

2024 Annual Report


the

cad

FACTORY

The Cad Factory
1906 Strontian Rd
Sandigo NSW 2700 Australia

P: +61 409 543 952
E: vic@cadfactory.com.au
W: cadfactory.com.au



The Cad Factory works from the ancient, unceded Wiradjuri lands of the Narrungderah people and the ancient, unceded Eora lands of the Gadigal people of the who have taken care of this country for over 60,000 years. These places and their deep history contributes to how we understand the world.



1

OUR PURPOSE

Reimagining the world through contemporary art practices.



2

OUR MISSION

The Cad Factory is an artist-led organisation collaborating ethically with people and place to create a local, national and international program of experimental work.



3

OUR VISION

To be a leader in contemporary ethically engaged art practices, celebrated at home and recognised internationally.



4

OUR VALUES

- ↳ co-devising
- ↳ authentic partnering
- ↳ building connections
- ↳ sharing opportunities
- ↳ embracing the unknown
- ↳ enthusiastically adventurous
- ↳ high quality artistic outcomes

Statistics

2024 Annual Report

In-Person Audience:
7,289

Digital Audience
(live viewers):
122

Digital Audience
(social media):
72,893

Workshop Participants:
335

Developments, workshops,
residencies, recording sessions
& consultations:
36

Artists Engaged:
66

Artistic Outcomes:
8

Public Talks:
17

Staff Professional
Development:
4

Sector
Engagements:
19

Number of Galleries
Exhibited in:
7

Screenings of the
'More Than a Fish Kill' Documentary:
7



Over the past 5 years the depth, reach and impact of the Cad Factory's work has increased substantially as they have emerged as global leaders in socially engaged arts practice, growing capacity in this sector through mentorship and training programs and developing rich traditions, particularly in the health and environmental sectors.

**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR CLAIRE HOOKER,
SYDNEY HEALTH ETHICS AND PRESIDENT,
ARTS HEALTH NETWORK NSW/ACT**

'The Cad Factory's clarity and insight enable them to devise and deliver critical and ambitious projects and programs with patience, emotional intelligence and creativity.'

**ROS ABERCROMBIE,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
REGIONAL ARTS AUSTRALIA**



The Cad Factory is an artist led organisation which creates a dynamic international program of new, immersive, and experimental work guided by authentic exchange, ethical principles, people, and place.

We are a multi-disciplinary organisation exploring how collaborative contemporary arts practices can inspire and support people from all walks of life to navigate issues such as social dislocation, health and wellbeing and environmental decline. All while creating ground-breaking work that extends arts-based research and knowledge in innovative directions.

2024 proved to be an exhilarating ride for those of us involved in the operation of the Cad Factory. As this annual report details, the Cad Factory had an action-packed year, continuing to grow our artistic networks and in-person and digital audiences. Artistic principals, Vic and Sarah McEwan, ably supported by Office Manager and Project Assistant Kimberley Beattie, collaborated with communities internationally and across many parts of Australia, delivering new initiatives as well as building on successful projects from previous years. Our 2024 statistics demonstrate the Cad's continuing reach and growth in audiences.

The Cad Factory strengthened its position as a national and global leader in socially engaged contemporary arts practice. Three years ago, the Cad partnered with Create NSW to develop the CASE (Contemporary Art Socially Engaged) Incubator program, a two-year initiative providing eight selected artists with residencies, developing sector resources and establishing a socially engaged community of practice. In early 2024, the Cad officially launched the next phase of this initiative at the Art Gallery of NSW – the CASE Incubator Studio - transitioning the pilot program into an on-going national hub for socially engaged practice.

One of the Cad Factory's major projects over the past few years has been a series of collaborations with the Narrandera Wiradjuri community and the Barkindji community at Menindee, responding to the 2019 and 2023 devastating mass fish deaths along the Barka (Darling River). In 2024, the Cad partnered

with the National Museum of Australia and Otis Filley Studios to produce More than a Fish Kill, an inspiring documentary sharing the story of how the Cad has worked with these First Nations communities and NSW Fisheries to use arts-based practices to turn the ecological trauma of the fish deaths into a journey of cultural healing.

More than a Fish Kill premiered at the National Museum in Canberra in October 2023, with a panel discussion facilitated by ABC Radio National's Natasha Mitchell. The resulting broadcast and podcast attracted more than 750,000 listens/downloads. In 2024, the Cad conducted seven screenings of the documentary, including at the 11th annual Australian Stream Management Conference, and in 2025, More than a Fish Kill will be distributed nationally and internationally through Ronin Films.

Through the second half of the year, the Cad Factory extended its partnership with the National Museum through a River Country tour inviting Australians living in regional NSW to develop their connections with local waterways. Supported by a NSW Government Regional Arts Touring Fund, River Country visited the Riverina and the Far West in 2024, presenting in each destination a collaborative exhibition, schools' workshops, screenings and discussions of More than a Fish Kill, walks on Country and other workshops and performances.

In 2024, the Cad Factory continued to expand its role as a specialist curator of arts and health projects, working, for example, with the Griffith Base Hospital to embed arts within the re-developed facility. In September the Cad was involved in Arts Health Mini-mentorships delivered in partnership with AHNNA, UNSW, St Vincents Hospital and Sydney Children's Hospital.

In February and March, Vic was in the UK once more. There he met with Tate Liverpool, Open Eye Gallery and made presentations at various universities including Salford and Manchester Metropolitan University. He also presented the More Than a Fish Kill documentary at Bath Spa University.

As ever, the Cad Factory's program touched the lives of many people, connecting traditional custodians in Menindee with audiences in Sydney, patients suffering facial nerve palsy with creative technology students in Brisbane, and farmers experiencing the loneliness of long duration harvesting with artists exploring the possibilities of socially engaged practice. And, the list goes on, with too many inspiring projects to detail.

On behalf of the Board, we congratulate Vic and Sarah, and Kimberley, for another strong year of inspiring arts practice and look forward with them to the unfolding of the 2025 program. As ever, we are awed by their vision, drive and commitment to changing the world for the better.

Turning to the board itself, we have spent many years building the Cad Factory's corporate governance and financial structures, based on robust accounting and auditing. We maintain well-developed risk management plans and have sought to build the Cad's financial reserves wherever possible. This focus on governance helps to build our reputation as a well-managed arts company. This is reflected in the feedback which we often receive from funding agencies. We wish to acknowledge the board's continuing focus on good governance.

2024 saw some changes in our board composition. We farewelled Sabiene Heindl, who left us after many years of outstanding service. We wish to acknowledge Sabiene's wonderful work in supporting the Cad, and to wish her well in all her future endeavours. We also welcomed Lisa Middlebrook onto the board. Lisa brings with her multifaceted experience in universities, think tanks, member-based not-for-profit groups and political organisations. Her strong strategic planning, marketing and corporate governance skills complement the skills of other members of the board.

We would also like to acknowledge and thank our other fellow Board members who have supported the Cad Factory during 2024.

These are Beate Duesterwald-Peplow, and Tahni Froudish. Thank you all for your time, energy and wisdom in helping grow the Cad Factory as an organisation living the arts' profound contributions to helping people and places flourish.

KIRSTEN WEHNER AND KEITH BESGROVE

The Cad Factory Board Co-Presidents



'River Country' installation at Broken Hill
City Art Gallery. Photo: Vic McEwan

2024 Annual Report



JANUARY

- Advertised for Communications and Digital Content Creator
- Work development in Falls Creek for Falls Creek Festival
- Musician Adam Cole recording at Cad Factory Sandigo studio

FEBRUARY

- Conducted interviews for Communications and Digital Content Creator and appointed Mirabelle Wouters
- Attended Griffith Multicultural Council meeting for Griffith Base Hospital Redevelopment
- Public drop-in sessions with Greg Carosi and Elijah Ingram for Griffith Base Hospital Redevelopment
- Greg Carosi and Elijah Ingram workshop at Kalinda School, for Griffith Base Hospital Redevelopment
- Meeting with NSW Chief Scientist
- ‘Shadows and Consequences’ Three-day exhibition and Community Showing event at Falls Creek Festival
- Cad Factory Board meeting
- CASE Incubator Studio launch at the Art Gallery of New South Wales
- Vic McEwan UK Tour
- Meetings with Tate Liverpool and Open Eye Gallery, UK
- Presentation of ‘More Than a Fish Kill’ documentary at Bath Spa University, UK

MARCH

- Scene Shift Residency Exchange Expressions of Interest opened
- Presentation at University of Salford, UK
- Presentation at Manchester Metropolitan University, UK
- Meeting with Bec Jolly from the energy sector to discuss impact framework
- Professional development: Surplus for Purpose online workshop with Institute of Company Directors

APRIL

- Presentation to medical post-graduate students at the University of Sydney
- CASE Incubator Year 2 artists zoom discussion
- Public drop-in session with Elijah Ingram for Griffith Base Hospital Redevelopment
- Yarning circle recording session at Cad Factory Sandigo studio for Griffith Base Hospital Redevelopment
- Band Miau recording at Cad Factory Sandigo studio
- Vic attended residency for Regenerative Communities-led ‘Borders’ project in Mildura

MAY

- Vic attended Regional Arts Australia Creative Industries Leadership Action Initiative
- Professional development: Conflict Resolution and Mediation course
- CASE Incubator Field Guide zoom discussion
- Professional development: Accessible Curation, run by Accessible Arts
- Attended Arts Health Network NSW/ ACT (AHNNA) meeting
- Cad staff planning get-together at Rosebery studio
- Attended Music NSW board meeting
- Attended Community Arts Cultural Development bi-annual online gathering

JUNE

- Cad Factory Board meeting
- Joyce Spencer Textile Awards winners announced
- CASE Incubator monthly zoom get-together
- Attended Music NSW board meeting

JULY

- Carla Gottgens’ workshops with Marian Catholic College and Western Riverina Community School, for Griffith Base Hospital Redevelopment
- ‘More than a Fish Kill’ documentary screening at Palace Central Cinema, Sydney
- ‘Introduction to Socially Engaged Practice’ Workshop at Cad Factory Rosebery studio
- Harriet Gillies and Scott Baker ‘Scene Shift’ first residencies
- Riverina Cultural Mapping with Western Riverina Arts
- CASE Incubator monthly zoom get-together
- Musician Xavier Beauchamp (Beacho2700) recording at Cad Factory Sandigo studio
- Mei Zhao residency at Cad Factory Sandigo studio
- CASE Incubator Field Guide zoom discussion

AUGUST

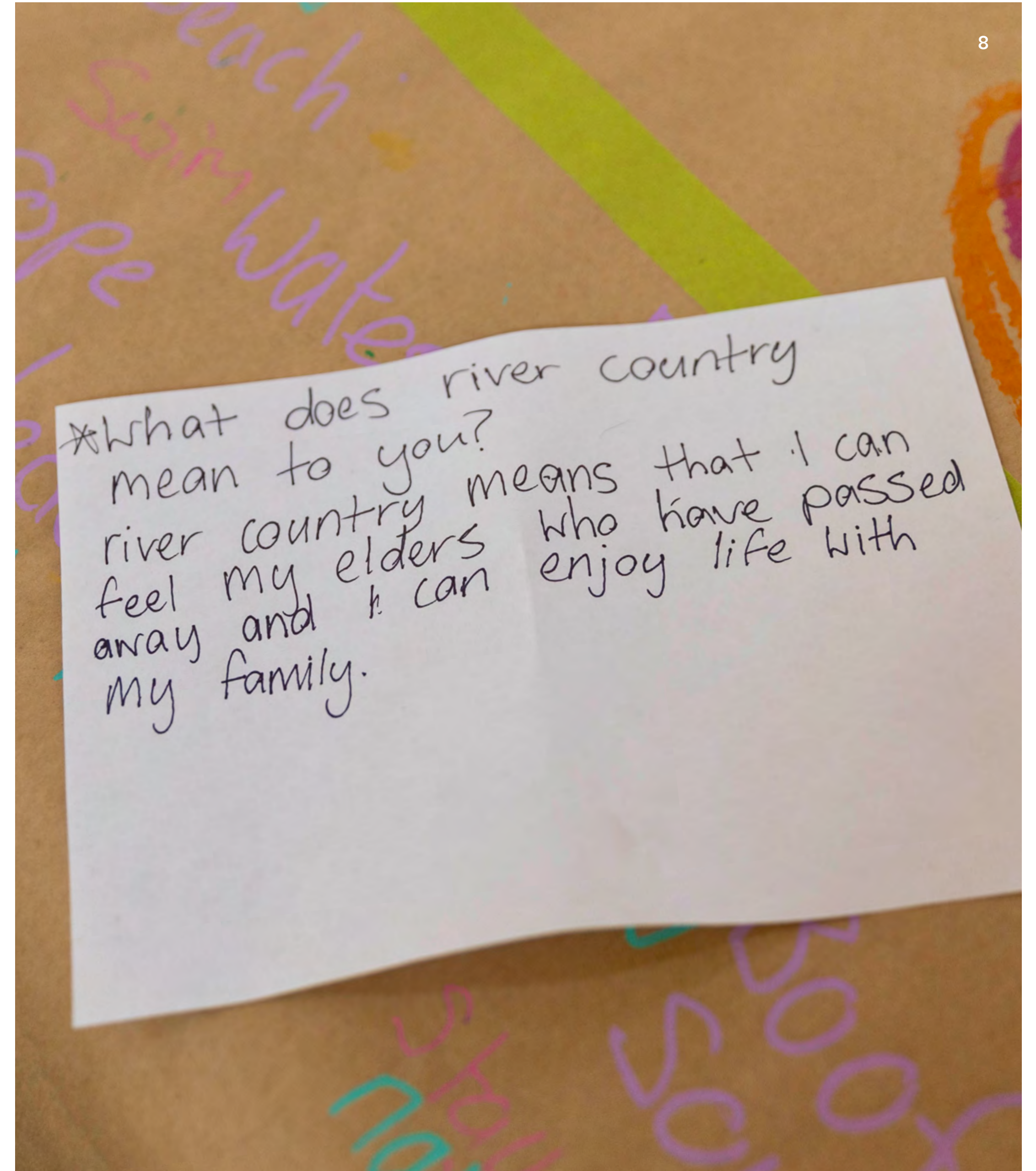
- ‘More than a Fish Kill’ documentary screening and Q&A Panel at the 11th Australian Stream Management Conference and Awards Gala, Victor Harbour SA
- Meetings with University of Canberra, Regional Arts Australia, Murrumbidgee Local Health District and National Gallery of Australia
- Vic attended Music NSW board meeting
- Harriet Body photographing artwork from CASE Incubator Launch, at Cad Factory Rosebery studio
- CASE Incubator monthly zoom get-together
- Attended AHNNA meeting
- Museums and Galleries NSW visit to the Cad Factory Studio
- Murrumbidgee Local Health District visit to the Cad Factory Studio

SEPTEMBER

- 'More than a Fish Kill' documentary screening at University of Sunshine Coast
- Arts Health Mini-mentorships delivered in partnership with AHNNA, UNSW, St Vincent's Hospital and Sydney Children's Hospital (Randwick)
- Social Sciences Week online event: CHASS President, Professor Frank Bongiorno, in discussion with Dr Vic McEwan, 2023 CHASS Distinctive Works Prize winner
- 'More than a Fish Kill' documentary screening and discussion at 'Immersia 2024', Australian National University
- Riverina Community College 'ArtSpeak' work development
- Vic McEwan and Martin Fox developing work for 'Lucky People' in Lightning Ridge
- Cad Factory Board Strategic Planning meeting

OCTOBER

- Riverina Community College 'ArtSpeak' work development
- Musicians Lawrence Barlow and Andrew Christian recording at Cad Factory Studio
- Musician Belle Madden (Grassroots Best Original Song competition winner) recording session at Cad Factory Studio
- Vic McEwan gave the Keynote speech at Old Parliament House for the launch of the Regional Creative Industries Report at the Creative Regions National Summit 2024
- Opening event for 'Galiyanha (Ascent)' exhibition by Leanne Wicks, Joyce Spencer Textiles Awards Mentorship recipient 2023, at North East Wiradjuri Cultural Centre, Kandos
- 'River Country' exhibition at Narrandera Arts and Community Centre
- 'River Country' workshops with Narrandera Public School and Narrandera East Infants School



OCTOBER CONT.

- ‘River Country’ Environmental Writing Workshop with Cameron Muir, at Narrandera Arts and Community Centre
- ‘River Country’ Walk on Country in Narrandera, with Uncle Michael Lyons
- ‘River Country’ performance and ‘More than a Fish Kill’ documentary screening at Narrandera Fisheries
- ‘River Country’ workshop with Whitton Murrami Public School in Leeton
- ‘River Country’ workshop with Balranald Central School and St Joseph’s Parish School at Gayini Wetlands, Balranald
- Opening of ‘Self-covered Buttons’ exhibition by Samantha Tannous, Joyce Spencer Textile Awards Highly Commended recipient 2023, at Gallery76, Concord West

NOVEMBER

- Presentation at the ‘Material Image’ conference at the National Art School
- Opening of ‘Same time/Same place (COEXISTENCE); a MULTISPECIES (KARAOKE) OPERA?’ exhibition by Charlotte Haywood, recipient of the Joyce Spencer Textiles Fellowship 2024, at Broken Hill City Art Gallery
- Opening of ‘Figtree Connection’ exhibition by Janet Steele, Joyce Spencer Textiles Prize recipient 2024, at Brough House, Maitland
- Riverina Community College ‘ArtSpeak’ work developments
- CASE Incubator Field Guide zoom discussion
- CASE Incubator monthly zoom get-together
- Presentation at ‘The Imaginaries’, University of Sydney

DECEMBER

- Scott Baker and Harriet Gillies ‘Scene Shift’ second residencies
- Riverina Community College ‘ArtSpeak’ work development
- ‘Truth’ exhibition opening at Riverina Community College (‘ArtSpeak’ final outcome)
- ‘Apertures’ projection mapping walking tour with Scott Baker for ‘Scene Shift’
- ‘OPEN/TEXT/PLAY’ public program by Harriet Gillies for ‘Scene Shift’
- ‘Scene Shift’ wrap-up meeting
- ‘ArtSpeak’ wrap-up meeting
- Attended Western Riverina Arts Christmas Party

Project Partners/organisations we worked with in 2024

- Arts Health Network NSW/ACT (AHNNA)
- Art Farm
- Brand X
- Department of Regional NSW
- Falls Creek Management Centre
- Health Infrastructure NSW
- Menindee Aboriginal Elders Council
- Murrumbidgee Local Health District
- National Museum of Australia
- Otis Filley Studios
- Petaurus Education Group
- Riverina Community College
- Routledge
- St Vincent's Hospital
- Sydney Children's Hospital (Randwick)
- The Art Factory Supported Studio
- The University of NSW
- Tuckett Family
- Wagga Wagga City Council
- Western Riverina Arts



Artists, supporters and collaborators we engaged with in 2024

Mel Penicka-Smith, Claire Hooker, Carolyn Williams, Greg Carosi, Elijah Ingram, Rhona Weir, Lisa Logan, Martin Fox, Harriet Body, Diane Busuttil, Sunita Bala, Sarah Penicka-Smith, Karenza Ebejer, Rhae Kendrigan, And Then Photo Agency (Hannah Robinson and Melanie Muddle), Tom Isaacs, Lindy Hume, Wesley Shaw (AGNSW), Tim Crutchett, Liz Wewiora (Open Eye Gallery), Shaun Curtis and Alison Jones (Tate Liverpool), Steven Collins, Robert Monaghan, Kirsten Wehner, Cameron Muir, Samantha Davies, Barbara Quayle, Dave Doyle, Kathy Graham, Michael Lyons, Matt McLellan, Harriet Gillies, Scott Baker, Mei Zhao, Leanne Wicks, Charlotte Haywood, Samantha Tannous, Janet Steele, Sonia Undy, RR Pascoe, Dave Nicholls, Jennifer West, Lilly Salmon, Lorraine O’Hara, Adrian Buntin, Dinawans Connection, Griffith Aunty Jeans group, Jacob Raupach, Aesha Henderson, Charlotte Salusinszky and Janet Gibson, Mitch King, Gail Kenning, Michelle Jersky, Alice McAuliffe, NSW Chief Scientist, Andrew Christian, Lawrence Barlow, Josh de Gruchy. We also auspiced the project ‘Understories’ run by Christopher Orchard, Tim Crutchett and Damian Moloney.

Musical Artist Recordings

- Adam Cole
- Miau (Penny McBride, Nick Ketley, Bon King)
- Lawrence Barlow with Andrew Christian and Sarah McEwan
- Beacho2700 (Xavier Beauchamp)
- Belle Madden



Mei Zhao residency at the Cad Factory
Studio Sandigo. Photo: Sarah McEwan

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Venues exhibited at in 2024

- Broken Hill City Art Gallery, NSW
- Brough House, Maitland NSW
- Gallery76, Concord NSW
- Narrandera Arts and Community Centre, NSW
- North East Wiradjuri Cultural Centre, Kandos NSW
- Riverina Community College, Wagga Wagga NSW
- Slalom Plaza, Falls Creek VIC



Presentation locations/events in 2024

- ‘Attending to the Other: An artistic enquiry into patient expectations and experiences of care’ at the Sydney Facial Nerve Clinic
- ‘Immersia’ 2024, Australian National University
- ‘Material Image’ conference at the National Art School, Sydney
- ‘Poetry on Prescription’ conference, Canberra University, ACT
- ‘The Imaginaries’, University of Sydney
- 11th Australian Stream Management Conference & Awards Gala, Victor Harbour, SA
- Art Gallery of New South Wales
- Bath Spa University, UK
- Broken Hill City Art Gallery
- Creative Regions National Summit 2024, Old Parliament House Canberra
- Falls Creek Festival
- Goldsmiths, University of London, UK
- Manchester Metropolitan University, UK
- Narrandera Fisheries Centre
- Online presentation to Creative Australia CACD Network
- Open Eye Gallery, UK
- Social Sciences Week online event: CHASS President, Professor Frank Bongiorno, in discussion with Dr Vic McEwan, 2023 CHASS Distinctive Works Prize winner
- Tate Liverpool, UK
- University of Salford, UK
- University of Sydney, the Sydney Environment Institute
- University of the Sunshine Coast

Workshops

We delivered workshops to the following primary, high school and central schools:

- Balranald Central School
- Broken Hill North Public School
- Kalinda School
- Marian Catholic College
- Menindee Central School
- Narrandera East Infants School
- Narrandera Public School
- Palinyewah Public School
- Pomona Public School
- Pooncarie Public School
- St Joseph’s Parish School, Leeton
- Western Riverina Community School
- Whitton Murrami Public School
- Wilcannia Central School

Workshops for Adults included:

- Environmental Writing Workshop with Cameron Muir, at Narrandera Arts and Community Centre
- Introduction to Socially Engaged Practice Workshop at the CASE Incubator Studio, Rosebery

"River Stories" workshop at Menindee
Central School. Photo: Vic McEwan

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Donors in 2024

- Llewellyn and Garry Tuckett
- Pat Moor

Funding and Commission Sources in 2024

- Create NSW
- Creative Australia
- Department of Regional NSW
- NSW Health Infrastructure
- Wagga Wagga City Council



Media Coverage

- **Mudgee Guardian, 12 October 2024**
'Leanne loves knitting... and native birds' by Benjamin Palmer (also titled 'Leanne spent more than 1000 hours knitting native birds, here's where to see them' online)
- **The Maitland Mercury, 28 October 2024**
'Moreton Bay Fig inspires textile works' by Chloe Coleman (also titled 'Grand Moreton Bay Fig inspires Paterson artist's latest exhibition' online)
- **Broken Hill Times, 06 December 2024**
'Fish kills doco reveals trauma' by Em Jensen
- **Broken Hill Times, 06 December 2024**
'River Country in the Frame' by Em Jensen
- **Channel 7 Wagga Wagga News story**
from the Truth exhibition opening
- [Link to YouTube video](#) of the CHASS conversation



Communications and Digital Content Creator

In 2024 we engaged a Communications and Digital Content Creator, Mirabelle Wouters, to work with our small team and Board to provide strategic communications expertise to enable the Cad Factory to build our in-person and online communities by creating engaging content that shared our activities.



CASE Incubator Studio

We launched the CASE (Contemporary Art Socially Engaged) Incubator Studio as a new hub to nurture the development of socially engaged art practices.

Socially engaged art is an act of care, a type of practice where ethics and aesthetics converge to explore the social, cultural, political, environmental, and economic contexts that shape people and communities.

As an increasing number of artists are making art beyond traditional studio-based practices, it raises important questions about the implications of this ‘social turn’ for arts practitioners, partners and communities.

More about the CASE Incubator Studio can be found on our website:

www.cadfactory.com.au/casestudio



PUBLIC PROGRAMS IN 2024:

- Launch of the CASE Incubator Studio, Art Gallery of NSW
- Introduction to Socially Engaged Practice Workshop
- Arts and Health Mini Mentorships

AGNSW CASE Incubator Studio Launch

‘There was such a great buzz around last night and tongues are still wagging with the information that was shared. It felt really special to be a part of it and also to know that we’ve had this shared vision for so long and now it has come to fruition!!’

DI BUSUTTIL

‘A wonderful celebration of the amazing work that you and Sarah do – making a difference in the lives of people every day through your socially engaged art practice. So inspiring.’

SABIENE HEINDL

Introduction to Socially Engaged Art workshop

‘Had a great weekend at a workshop run by..the Cad Factory. Lots of insightful discussions about what Socially Engaged Art is with a great group of artists from up and down the East Coast.’

CLARE WALTON



Clouds and Symphonies

Clouds and Symphonies is an exhibition of artworks created by artist Vic McEwan during multiple residencies between 2018-2024. Through photography, video, sound and interactive installation, this exhibition honours residents of Falls Creek Victoria, by exploring the complex relationship between people and their surrounding environment. It explores how understanding our connection to a particular place might prepare us to face the complex challenges that lie ahead. The exhibition was presented at the 2024 Falls Creek Festival, and was supported by the Falls Creek Management Centre.

IN-PERSON
AUDIENCE:
320



Scene Shift Residency

The Cad Factory (Narrandera) and Brand X (Sydney) are committed to a rural and urban flow of artistic exchange and learning. The Scene Shift residency program has been run annually since 2022. It gives a regional artist studio space in the Sydney CBD and a Sydney artist studio space in rural NSW, for two two-week residency periods.

The residencies allow artists to connect with different communities, build industry connections and give time and space to develop work. It is a self-led and self-determined residency where artists can explore their practice within a different context. The aim of the program is to have meaningful dialogue between the art ecologies of regional and metropolitan NSW. In 2024, Harriet Gillies, from Sydney, was hosted by the Cad Factory at their Sandigo studio, and Scott Baker, from Bermagui, was hosted by Brand X at their City of Sydney Creative Studios.

Artists engaged:

→ Harriet Gillies

→ Scott Baker



Griffith Base Hospital Redevelopment

Located on the lands of the Wiradjuri People, the NSW Government's \$250 million new Griffith Base Hospital is a facility that will be fully operational by mid-2026. Acting as Creative Producer, the Cad Factory has worked with NSW Health Infrastructure, Murrumbidgee Local Health District, artists Carolyn Williams, Carla Gottgens, Greg Carosi, Elijah Ingram, the Griffith Aunty Jeans group and Griffith Local Aboriginal Land Council to deliver new artworks within the hospital over 2024.

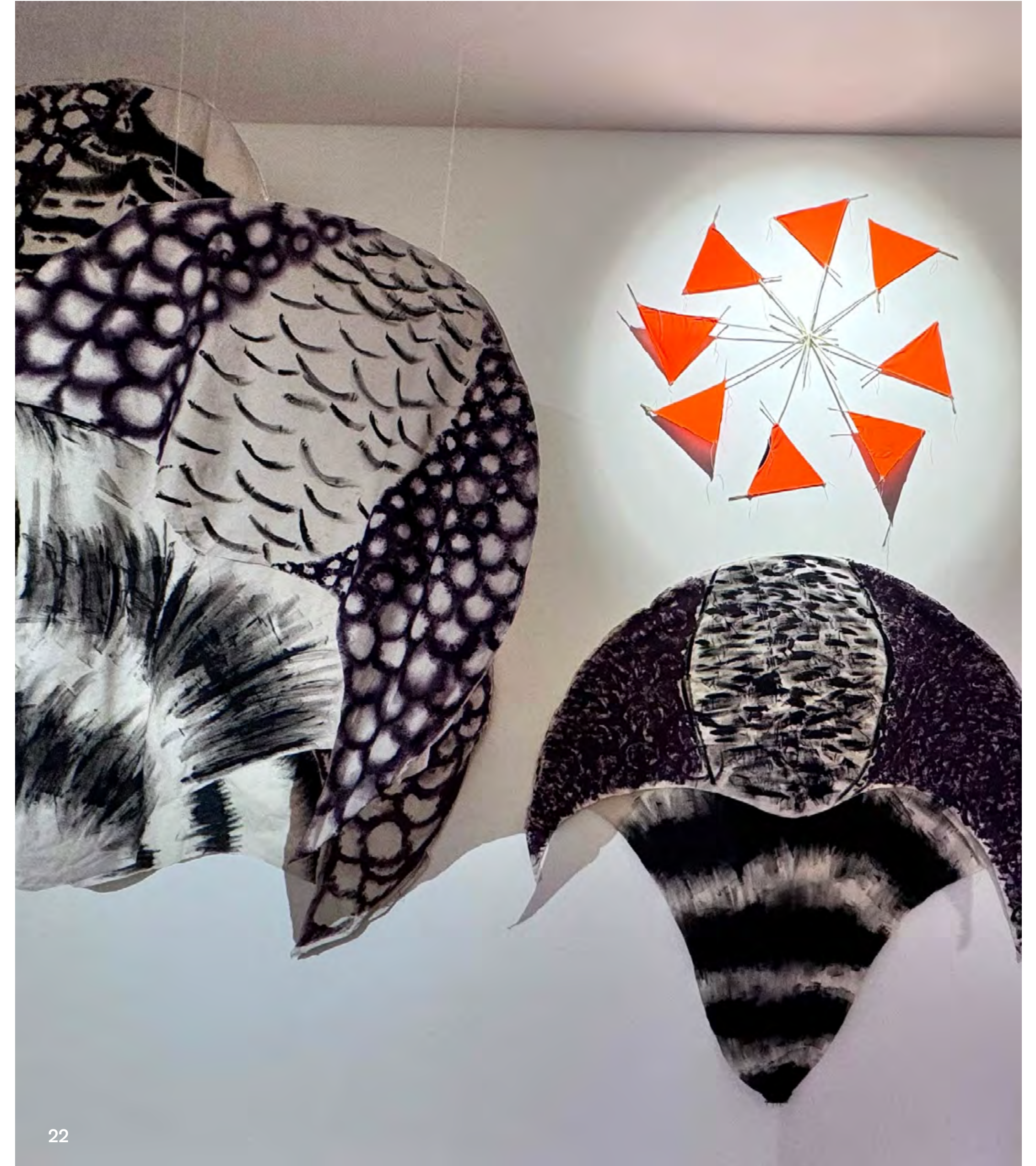


Joyce Spencer Textile Awards

The Joyce Spencer Textile Awards are offered annually to support regional NSW textile artists or collectives to deliver new artworks or exhibitions. Named after the textile artist Joyce Spencer (1928 – 2019), the awards are made possible with funds from the Spencer family and Western Riverina Arts, in partnership with the Cad Factory.

In 2024 the Award recipients were:

- **Joyce Spencer Textiles Fellowship (\$4000)**
Charlotte Haywood from Wilson Creek NSW
- **Joyce Spencer Highly Commended Award (\$1500)**
Sonia Undy from Griffith NSW
- **Joyce Spencer Prize (\$600)**
Janet Steele from Paterson NSW



Joyce Spencer Textile Awards

Exhibition dates and locations in 2024:

→ **‘Galiyanha (Ascent)’ by Leanne Wicks (2023 Joyce Spencer Mentorship recipient)**

Exhibition: 11 October - 11 December 2024, North East Wiradjuri Cultural Centre, 28 Angus Ave, Kandos NSW. Opening Friday 11 October.

→ **‘Self-covered Buttons’ by Samantha Tannous (2023 Joyce Spencer Highly Commended Award Recipient)**

Exhibition: 24 October - 18 November 2024, Gallery76, 76 Queen St, Concord West NSW. Opening Saturday 26 October 2024.

→ **‘Same time/Same place (COEXISTENCE); a MULTISPECIES (KARAOKE) OPERA?’ by Charlotte Haywood**

Exhibition: 1 November 2024 - 31 January 2025, Broken Hill City Art Gallery, 404 - 408 Argent St, Broken Hill NSW. Opening Friday 01 November 2024.

→ **‘Figtree Connection’ by Janet Steele**

Exhibition: 2 November 2024 - mid-February 2025, Brough House, 73 Church Street, Maitland NSW. Opening Saturday 2 November 2024.

IN-PERSON
AUDIENCE:

5,370



‘Sera’s [Waters] advice during our mentoring session has been the mortar for my creative practice bricks and been critical to my negotiating the delicate path of a white artist’s journey with my local Aboriginal Community.’

**LEANNE WICKS,
RECIPIENT OF 2023 JOYCE SPENCER MENTORSHIP**

UK Tour

In February and March 2024, Artistic Director Vic McEwan shared the Cad Factory's socially engaged art practices with audiences in England and Scotland through a series of film screenings, conversations, and lectures, nurturing our ongoing relationships with Tate Liverpool, Manchester Metropolitan University and other key organisations.



- LOCATIONS:**
- Goldsmiths, University of London
 - Bath Spa University
 - Tate Liverpool
 - Manchester Metropolitan University
 - Salford University

‘Really enjoyed the Bath Spa part of this tour where we were treated to a fascinating talk.’

@NJC_APPLIED_IDEAS
ON INSTAGRAM

More than a Fish Kill

Two beloved rivers and more than 30 million dead fish brought artists, scientists and First Nations custodians together to turn ecological disasters into a journey of cultural healing.

More than a Fish Kill is an inspiring short-form documentary (38 mins) exploring how artists, fisheries managers and First Nations custodians came together in the aftermath of devastating fish kills along the Barka (Darling River) in far western New South Wales. These unlikely collaborators undertook a remarkable journey, turning these devastating ecological disasters into catalysts for cultural healing and revival. *More than a Fish Kill* shares how art, science and ancient knowledges were interwoven in the spirit of care, revealing new possibilities for honouring our places and communities in this time of environmental change.

More than a Fish Kill was co-produced by the National Museum of Australia, the Cad Factory and Otis Filley Studios. Copyright the National Museum of Australia, 2024.



Screenings held in 2024:

- **28 February 2024**
Bath Spa University, Bath UK, to their eARTh art education and environmental research group
- **4 July 2024**
University of Sydney, Sydney NSW Australia, with the Sydney Environment Institute, Sydney Health Ethics and National Museum of Australia at the Palace Cinema Broadway
- **12 August 2024**
11th Australian Stream Management Conference & Awards Gala, Adelaide SA Australia
- **4 September 2024**
University of the Sunshine Coast, Queensland Australia
- **16 September 2024**
Australian National University School of Culture, History & Language, Canberra ACT Australia, as part of Immersia 2024
- **25 October 2024**
Narrandera Fisheries Centre, Narrandera NSW Australia, as part of River Country
- **28 November 2024**
Broken Hill City Art Gallery, Broken Hill NSW Australia, as part of River Country

More than a Fish Kill

'The film is so full of power and emotion. The focus on connection is inspiring and the discussion afterwards was full of insight!'

'A beautiful collaboration between scientists, traditional owners and artists. I really enjoyed seeing everyone's perspectives on the issue, and how they came together to heal.'

'Insightful, in particular the idea that creative practice can be a way to hold and deal with trauma. All the panellists were wonderful.'

COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE MEMBERS AT
THE 'MORE THAN A FISH KILL' SCREENING AT
THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SUNSHINE COAST

TOTAL DOCUMENTARY
VIEWER AUDIENCE:

346



River Country Tour

River Country is an exhibition and collection of events to inspire how we care for our unique river and wetland communities and why these places matter. Through art making, performance, writing and film, come and explore the cultural, spiritual and material connections we have to our remarkable Australian environments. *River Country* is touring regional NSW in 2024-25.

River Country is a collaboration between the Cad Factory, National Museum of Australia, Petaurus Education Group, the Menindee Aboriginal Elders Council and the Department of Regional NSW. Supported by Create NSW.

Activities in 2024:

- **Exhibitions**
Narrandera Arts and Community Centre, Broken Hill City Art Gallery
- **Riverina School Workshops**
Balranald Central School, Narrandera East Infants School, Narrandera Public School, St Joseph’s Parish School, Leeton, Whitton Murrami Public School
- **Far West School Workshops**
Broken Hill North Public School, Wilcannia Central School, Pooncarie Public School, Palinyewah Public School, Pomona Public School, Menindee Central School
- **Walk on Country with Uncle Michael Lyons**
Sandhills Artefacts, Narrandera
- **Writing Workshops with Cameron Muir**
Narrandera Arts and Community Centre
- **Film Screening**
Narrandera Fisheries Centre, Broken Hill Regional Art Gallery



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ArtSpeak

In partnership with Riverina Community College, this professional development program supported artists working in the Art Factory supported studio to co-devise, collaborate and deliver a new exhibition.

Over three months, the artists involved undertook a process to deeply consider their artistic practice through gallery visits, planning an exhibition, creating new artworks and creating a performative opening event.

The outcome of this process was *Truth*, an exhibition exploring how each artist lives their truth in exciting, loud and proud ways, through powerful declarations of self and identity. *Truth* was exhibited at the Riverina Community College Gallery in December 2024.

Artists engaged:

- Lorraine O'Hara
- Adrian Buntin
- Lilly Salmon
- Jennifer West
- Dave Nicholls



Dinawans Connection dance group at 'River Stories' in Narrandera. Photo: Cameron Muir

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Board and Staff



Keith Besgrove
CO-PRESIDENT



Kirsten Wehner
CO-PRESIDENT



Beate Duesterwald-Peplow
BOARD MEMBER



Tahni Froudish
TREASURER



Lisa Middlebrook
BOARD MEMBER

2024 Annual Report



Vic McEwan
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
ARTIST
PUBLIC OFFICER



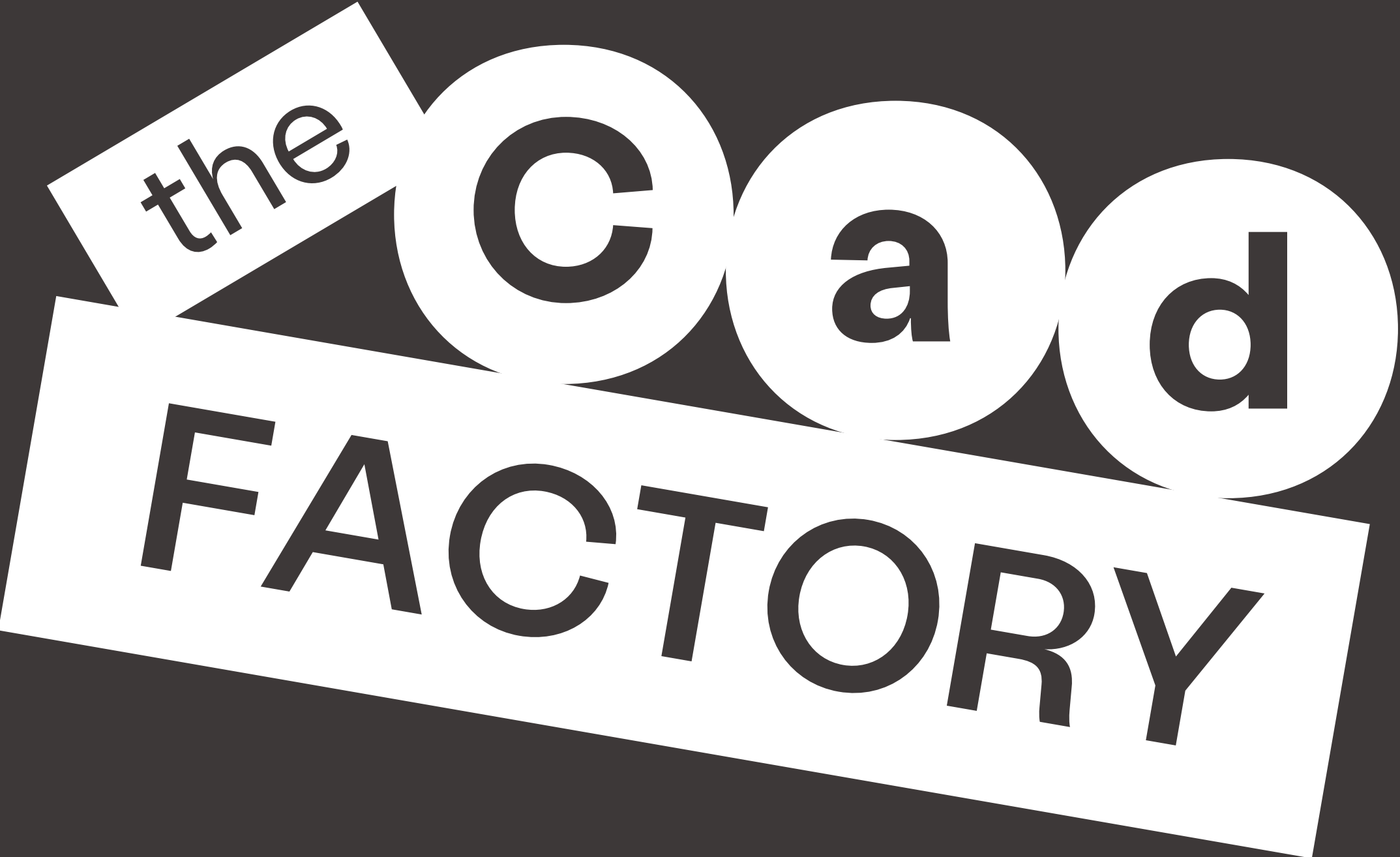
Sarah McEwan
CREATIVE PRODUCER
ARTIST
SECRETARY



Kimberley Beattie
OFFICE MANAGER
PROJECT ASSISTANT



Mirabelle Wouters
COMMUNICATIONS
DIGITAL CONTENT CREATOR



- Cover. Scene Shift Residency artist, Harriet Gillies, at the Cad Factory Studio Sandigo. Photo: Sarah McEwan
1. Harriet Body with her artwork 'Tie Together' at the CASE Incubator Studio Rosebery. Photo: Vic McEwan
2. Artspeak artwork development at the supported studio, The Art Factory, Wagga Wagga. Photo: Linda Elliot
3. Detail of artwork in 'Figtree Connection' by Joyce Spencer Award recipient Janet Steele, at Brough House, Maitland. Photo: Courtesy of the artist
4. Exhibition participant at 'Clouds and Symphonies' Falls Creek. Photo: Vic McEwan
5. 'River Country' workshop at Narrandera Arts Centre with Narrandera East Infants School. Photo: Vic McEwan
6. Greg Carosi and Elijah Ingram community consultation, Griffith War Memorial. Photo: Vic McEwan
7. 'Pop of Colour', Dave Nicholls, 2024. Photo: Sarah McEwan
8. 'River Country' workshop participant from Narrandera Public School. Photo: Vic McEwan
9. Andrew Christian and Lawrence Barlow recording at the Cad Factory Studio Sandigo. Photo: Sarah McEwan
10. Adam Cole recording in the Cad Factory Studio Sandigo. Photo: Vic McEwan
11. Artist Samantha Tannous at the opening of her exhibition 'Self-covered Buttons' at Gallery76, Concord West, Joyce Spencer Textile Awards Highly Commended recipient. Photo: Courtesy of the artist
12. Delilah (Dave Nicholls) being interviewed by Channel 7 News. Photo: Kimberley Beattie
13. Musician Belle Madden recording in the Cad Factory Studio Sandigo as her prize for winning the Art Farm best original song category at Griffith Regional Theatre. Photo: Sarah McEwan
14. Banners donated to the Broken Hill Trades Hall in 2024 by Sarah McEwan. Photo: Vic McEwan
15. Artist Carla Gottgens co-devising sculptures with students from Western Riverina Community School. Photo: Sarah McEwan
16. Mirabelle Wouters performing in a Branch Nebula production. Photo: Courtesy of the artist
17. Arts and Health Mini Mentorship: Vic McEwan, Janet Gibson, Aesha Henderson, Gail Kenning, Charlotte Salusinszky at University NSW Paddington campus. Photo: Courtesy of the Cad Factory
18. CASE Incubator launch at the Art Gallery of NSW. Photo: Kimberley Beattie
19. 'School Portraits in Clouds (1-18)', Vic McEwan for 'Clouds and Symphonies'. Photo: Vic McEwan
20. Scott Baker residency at Brand X for Scene Shift Residency. Photo: Scott Baker
21. Carolyn Williams painting being stretched at Littlewoods Wagga Wagga by Matt Inglis. Photo: Courtesy of Littlewoods Wagga Wagga
22. Charlotte Haywood's exhibition COEXISTENCE: a MULTISPECIES opera of the senses, Broken Hill City Art Gallery, Joyce Spencer Fellowship recipient. Photo: Courtesy of the artist
23. Installation of 'Galiyanha (Ascent)' by Leanne Wicks at North East Wiradjuri Cultural Centre, Joyce Spencer Mentorship recipient. Photo: Courtesy of the artist
24. 'More than a Fish Kill' screening at Bath Spa University, England to students and academics. Photo: Vic McEwan
25. 'More than a Fish Kill' screening and Q+A at the Palace Cinema Broadway for the University of Sydney Environment Institute event. Panel members David Doyle, Claire Hooker, Vic McEwan, Kirsten Wehner. Photo: Sarah McEwan
26. 'More than a Fish Kill' screening at the Narrandera Fisheries for 'River Stories'. Photo: Vic McEwan
27. 'River Country' workshop at Wilcannia Central School. Photo: Courtesy of Petaurus Education Group
28. 'Truth' exhibition opening at Riverina Community College. Artists in photo, Delilah (Dave Nicholls), Lilly Salmon, Jennifer West, Lorraine O'Hara, Adrian Buntin