain and develop a vibrant cultural landscape to 2040. This session is an opportunity to hear about and provide input into the process. Alex Bowen, Director of Strategy and Planning at CIPMO, will present followed by a panel discussion.

Presenter: Alex Bowen

Venue: Event Space @ Lismore Gallery

3.45pm – 5.00pm **Presentation**

Growing Live Music in NSW 2 Strategic Planning, Better Regulation and Industry Development

Co-presented by the Live Music Office and MusicNSW, this session will explore music industry development programs, funding opportunities and other resources and support available for musicians and music industry in NSW. The Live Music Office will also present some inspiring examples of best practice happening nationally in industry development and better regulation, as well as investigate the outcomes of recent policy and strategy forums happening around night economies and music industry progress in 2017. If you're keen to see a stronger and more diverse live music scene develop in your town, come and connect with MusicNSW and the Live Music Office. Join in a lively discussion around some of the challenges and opportunities facing regional NSW music communities.

Presenters: John Wardle and Emily Collins

Venue: Workers Club Room 6

3.45pm – 5.00pm **Panel**

Big Skies, Concrete & Cinema

Three diverse collaborations engaging communities in Central NSW and the Northern Rivers

The Big Skies Collaboration brings together arts practitioners, astronomers and local communities to creatively explore their relationships with the cosmos as experienced from inland rural Australia within an area that has been defined as the '700 Kilometre Array'.

Pagoda Parkour placed young Western Sydney artists in a remote Australian bushland environment. This exceptional work layered and adapted urban street dance to the unique pagoda rock formations in the Wollemi National Park as part of the Cementa Festival.

Produced for Arts Northern Rivers multi-arts project *If These Halls Could Talk, Bonnywood Rising,* is a live-cinema performance project developed from working with 100 members of the Bonalbo community to celebrate the histories – the true histories AND the slightly embellished ones – of the Bonalbo & District Memorial Hall. (Note: *Bonnywood Rising* will be performed as part of the arts program at Star Court Theatre, Friday at 7.00pm)

Presenters: Karen Therese, Merrill Findlay, Grayson Cooke

Moderator: Greg Pritchard **Venue:** Workers Club Room 7

7.00pm Evening festival program commences.



saturday 2 dec creative partnerships Venue: City Hall

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9.10am - 9.40am

Keynote 3

Riddu Riddu - the little storm on the coast

In 1991 a group of Sámi youths with a sense of justice and idealism started an event in Gáivuotna/Kåfjord that later would turn into the international indigenous festival Riddu Riddu (little storm on the coast). In time, Riddu Riddu created an arena where it was safe to be Sámi, but also widened the profile to also celebrate other indigenous communities and artistic expressions of the world. It is a crucial stage for artistic development in Sámi and for cross-indigenous dialogue and cultural collaborations.

Karoline Sofie Tveitnes Trollvik, Director, Riddu Riđđu Festival, Norway.

9.45am - 10.45am

Panel 3

The Art of Festivals

Jessica Ducrou Co-founder and co-producer, Splendour In The Grass Music and Arts Festival **Edwina Johnston** Director, Bryon Writers Festival **Chris Spencer** GM, Saltwater Freshwater Festival

Glenn Wright Director, Red Square Music, Producer, Mullum Music Festival and Bello Winter Music Festival **Moderator:** Wesley Enoch, Artistic Director, Sydney Festival

10.45am - 11.15am **Morning Tea**

11.15am - 11.45am

Keynote 4

Connecting Schools and the Arts Community

Through focused partnerships between local school districts and Kalamazoo RESA's Education for the Arts Program, professional artists and arts presenters: are brought together with classroom teachers and students to develop rich experiences around the arts. One community's approach to deepening arts learning by connecting youth and schools to the professional arts community.

Nick Mahmat Aesthetic Education Program Coordinator, Education for the Arts Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency, Michigan, USA

11.50am- 12.50pm

Panel 4

Cross Sector Partnerships in Regional NSW

The fourteen Regional Arts Development Organisations in NSW are experts in facilitating arts partnerships with a range of sectors. In a discussion led by the Executive Director of Arts Northern Rivers, Peter Wood, this panel will showcase innovative joint projects that deliver positive outcomes for four regional communities.

Andrew Gray Executive Director, South East Arts Jamie-Lea Trindall Executive Director, Outback Arts Tracey Callinan Executive Director, Arts OutWest Scott Howie Executive Director, Eastern Riverina Arts

Moderator: Peter Wood, Executive Director, Arts Northern Rivers

1.00pm – 2.00pm Lunch Parallel Sessions

2.00pm – 3.00pm **Performance**

Fretless Nomad+ Q & A

Fiery improvisation marks this one man tour-de-force by British Indian *sarod* player Soumik Datta. Transport yourself through ancient Afghanistan, colonial India and present day Britain to unfold the mystery of the 19-stringed lute known as the *sarod*. With infectious rhythms, digital guests and a critically acclaimed front man, this genre-breaking show examines man's deep and timeless bond with music.

Followed by Q & A

Moderator: Paul Scott-Williams, Director, Goulburn Regional Conservatorium

Venue: Studio Lismore City Hall

(Ticketed - delegate price \$16.50 +booking fee)

2.00pm – 3.15pm Screen Masterclass

Createability: Profiling Regional Artists to the World

In 2015, Screenworks partnered with Screen NSW and the ABC to deliver three short films profiling artists with disability. Three years later, this project has now funded 20 short films showcasing artists with disability. The films are screened on ABC iView and have been shown at film festivals around the world. Go behind the scenes to find out how this project came about, how it is supporting both artists and filmmakers with disability, and the partnerships that have led to this project's success.

Presenters: Louise Hodgson, Catherine Marciniak and Karenza Ebejer

Venue: St Paul's Hall

2.00pm - 3.15pm

Presentation

More Places for Theatre - Building New Audiences

ANT Live is sharing great Australian theatre with cinema audiences around the country and they love it. They have negotiated agreements with theatre companies, writers, actors, unions, broadcasters, arts centres and cinemas around the country to film, produce and distribute high quality digital content featuring our best writers and performers. So how does this build new theatre audiences through live captured theatre? What does the latest research reveal? How can they present regional and metropolitan theatre to rural and remote communities across NSW?

These questions and more will be answered in this spirited, interactive presentation which includes scenes from ANTLive productions and interviews with creatives.

"It's not a film, it's just like being at a play" - Theatre Goer

Presenters: Grant Dodwell, Peter Hiscock

Venue: Concert Room, Northern Rivers Conservatorium

2.00pm - 3.15pm

Presentation

Driving Creative Practice from Remote Locations

- The Producer, the Publicist and the Choreographer

An insight into Big hART who have unearthed the country's invisible stories for 25 years. Producer Angela Prior will share her experiences producing creative projects in the Pilbara, Publicist Bettina Richter will unpack how to generate national media coverage for remote projects and Choreographer Adelina Larson will take us on a journey of movement from the Pilbara to NW Tasmania.

Presenters: Angela Prior, Bettina Richter, Adelina Larson

Venue: Workers Club Room 5

2.00pm - 3.15pm

Panel

Game Changers

Create NSW presents a panel of leading NSW artists celebrated for producing work that is both locally relevant and internationally resonant, and will explore the subtle or extreme shifts in their work and practice, spanning multiple genres.

Presenters: Create NSW Panel

Venue: Event Space @ Lismore Gallery

Break

3.45pm – 5.15pm

Creative Showcase

NORPA presents_ State of Play

Get the first taste of two new works being created in the Studio by two of NORPA's Associate Artists. A blistering match up about the mundane, both works prove what fertile ground the Northern Rivers is for emerging and established artists. The works will be followed by a Q&A with the creative team, hosted by NORPA's Artistic Director Julian Louis

Showcase 1

1/15 Ross Street/La Nina

Kate McDowell (NORPA Associate Artist), Viviane Frehner and Kimberley McIntyre are researching for two new dance/theatre works simultaneously. 1/15 Ross St is a site based dance duet between two neighbours who become witness to each other's most intimate moments and La Nina is a drama about a mother and a daughter in the aftermath of a horrific accident. Both new pieces are inspired by iconic Australian beachside houses in Lennox Head and each explores two women's intimate realms through dance and movement, with the suburban mundane as poetic surrealism. The team are sharing knowledge in a lab, supporting each other in their research pursuits, looking into drama in dance and dance in drama as well as site based play.

Artists: Viviane Frehner, Kimberley McIntyre, Kate McDowell, Barry Hill, James Brown, Amy McDowell, Erika Gelzinnis.

Showcase 2

2 (Duet, Pair, Couplet, Fellow, Couple, Dual, Dyad, Twain, Distich, Twosome, Brace, Duad, Span, Yoke, Mate)

A new physical theatre work directed by Darcy Grant (NORPA Associate Artist). The work explores dualism, co-dependence and intimacy. Our relationships to other's stress and service and our needs as humans. This work will look at how simple relationships get complex over time between two people. Whether in harmony or binary opposition our closest relationships surprise, delight and confound us.

Join us for a voyeuristic romp into the inexhaustible allure of 2.

Director: Darcy Grant

Venue: Studio Lismore City Hall

3.45pm – 5.00pm Screen Masterclass

A Future of Less Government Funding

When Screenworks lost its Commonwealth funding in 2015, it faced an uncertain future and was forced to change its 'business as usual' approach. Two years on, it has now tripled its revenue: and membership base thanks predominantly to new strategic partnerships and the support of a business mentor. This session will look at how partnerships and practical business approaches to arts, screen, cultural projects and arts organisations can lead to success, strengthen long-term potential and provide some freedom from funding applications and acquittals.

Speakers: Ken Crouch, Peter Bowen and Lois Randall

Venue: St Paul's Hall

3.45pm – 5.00pm **Panel**

Aboriginal Creative Collaborations in the North West

Led by Arts North West Aboriginal Arts Officer, Lorrayne Riggs this panel will discuss innovation in the Aboriginal Arts sector and how they have achieved longevity and sustainability while addressing barriers that have prevented other collaborations from the same success.

Panellists:

Aleshia Lonsdale Aboriginal Arts and Development Officer, Arts Outwest Kym Rae Director, Gomeroi gaaynggal Programs, University of Newcastle Lyniece Keogh Indigenous Projects Manager, Gomeroi gaaynggal Programs, University of Newcastle

Moderator: Lorrayne Riggs, Aboriginal Arts Officer, Arts North West

Venue: Workers Club Room 5

3.45pm – 5.00pm **Panel**

New Spaces for Creativity

Cultural infrastructure can take many forms, repurposed buildings, brand new built from scratch on a green field site, or artists led initiatives to find space not usually considered for artistic practice. Three examples from three different towns in regional NSW will at look the partnerships required for such developments and the imperatives driving each project.

Panellists:

Brett Adlington Director, Lismore Regional Gallery David Oxenham Tweed Regional Gallery Elise Magrath The Arts Centre Cootamundra Chris Magick Director, Sustainable Valley

Moderator: Julie Briggs

Venue: Event Space @ Lismore Gallery

6.30pm – 6.45pm **Demonstration**

Solar Sunflower

Since its launch in 2013, the Sunflower has successfully solar powered music stages at dozens of music festivals around Australia. A community integrated learning project and a research project at Southern Cross University within the fields of mobile star technology development and creative multi-media art.

Presenter: Barry Hill Venue: The Quad Stage

7.00pm **Artstate Dinner**

Join fellow delegates and guests for the Artstate Dinner at the Lismore Workers Club and enjoy a three course dinner, wine and entertainment courtesy of comedian Lindsay Webb. Hailing from a sheep and cattle station in southern NSW Lindsay moved from the farm into the world of comedy, going full time in 2005. He's fitted in a trip to Lismore in a very busy year that has included a 10 night run of shows at the Perth Fringe Festival then backing up for an extended season at the Adelaide Fringe with a new show, *World's Greatest Exaggerator*.

The formal handover to the next host city for Artstate NSW 2018 will also take place.

Venue: Lismore Workers Club (ticket holders only)

7.00pm onwards

Evening arts program