



Adelaide

Contemporary

Experimental

2023 Annual Report





ACE tampinthe, ngadlu Kurna yartangka panpapanpalyarninthe (inparrinthe). Kurna miyurna yaitya mathanya Wama Tarntanyaku. Parnaku yailtya, parnaku tapa purruna, parnaku yarta ngadlu tampnthe. Yalaka Kurna miyurna itu yailtya, tapa purruna, yarta kuma puru martinthe, puru warri-apinthe, puru tangka martulayinthe.

ACE respectfully acknowledges the traditional Country of the Kurna people of the Adelaide Plains and pays respect to Elders past and present. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land. We acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kurna people living today.

Cover Image: Kaspar Schmidt Mumm, 'ROCKAMORA' (2023), installation view, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Sam Roberts.

Image: Babakiueria Community Day: 'Ruled Us, Ruled Us, Ruled Us' (2023), event documentation, Santos Museum of Economic Botany, Adelaide Botanic Gardens. Photography by Lana Adams.

## Contents

04	About ACE
05	Message from the Chair
06	2023 Snapshot
07	2023 Digital Reach
08	2023 Exhibition Program
14	Public Programs
21	Special Events
24	Studio Program
31	Visiting Curators Program
32	Porter Street Commission
34	2023 Board and Staff
35	2023 Supporters and Partners



ACE is supported by the South Australian Government through the Department of the Premier and Cabinet. ACE is also assisted by the Australian Government through Creative Australia, its principal arts investment and advisory body. ACE is a member of Contemporary Arts Organisations Australia.





## About ACE

Located in Adelaide's iconic Lion Arts Centre precinct, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental (ACE) is South Australia's leading independent contemporary visual arts organisation, proudly supporting artists to develop and present work on Kurna Yarta (Kurna Country).

Established through the merger of Contemporary Art Centre of South Australia (CACSA) and the Australian Experimental Art Foundation (AEAF) in 2017, ACE builds upon the legacy of over 100 years of innovative experimental arts practice in South Australia. Through our exhibitions, studios, public programs, education, professional development opportunities and publications, ACE expands the edges of contemporary visual art practice, embraces diversity and provides a space for artists to take risks.

## Our Approach to Programming

Since its inception, ACE's program has explored many timely issues, driven by the question: what is urgent to discuss today and who should be telling these stories? We recognise that contemporary art takes many forms, and have built a reputation for presenting new and important processes and methodologies for artistic practice.

## Our Audiences

ACE believes everyone has a right to access artistic expression and take part in South Australia's cultural life. We invite audiences to experience contemporary art in an environment that is simultaneously engaging, challenging and welcoming. ACE is committed to ensuring our programs and activities are as accessible as possible, for as many people as possible.

## Our Role in the Sector

ACE plays a vital role within the South Australian arts sector and cultural ecology, and champions best practice in a wide range of arts activities. We serve as a scaffold for building local artists' careers and are quickly growing a legacy of new work commissions which continue to circulate in galleries and collections across Australia. We believe that, by strongly supporting local artists and communities, and connecting them to our national and international peers, we can create greater opportunities and more expansive contexts for a diversity of art practitioners in South Australia.

Image: Offbeat – 'taking a drink of My Self (saliva)' (2023), event documentation, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Thomas McCammon.



# Message from the Chair

Amanda Pepe



Image: Amanda Pepe (2024). Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Jonathan Van Der Knaap.

Since joining ACE as Chair in October 2023, I have been inspired by the drive and dedication of both the team and the board and the incredible work of the artists we have hosted.

In another busy year in 2023, ACE hosted four curated exhibitions in the gallery, two offsite exhibitions; one at the Adelaide Botanic Gardens Museum of Economic Botany and the other at Firstdraft in Sydney, presented 30 public programs and events, and hosted five South Australian artists in the ACE Studio Program. Our education programs expanded along with access initiatives, we improved our volunteer program and established valuable new partnerships, including with the Adelaide Festival, Tarnanthi and the Sydney Biennale.

As part of our commitment to good governance, ACE developed our First Nations Advisory Committee to guide programs and initiatives with First Nations artists and communities. The Investment Fund Committee continued their excellent oversight of the Porter Street Investment Fund and facilitated a move to a local wealth management company that will ensure lower costs, better returns and the long-term security of the fund.

Artistic Director, Patrice Sharkey left in December after a five-year tenure to take up a new role at TarraWarra Museum of Art. Special thanks to Executive Director, Louise Dunn and to the ACE team for taking on a significant extra load while we searched for a replacement and welcome to our new Artistic Director, Danni Zuvela.

To the artists who participated in our programs in 2023, the audiences who attended exhibitions and events, our dedicated donors who underpinned our Studio Program and our partners who enriched our programs and enabled greater reach and artistic outcomes, thank you, and we can't wait to share what 2024 has in store.



## 2023 Snapshot



Opening Night: 'Peter Waples-Crowe:PRIDE' (2023), event documentation, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Thomas McCammon.

# 16,669

ACE Visitation

# 6

Exhibitions

# 15

Artists exhibited

# 70

Artworks presented

# 30

New artworks  
commissioned

# 30

Public Programs

# 5

Studio Artists

# 16

Program Partners

# 127

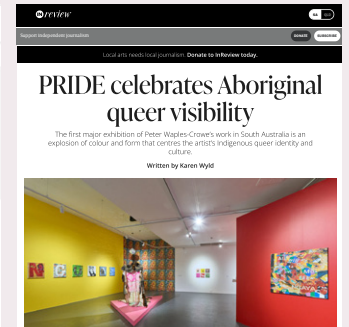
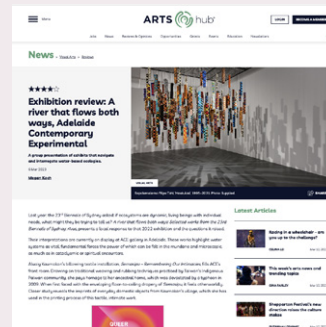
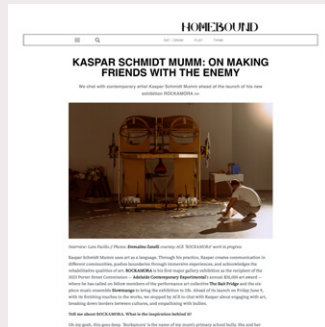
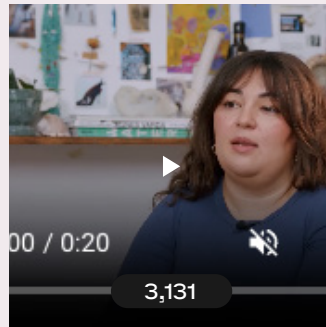
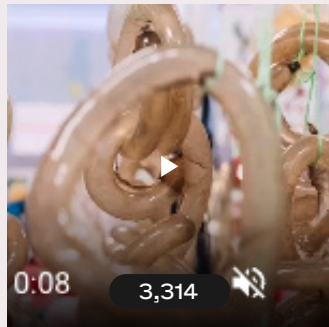
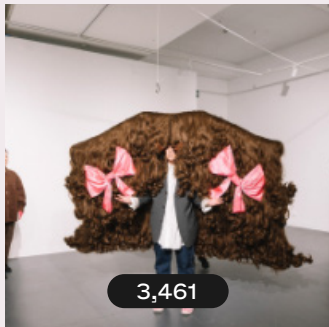
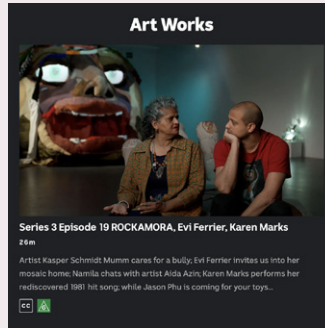
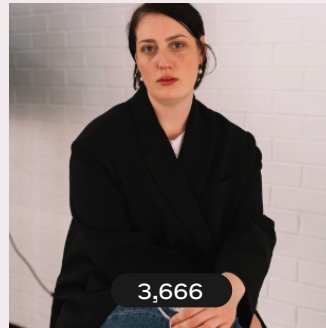
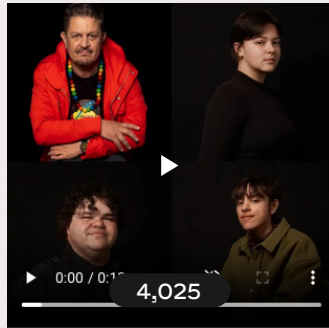
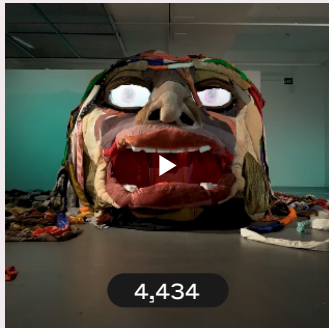
Media mentions

# 104

Media mentions  
for SA Artists



# 2023 Digital Reach



## Instagram

Followers: 7,194  
Reach: 34.5K (+62.8%)

## Facebook

Followers: 4,886  
Reach: 37.1K

## Website

Users: 22,400

## Press:

ABC  
Art Almanac  
Artforum  
Art Guide  
ArtsHub  
Broadsheet

CityMag  
Homebound  
InReview  
SA Weekend  
VAULT



# Exhibition Program



Opening Night: 'Studios: 2023' (2023), event documentation, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Lana Adams.



# A river that flows both ways: rīvus

Selected works from the 23rd Biennale of Sydney

“Adelaide Contemporary Experimental’s new exhibition gently immerses audiences in crucial ideas about our relationship with water.”

– CityMag

Artists: Aluaiy Kaumakan  
Yuko Mohri  
Murrundi / Murray River  
Imhathai Suwatthanasilp  
Sopolemalama Filipe Tohi

Project Curator: Patrice Sharkey

Curatorial Liaison: Dominic Guerrero

Exhibition Dates: 4 February – 18 March 2023

Venue: ACE



Opening Night: 'A river that flows both ways' (2023), event documentation, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Thomas McCammon.

Inspired by rivers that flow both ways, ACE partnered with the Biennale of Sydney to present a local response to the 23rd Biennale, titled *rīvus* (Latin for “stream”). Dedicated to nature and water-based ecologies, *rīvus* tackled many timely environmental themes including climate change and the effect of colonisation on First Peoples’ custodianship of ecosystems.



# Kaspar Schmidt Mumm: ROCKAMORA

2023 Porter Street Commission

“ROCKAMORA becomes an evolving site of community gathering, ceremony, and protest; a way to counter lived experiences of harassment and discrimination and encourage social change.”

– Art Almanac

Artist: Kaspar Schmidt-Mumm  
Exhibition Dates: 10 June – 12 August 2023  
Venue: ACE



Kaspar Schmidt Mumm, 'ROCKAMORA' (2023), installation view, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Sam Roberts.

ROCKAMORA was the first major gallery exhibition by multidisciplinary artist Kaspar Schmidt Mumm, which expanded the artist's fascination with puppetry as a tool for social change. Named after his mother's primary school bully, 'Rockamora' was portrayed as a thug taking a bath in the gallery. By feeding, cleaning, and caring for this bully, ROCKAMORA encouraged visitors to empathise with a larger-than-life, misunderstood antagonist as a way to counter lived experiences of harassment and discrimination.

# Teresa Busuttil: Asleep with the Fishes

Presented by Firstdraft in Partnership with ACE.

**Asleep with the Fishes** takes its name from a Sicilian quote made popular by the film *The Godfather* (1972). To “sleep with the fishes” is to have one’s corpse disposed of in a body of water.

Artist: Teresa Busuttil  
 Exhibition Dates: 18 August – 1 October 2023  
 Venue: firstdraft (NSW)



Teresa Busuttil, 'Asleep with the Fishes' (2023), installation view, Firstdraft, Sydney. Photography by Jessica Maurer. Courtesy Firstdraft.

The work examines the legacy of Teresa’s late father, who was born on the Mediterranean archipelago nation, Malta, and migrated to South Australia by boat. Throughout his adult life, her father lived and worked as a diver, fisherman and professional criminal.

The work is a personal exploration of being multiple contradictory things at one time; both foreign and local, moral and criminal, honest and deceitful, combining fishing elements with symbols relating to religion and drugs to consider what really makes a person ‘good’.



# Peter Waples-Crowe: PRIDE

And mentee artists: Tyberius Larking Alfred Lowe Jayda Wilson

“PRIDE centres Indigenous and queer identities, along with spirituality and place... Through the potent assertion of pride, these traumatic histories and harmful ideologies are challenged.”

– InReview

Artists: Peter Waples-Crowe  
Tyberius Larking  
Alfred Lowe  
Jayda Wilson

Curators: Dominic Guerrera  
Patrice Sharkey

Exhibition Dates: 2 September – 28 October 2023

Venue: ACE

Essay Writer: Hannah Presley



Peter Waples-Crowe, 'PRIDE' (2023), installation view, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Sam Roberts.

“I see my Aboriginalness and queerness all wrapped in my spirit” – Peter Waples-Crowe. An unapologetic celebration, PRIDE brought Aboriginal queer visibility to the fore and highlighted Peter’s dedication to community.

Working across drawing, collage, sculpture and moving image, Peter’s practice is largely based on personal experiences as influenced by his adoption and reconnection with his Ngarigo heritage, and over 25 years experience as a community health worker within Aboriginal and LGBTQIAP+ health. His work is a deep commentary on the world as a contested site for his multiple identities. For PRIDE, ACE commissioned a record 41 artworks including 3 by South Australian artists.

# Studios: 2023

ACE Studio Program Exhibition

“Studios: 2023 is a vivid, haunting and emotionally powerful collection that takes the viewer through a journey of diaspora, family history and connection to the natural world.”

– ArtsHub

Artists:  
Teresa Busuttill  
Georgia Button  
Brad Darkson  
Jennifer Mathews  
Truc Truong

Curators:  
Rayleen Forester  
Nanette Orly

Exhibition Dates: 11 November – 16 December 2023

Venue: ACE

Essay Writers:  
Laura Castagnini  
Sasha Grbich  
June Acido Miskell  
Ruby-Rose Pivet-Marsh  
Nanette Orly  
Karen Wyld



‘Studios: 2023’, installation view, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Sam Roberts

Studios: 2023 was a showcase of the diverse practices and work developed as part of ACE's annual Studio Program – a fully-supported professional development opportunity for South Australian artists.

Co-curated by Rayleen Forester (Associate Curator, ACE) and Nanette Orly (Curator, Murray Art Museum Albury), the exhibition showcased the many disciplines of the 2023 Studio Program artists, including sound, video, installation, assemblage and sculpture.



# Public Programs



Artist Talk: 'Nice to Meet You: Luke King' (2023), event documentation, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Peter Fong.



# Public Programs – Access



## Deaf-led tour: A river that flows both ways

19 February 2023

Samantha Wilson led a deaf-led tour of A river that flows both ways: Selected works from the 23rd Biennale of Sydney: rivus.



## Deaf-led tour: ROCKAMORA

24 June 2023

Samantha Wilson led a deaf-led tour of Kaspar Schmidt Mumm's ROCKAMORA.



## Audio-described tactile tour: ROCKAMORA

5 August 2023

Visitors learned about ROCKAMORA and were guided through the tactile elements of the puppet, including a mouth that could be felt exhaling a breath of air, skin made of various textured fabrics, and fingernails and teeth made from polystyrene.



## Deaf-led tour: PRIDE

29 October 2023

Samantha Wilson led a deaf-led tour of Peter Waples-Crowe: PRIDE.

Image 1: Deaf-led tour: 'A river that flows both ways', event documentation, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Grace Marlow.

Image 2–3: Artist Talk: Kaspar Schmidt Mumm, 'ROCKAMORA' (2023), event documentation, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Lana Adams.

Image 4: Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Thomas McCammon.



# Public Programs – Workshops



## The Community of Practice

February – November 2023

This online network of arts educators from across Australia was led by the ACE Education Coordinator and forged new three way partnership was established between ACE, the National Association of Visual Arts, and the National Gallery of Australia to lead the Community of Practice in the later half of 2023.



## Make your own leadlight artwork with Chelsea Farquhar

25 February 2023 & 9 April 2023

Workshop participants designed and made their own leadlight creations using copper foil, solder, and pre-cut glass shapes. Throughout these workshops, participants learned about this once-popular craft, exploring colour, texture, and the movement of light.



## DreamBIG Children's Festival Workshops

18 & 25 May 2023

ACE Education Coordinator, Alise Hardy, led primary school students through a pattern making workshop that was inspired by Sam Songailo's mural in the ACE Studio stairwell. The students made artworks with coloured paper that depicted the musical patterns of their favourite songs which were combined to make a large group mural.



## ROCKAMORA Workshop: Encaustic Earwax Painting

29 July 2023

Workshop participants joined Kaspar Schmidt Mumm and his mother, Koruna Schmidt Mumm, for an encaustic wax workshop inspired by ROCKAMORA. During this one-off workshop, they collected and used 'Rockamora's' artificial earwax to create their own artwork with guidance from Kaspar and Koruna.

Image 1: MATERIAL EXPERIMENTATION: Sam Gold (2023), workshop documentation, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Thomas McCammon. Image 2: Chelsea Farquhar (2022), 'Studios: 2022', documentation, work in progress. Photography by Thomas McCammon.

Image 4: Kaspar Schmidt Mumm and Koruna Schmidt Mumm: 'ROCKAMORA' Workshop, event documentation. Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Emmaline Zanelli.

# Public Programs – Education Workshops



## Sam Gold

12 Sept 2023: Le Fevre High School

13 Sept 2023: YouthInc

In this MATERIAL EXPERIMENTATION workshop, artist Sam Gold guided student artists in a somatic sculpting approach with terracotta. This workshop took place at ACE.



## Thomas Readett

19 Sept 2023: YouthInc

20 Sept 2023 : Valley View Secondary School

In this MATERIAL EXPERIMENTATION workshop, Ngarrindjeri artist Thomas Readett led student artists in an exploration of aerosol and brush painting. This workshop took place at ACE.



## Rosina Possingham

24 Oct 2023: Adelaide Botanic High School

25 Oct 2023: Christies Beach High School

In this MATERIAL EXPERIMENTATION workshop artist Rosina Possingham led student artists in an exploration of vector-based digital drawing techniques.



## Asha Southcombe

6 Dec 2023: Glenunga International High School

This workshop with Asha Southcombe explored graphite and scratchboard drawing approaches and was suitable for up to 20 student artists in years 9 to 12.

Image 1: MATERIAL EXPERIMENTATION: Sam Gold (2023), workshop documentation, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Thomas McCammon.

Image 2: MATERIAL EXPERIMENTATION: Thomas Readett (2023), workshop documentation, Valley View Secondary School. Photography by Tayer Steed.

Image 3: Rosina Possingham, 'Prospect Digital Drawing Paste-Up Project' (2022). Courtesy the artist.

Image 4: MATERIAL EXPERIMENTATION: Asha Southcombe (2023), workshop documentation, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Lana Adams.



# Public Programs – Tours and Talks



## Keynote lecture with Colombian curator, José Roca

9 February 2023

Colombian curator, José Roca, the Artistic Director of the 23rd Biennale of Sydney: *rivus*, discussed the importance of sustainability and collaboration within artistic and curatorial practice.



## Guided Curator Tour: A river that flows both ways

4 March 2023

Dominic Guerrera, the Curatorial Liaison for 'A river that flows both ways', shared the direct knowledge he gained from liaising with the exhibition artists, including insights into their intentions and methods of creating art. Dominic also provided a local context to the exhibition.



## Nice To Meet You: Tian Zhang

20 April 2023

Visitors joined us at ACE to welcome Tian Zhang—curator, facilitator, writer, collaborative artist, and founding co-director of Pari, a collective-run gallery in Parramatta, NSW. The event was delivered in partnership with Guildhouse.

Image 1: Keynote lecture: José Roca (2023), event documentation. Art Gallery of South Australia. Photography by Peter Fong.

Image 2: Guided Curator Tour: A river that flows both ways (2023), event documentation. Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Sharmonie Cockayne.

Image 4: Tian Zhang. Photography by Zan Wimberley. Courtesy of Firstdraft, Sydney.

# Public Programs – Tours and Talks



## Artist Talk: Kaspar Schmidt Mumm

17 June 2023

Micheal Do, curator of contemporary art at the Sydney Opera House, joined 2023 Porter Street Commission recipient Kaspar Schmidt Mumm in conversation about his exhibition **ROCKAMORA**.



## Nice To Meet You: Talia Linz

21 June 2023

Visitors joined us at ACE to welcome Talia Linz, Curator at Artspace, Sydney, collaborating on solo and group exhibitions, new commissions, publications and multi-platform projects with contemporary artists across generations. She was recently one of the curators for *rivus*, 23rd Biennale of Sydney, 2022. This event was delivered in partnership with Guildhouse.



## Open Studios 2023

12 August 2023

Visit the upstairs studios at ACE for an exclusive opportunity to meet our 2023 Studio Program artists in their working spaces.

The five ACE Studio Program artists — Teresa Busuttill, Georgia Button, Brad Darkson, Jennifer Matthews and Truc Troung — and shared insights into their practice and working methods.

Image 1: Artist Talk: Kaspar Schmidt Mumm, 'ROCKAMORA' (2023), event documentation, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Lana Adams.

Image 2: Courtesy Talia Linz.

Image 3: Open Studios (2023), Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Thomas McCammon.



# Public Programs – Tours and Talks



## Artist Talk: PRIDE

2 September 2023

Exhibition co-curators, Dominic Guerrera and ACE Artistic Director Patrice Sharkey, joined Ngarigo artist Peter Waples-Crowe in conversation about his first major presentation in South Australia, PRIDE. Peter was accompanied by PRIDE mentee artists Alfred Lowe, Tyberius Larking, and Jayda Wilson.



## Nice To Meet You: Luke King

21 September 2023

We celebrated National Week of Deaf People 2023 with a special “Nice To Meet You” event featuring Deaf Naarm-based artist, Luke King. This event was delivered in partnership with Guildhouse.



## Curator-led tour: PRIDE

21 October 2023

PRIDE co-curators, Dominic Guerrera and ACE Artistic Director Patrice Sharkey, shared the knowledge they gained from liaising with the exhibition artists, including insights into their intentions and methods of making. They also provided a local context to Peter Waples-Crowe’s work.

Image 1: Artist Talk: Peter Waples-Crowe, ‘PRIDE’ (2023), event documentation, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Thomas McCammon.

Image 2: ‘Nice to Meet You: Luke King’ (2023), event documentation, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Peter Fong.

Image 3: Opening Night: ‘PRIDE’ (2023), event documentation, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Thomas McCammon.



# Special Events



ROCKAMORA LIVE: A performance with The Bait Fridge and Slowmango (2023), event documentation, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Lana Adams.





## Symposium: A river that flows both ways

18 March 2023

Coinciding with ACE's exhibition 'A river that flows both ways: Selected works from the 23rd Biennale of Sydney: rīvus', Curatorial Liaison Dominic Guerrera facilitated two panel discussions, each featuring local Aboriginal artists and community members. The panellists spoke about our connection to rivers, lakes, and seas, as well as the importance of working with and caring for our waterways.



## Helpmann Academy Graduate Exhibition

1 April – 6 May 2023

This was an annual celebration of the strongest creative voices emerging from South Australia's contemporary art scene. Artists from Flinders University and the University of South Australia showcased their graduate works across various disciplines, including ceramics, painting, jewellery, photography, printmaking, video, installation, sonic art, sculpture, fashion, and performance.



## Offbeat – taking a drink of My Self (saliva)

5 May 2023

Turning towards the uncategorisable and unhinged, 'taking a drink of My Self (saliva)' was a new performance by Monte Masi and collaborators Hew Parham, Rachael Burke, Melanie Walters, and others. It featured a suite of newly commissioned art objects made by Eleanor Amor.

Image 1: 'Symposium: A river that flows both ways' (2023), Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Peter Fong.

Image 2: 2023 Helpmann Academy Graduate Exhibition, Vernissage event, ACE. Photography by Jack Fenby.

Image 3: Offbeat – 'taking a drink of My Self (saliva)' (2023), event documentation, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Thomas McCammon.



## Diner Club at ROCKAMORA

29 June 2023

Seated inside the sensorily-encompassing solo exhibition by Kaspar Schmidt Mumm, 'ROCKAMORA', Diner Club brought together contemporary artists with some of South Australia's best chefs, restaurants, wineries, and breweries to host a unique dinner service curated specifically around the themes and ideas behind the exhibition.

The dinner menu was crafted by Jessie Spiby, a MasterChef contestant from 2015 and the Executive Chef of My Grandma Ben, a sustainability-focused eatery, bar, and workshop space.



## ROCKAMORA LIVE: A performance with The Bait Fridge and Slowmango

15 July 2023

Audience members became part of the live studio audience for 'Rockamora's' performance featuring The Bait Fridge and Slowmango. For one night only, the gallery transformed into a venue that was part music venue, part gallery, and part live studio, creating a lively atmosphere filled with raw action, vibrant colours, elaborate costumes, and a strong sense of community. This event could be described as a 'multi-disciplinary performance experience,' but that term seemed a bit dull, didn't it?



## Babakiueria Community Day: Ruled Us, Ruled Us, Ruled Us

1 October 2023

A specially commissioned offsite project by Brad Darkson. This family-friendly event at the Museum of Economic Botany, Adelaide Botanic Gardens, began with a Welcome to Country, followed by cultural activities with Uncle Moogy Sumner. Attendees enjoyed free barbecue-style food, as well as tea, coffee, and non-alcoholic drinks.

Image 1: Diner Club at 'ROCKAMORA' (2023), Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Thomas McCammon.

Image 2: 'ROCKAMORA' LIVE: A performance with The Bait Fridge and Slowmango (2023), event documentation. Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Lana Adams.

Image 3: Babakiueria Community Day: 'Ruled Us, Ruled Us, Ruled Us' (2023), event documentation, Santos Museum of Economic Botany, Adelaide Botanic Gardens. Photography by Lana Adams.



# Studio Program



Open Studios (2023), Teresa Busuttill's studio, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Thomas McCammon.



# Studio Program

## Overview



ACE is home to five fully-supported, rent-free CBD-based studios for South Australian artists.

The ACE Studio Program provides professional development opportunities, including studio visits with Australian and international curators; participation in public programs; mentorship by ACE staff; and prominent profiling and promotional opportunities.

It is the only program of its kind in the state and is an invaluable pathway for artists to gain national recognition. Working as part of a cohort of fellow artists, the Studio Program gives residents the space to experiment with their practice and grow their professional careers.

**“The program is a generative and focused time that allows for discussions and feedback from studio peers, alongside studio visits from national and international artists and curators. This is especially nourishing and vital in a time where many artists are without a dedicated workspace and can feel isolated from their communities and networks.”**

**– Jennifer Mathews**

The 2023 Studio Program is supported by partnerships with Creative Partnerships Australia’s Plus 1 Program, Helpmann Academy, Adelaide Central School of Art, and firstdraft. It is also supported by the generous contributions of private donors through the Studio Program Donors.

### 2023 Studio Program Donors

Anonymous x 2, Anton Andreacchio, Susan Armitage, Jane Ayers, Sally Ball, Candy Bennett, Angela Carey, James Darling AM, Sue Dillon, Lesley Forwood, Dr Alex Grant, Dr Robyn Grant, Amanda Harkness & Karen Barrett, Andrew Henderson, Kate Irving, Robyn & Geoff Kempe, Hon. Diana Laidlaw AM, James Lake, Thomas Lambert, Brigitte Lane, Stephen Lane, Edwina Lehmann, David McKee AO, Pam McKee, Jane Michell, Ministry of Clouds, Christopher Penny, John Phillips, Michael Pocock, Aidan Rigoni, Louise Rigoni, Venetia Rigoni, Jill Russell, Thelma Taliangis, Tracey Whiting AM



# Teresa Busuttil

2023 Studio Program Artist



“Busuttil’s work is an exquisite display of installation and sculpture. Here, amongst this collection of artworks, we are asked: Who determines right from wrong, and why?”

– Ruby-Rose Pivet-Marsh



Teresa Busuttil’s multi-disciplinary practice investigates personal and familial history, the Maltese diaspora, archives and shared pools of memory.

In 2022, Busuttil received a Bachelor of Contemporary Art from the University of South Australia and was the recipient of fine print’s pause~play commission. Recent exhibitions and presentations include *Stuffat tal-Bebbux*, FELTspace, Adelaide, 2022; and *The One Minutes*, 17th Kinemastik International Short Film Festival, Malta, 2022.

Busuttil was selected to participate in the 2023 Studio Program in partnership with the Helpmann Academy.

Image 1: Teresa Busuttil, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Thomas McCammon.

Image 2: ‘Studios: 2023’, installation view, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Sam Roberts

# Georgia Button

2023 Studio Program Artist



**“Georgia Button’s practice examines notions of loss through moving image, installation and sonic materials, often drawing on her personal histories and experiences growing up on her family’s farm in rural South Australia, Nukunu land”  
– Laura Castagnini**



Georgia Button’s multidisciplinary practice embraces moving image, installation and sound to explore affect, loss, personal histories and rural environments.

Button graduated with First Class Honours from Adelaide Central School of Art in 2022. Recent exhibitions and presentations include *Petrichor*, Port Pirie Regional Art Gallery, 2021; *Tactile, Self*, Adelaide Film Festival, 2020; *Hiraeth*, FELTspace, Adelaide, 2020; and *recess presents*, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental, 2019.

Button was selected to participate in the 2023 Studio Program in partnership with Adelaide Central School of Art.

Image 1: Georgia Button, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Thomas McCammon.

Image 2: Opening Night: ‘Studios: 2023’ (2023), event documentation, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Lana Adams.



# Brad Darkson

2023 Studio Program Artist



**“Through site-specific work, Darkson is both making art and practising land management to heal Country.”**

**– Karen Wyld**



Brad Darkson's practice is informed by his First Nations and Anglo Australian heritage, and encompasses carving, sound, sculpture, multimedia installation and painting. Darkson's work is often site-specific, and connects contemporary and traditional cultural practices, language and lore. His current research interests include traditional land management practices, bureaucracy, seaweed and neo-capitalism.

Darkson completed a BFA at the University of South Australia in 2015 and a MFAD at the University of Tasmania in 2017. Recent exhibitions include *Between Waves*, Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Melbourne, 2023; *Make Yourself Comfortable*, Post Office Projects, Adelaide, 2022; *Neoteric*, Adelaide Railway Station, 2022; *Experimenta Life Forms*, touring 2021–2024; *Adelaide//International*, Samstag Museum, Adelaide, 2020; *VIETNAM – ONE IN, ALL IN*, touring 2019–2021; *The Return*, Dark Mofo, Hobart, 2018; and *LOSS. GAIN. REVERB. DELAY.*, Vitalstatistix, Port Adelaide, 2017.

Image 1: Brad Darkson, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Thomas McCammon.

Image 2: 'Studios: 2023', installation view, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Sam Roberts.

# Jennifer Mathews

2023 Studio Program Artist



**“Jennifer Mathews’ work is the perfect place for contemplating the urgent future of ecological disaster, and where one might dream up new modes of co-habitation between humans and machinic beings”**  
– Sasha Grbich



Jennifer Mathews works across metalwork and assemblage to create freestanding and relief sculptures. Utilising architectural motifs and materials, her work focuses on the tension between the industrial built environment and stylised depictions of nature to form new symbolic arrangements.

Mathews received First Class Honours in Fine Art from the Victorian College of the Arts in 2016. She holds a Bachelor of Visual Arts from the University of South Australia, where she was awarded the Constance Gordon-Johnson Sculpture and Installation Prize. Recent exhibitions include *The sun ceases to give without receiving*, Kings Artist-Run, Melbourne; *Extreme Mating of a Pugnacious Dreamer*, TCB Art Inc., Melbourne; *donut king* (paintings about love), Suite 7A, Sydney; and *System Blower*, MILK Gallery, Melbourne (all 2022).

Image 1: Jennifer Mathews, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Thomas McCammon.

Image 2: 'Studios: 2023', installation view, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Sam Roberts



# Truc Truong

2023 Studio Program Artist



**“When witnessed en masse her works form a kind of personal archive - one that constellates the multi-layered realities of being a second-generation Vietnamese woman within an Australian context”**

**– June Acido Miskell**



Truc Truong works across assemblage and sculpture, and draws influence from post-colonialism, ideas of home, self-hatred, West vs East and the weight of family loyalty. Treading a fine line between rage and humour, Truong creates convoluted spaces and memories that critique the power structures she attempts to evade.

Truong graduated from the University of South Australia with a Bachelor of Art and Design (Honours) in 2022. She has exhibited at 4A Centre for Contemporary Art, Sydney; Adelaide Festival Centre; Nexus, Adelaide; Perth Institute Contemporary Arts and The Substation, Melbourne.

Image 1: Truc Truong, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Thomas McCammon.

Image 2: Opening Night: 'Studios: 2023' (2023), event documentation, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Lana Adams.



Open Studios (2023), Teresa Busuttill's studio, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Thomas McCammon.

## Visiting Curators Program

The Visiting Curators Program aims to create new national networking opportunities for South Australian artists by connecting prominent Australian curators with Adelaide's foremost studios, ACE and Post Office Projects (POP). In addition, the curators visit a range of other studios across Adelaide depending on the visiting curator's interests.

### 2023 Visiting Curators:

- Elyse Goldfinch & Zoe Theodore: Directors at firstdraft in Sydney, NSW
- Tian Zhang: Independent Curator and founding Co-Director of Pari, a collectively-run space in Parramatta, NSW
- Talia Linz: Curator at Artspace in Sydney, NSW
- Colin Langridge: Independent Curator and Exhibition Coordinator at Contemporary Art Tasmania
- Katherine Wilkinson: Program Director at Fremantle Biennale, WA

The Visiting Curators Program is delivered in partnership with Post Office Projects (POP).



# Porter Street Commission



Kaspar Schmidt Mumm, 'ROCKAMORA' (2023), installation view, Adelaide Contemporary Experimental.  
Photography by Sam Roberts.



# Porter Street Commission

## 2024 Recipient: Lee Salomone

From 1964 until 2016, CACSA was the longest-running contemporary art space in Australia. It was created by the young artists of the Contemporary Art Society (CAS) – itself dating back to 1942. These artists recognised the need for a space of their own to freely experiment and present work to the public. So, in 1964, they purchased a four-bedroom villa at 14 Porter Street, Parkside to convert into an art gallery, and there it operated until the property was sold in 2018. The proceeds were invested to establish the Porter Street Fund, which honours the vision of the CAS artists and the legacy of CACSA.

Clear constitutional guidelines – determining that 50% of revenue be reinvested and the remainder spent to support artists and art practice – ensure that the fund serves the community for whom ACE exists, and that it will benefit South Australian artists for decades to come.

Commencing in 2021, the Porter Street Commission awards \$20,000 to a South Australian artist at any stage of their career to create an ambitious new work for presentation at ACE the following year. Made possible by the Porter Street Fund, it is open to those working across all contemporary art forms and is designed to support a significant next step in a South Australian artists' career and exhibiting trajectory.

The 2023 recipient Kaspar Schmidt Mumm's exhibition outcome, *Rockamora*, opened at ACE in June 2023. An array of public programs complemented this ambitious presentation, including live performances, workshops, tours and talks. *Rockamora* garnered impressive local and national media coverage, including a segment on ABC TV's flagship arts program, *Art Works*.

In August ACE announced Lee Salomone as the recipient of the 2024 Commission. Applications for the 2024 Porter Street Commission were considered by a selection panel composed of ACE's Associate Curator Rayleen Forester; Clothilde Bullen (Curator and Head of Indigenous Programs at the Art Gallery of Western Australia); and Billy Tang (Executive Director & Curator at Para Site, Hong Kong).



Lee Salomone in studio (2023). Photography by Rosina Possingham.



# 2023 Board and Staff

## Board

Rainer Jozepe  
(Chair) (until October)  
Amanda Pepe  
(Chair) (from October)  
Leigh Robb  
(Deputy Chair) (until May)  
Fiona Salmon  
(Deputy Chair) (from May)  
Gemma Harris  
(Treasurer)  
Anton Andreacchio  
Hannah Andreyev  
James Darling AM (until May)  
Becci Love  
Mary-Jean Richardson (until May)  
Yhonnie Scarce  
Bridget Currie (from May)  
Louise Rigoni (from May)

## First Nations Advisory Committee

Becci Love (Co-Chair)  
Yhonnie Scarce (Co-Chair)  
Marika Davies  
Dominic Guerrero  
Ryan Presley

## Staff

Patrice Sharkey  
*Artistic Director*  
Louise Dunn  
*Executive Director*  
Sharmonie Cockayne / Harriet Culbertson  
*Marketing & Communications Manager*  
Sally Francis  
*Administrator*  
Rayleen Forester  
*Associate Curator*  
Grace Marlow  
*Public Programs Coordinator*  
Ava Viscariello  
*Marketing & Communications Assistant*  
Alise Hardy  
*Education Coordinator*

## Install Staff

Gus Clutterbuck  
Faith Eadie  
Kobe Donaldson  
Pantelis Georgiadis  
Izak Hutchinson  
Olivia Kathigitis  
Jonathan Kim  
Oakey  
Nat Penney  
Willa Pratt  
Harry Sadler  
Sarah Tickle

## Casual Staff

Hannah Coleman  
Nix Herriot  
William Maggs  
Isabel Margot  
Kassie McKenzie  
Andrew Nille  
Lee Salomone  
Asha Southcombe  
Tayer Stead

## Interns

Isabelle Szczotka  
*Adelaide Central School of Art*  
Tayer Stead  
*Adelaide Central School of Art*

## Archivist in Residence

Cameron Flemming

## Volunteers

Abie Agut  
Sophia Balingit  
Siddharth Bansal  
Ivy Bell  
Shazia Bhanji  
Sophie Brown  
Madeleine Coates  
Hannah Coleman  
Sarah Colubriale

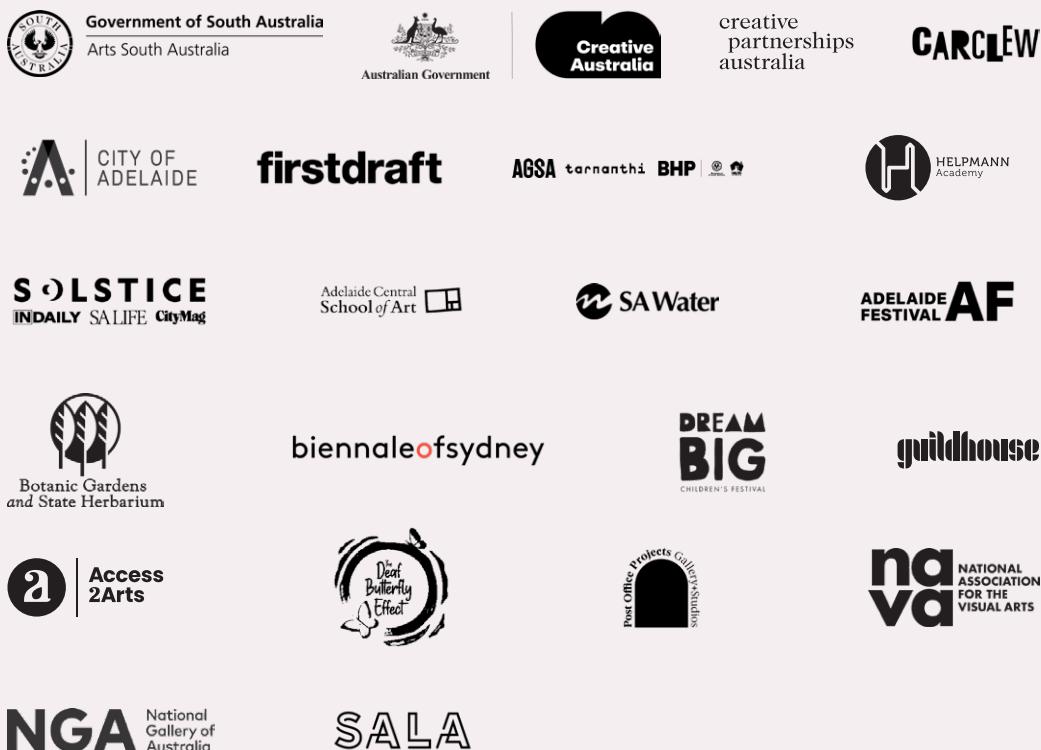
## Volunteers

Jazmine Deng  
Sheyla Dong  
Jelena  
Evelyn  
Ara Ferrante  
Gilbert  
Lewis Goodwin  
Zhuzhu Guiyong  
Isla Hannan  
Franklin Holfeld  
Alice Hu  
Laura Hu  
Danny Jarratt  
Mary-Ann Le Roux  
Sienna Montgomery-Pittaway  
Chloe Morgan  
Alice Parle  
Renee Pastore  
Isabel Margot  
Matisse Schmidt  
Katey Smoker  
Zuzanna Synusas  
Isabelle Szczotka  
Sarah Thomas  
Tamara Timko  
Siouxie Whiffen

# 2023 Supporters and Partners

ACE is supported by the South Australian Government through Arts South Australia and the Australian Government through Creative Australia, its principal arts investment and advisory body. ACE is a member of Contemporary Arts Organisations Australia.

## Partners



## Sponsors



## Benefactors

David McKee AO & Pam McKee

## Commissioning Donors

Andreyev Foundation

## 2023 Studio Donors

Anonymous x 2, Anton Andreacchio, Susan Armitage, Jane Ayers, Sally Ball, Candy Bennett, Angela Carey, James Darling AM, Sue Dillon, Lesley Forwood, Dr Alex Grant, Dr Robyn Grant, Amanda Harkness & Karen Barrett, Andrew Henderson, Kate Irving, Robyn & Geoff Kempe, Hon. Diana Laidlaw AM, James Lake, Thomas Lambert, Brigitte Lane, Stephen Lane, Edwina Lehmann, David McKee AO, Pam McKee, Jane Michell, Ministry of Clouds, Christopher Penny, John Phillips, Michael Pocock, Aidan Rigoni, Louise Rigoni, Venetia Rigoni, Jill Russell, Thelma Taliangis, Tracey Whiting AM

## Friends

Isabel Michell





'ROCKAMORA' LIVE: A performance with The Bait Fridge and Slowmango (2023), event documentation. Adelaide Contemporary Experimental. Photography by Lana Adams.