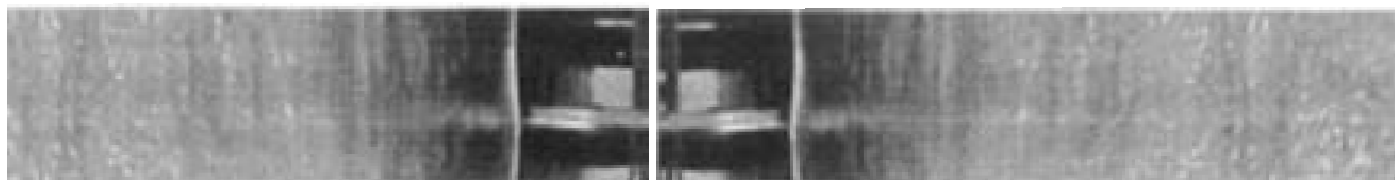


ACE News

Issue 5 May 2001



Accessible Arts

2001 AGM

Annual General Meeting

8:45am-10.00am Thursday 21st June 2001

Light breakfast will be offered

At

Accessible Arts

Pier 4 The Wharf Hickson Rd Walsh Bay 2000

We look forward to seeing AArts' members and friends.

Management Committee nominations for 2002, and

Information pack available now

Nominations close 15th June 2001

Nominations for AArts' Management Committee is a vital, active way to demonstrate your commitment to the rights of people with disabilities, for self expression.

By standing for the Management Committee you will be

bringing your skills, work and life experiences to Accessible Arts;

making a significant contribution to maintaining diversity, vigour and community.

If you would like to take an active role in the management and direction of

Accessible Arts, or you know someone who would like to stand as a nominee

Or would like a proxy voting pack; contact Geri on 02 9251 6499

Accessible Arts News

Database/Artists Registry

Over the years, Accessible Arts(AArts) have managed to acquire quite a substantial database full of useful resources. We are currently updating and enhancing our database to cope with this growth and among other features, have established an Artists Registry. If you are a performance or visual artist with a disability or work in the arts sector with artists with disabilities and would like to be registered, send us your details with your resume and if possible one or two accompanying images to Accessible Arts Pier 4 The Wharf, Hickson Rd, Walsh Bay NSW 2000, or email info@aarts.net.au (please note, you must be a member of Aarts to be listed)

Website

Yes, yes, yes, we know! This is very much in need of an overhaul, and we're glad to advise that this is currently underway. Unfortunately though, the website will be down for approximately 10 working days, however this won't be until mid June. In the meantime, any suggestions, input or ideas are very welcome, just drops us a line at info@aarts.net.au

Audience Development Seminars

Kiersten Fishburn, the Audience

Development Officer with AArts is currently working on a project due to begin August of this year. Kiersten will be travelling to regional NSW to present various seminars to promote the value of the arts and artists with disabilities and to increase awareness of the many opportunities and successes within this cultural sector of the arts.

The Round Table Conference

Acting Executive Officer Neridah Wyatt-Spratt, proved once again, her ability to captivate and inspire an audience in a way that generates proactive discussion on arts and disability. Neridah illustrated only too aptly the numerous issues, the challenges and the solutions to making the arts more accessible to people with disabilities at the Round table Conference held recently in Brisbane. A transcript of Neridah's talk will be printed in the next issue of ACE.

Membership

Just a little reminder that your memberships for 2001 are now very over due. As you know, your continued support and unwavering dedication to Accessible Arts is invaluable to us, and more importantly is the reason for why we are here... so lets pull together and make the remainder of this year a good one. We are currently working on partnerships with other arts and cultural

organisations so we can offer you more events and benefits with your membership. All going well, we should be able to give you more information on this in the next issue of ACE.

Considering the huge successes of last year we're still in the midst of recovering, to say it was a mammoth year is very much an understatement! However we're looking forward to seeing many familiar faces at the events we've organised for the remainder of this year. There are quite a few fun and interesting things coming up, so pull out your diary, and pencil in the following;

Artists Evening

Come and join us for an evening of "chewing the fat" over the vast and varied topic of contemporary art and art practice for artists with disabilities across all mediums of the arts spectrum. We'll be discussing the many issues facing practicing artists as they plough their way through the never ending struggle for funding, 'recognition' and just trying to earn a living. The aim of the evening is to offer assistance to those applying for grants and scholarships whilst, 'getting your work shown' will also be a hot topic and a guest speaker or two will be there to offer a bit of advice on these issues.

We'll also be discussing the end of year exhibition, and as this is

ultimately 'your show', the artists evening will offer an opportunity to brainstorm and discuss the finer details of the exhibition. The evening will begin at 6.30 til 9.30pm on Thursday the 5th of July, here at the Arts studio room, Pier 4 The Wharf, Hickson Rd Walsh Bay. Light finger food and drinks will be served, along with a warm and welcoming atmosphere. It will be a great opportunity to network with other artists with disabilities from all mediums, performance, visual and literary... so come along and share your experiences, your successes and challenges. If you would like to know more contact Geri Taper 9251 6499 or e-mail info@aarts.net.au.

Drama IPP

Do you want to discover new drama techniques to add to your acting skills? Join Rachel Spiers along with other experienced drama teachers, for a series of workshops running in 4 week blocks, starting Saturday 30th of June here at the AArts studio located at Pier 4 The Wharf, Hickson Rd, Walsh Bay. Workshops will be held Saturdays for approximately 3 hrs, and the cost for members including GST is \$15.40 per session non-members \$19.80 per session. Payment for each 4-week workshop is to be paid up front.

During each workshop, participants will be working towards a performance, which will be shown at the end of each 4-week shop. Then after the completion of the five workshops there

will be "the finale". All participants from each workshop, will produce a performance using the skills and techniques explored during the 12 weeks. For further information please contact Geri Taper on 9251 6499 or e-mail info@aarts.net.au

AArts Art Exhibition

Submissions are now being sought for an exhibition organised by AArts scheduled for December (date to be confirmed). If you think its about time your artistic prowess was discovered or have a fantastic work tucked away that should be unveiled for all to see, then send us pictures, slides or emails of your best stuff. The work, ideally, should be 2- dimensional, that's including photography, painting or drawing and for the literary buffs there's a section for poetry. For those of you who are sculptors, a small to medium sized piece will also be accepted. The final entries will be judged by an AArts member of staff, an AArts boardmember and Katrina Pimm the assistant of artistic programs of the Museum of Contemporary Art. You have until the 30th September 2001, which will be the **closing** date for entries. So start those creative juices flowing and create an all time masterpiece. Prizes will be offered for the three most remarkable and outstanding pieces... so come on don't just sit there, start creating.

Scholarships/Competitions

The Windmill Trust Scholarship (In memory of Penny Meagher)

For NSW regional artists working in the areas of printmaking, sculpture, drawing or painting. The \$5,000 scholarship is to assist a visual artist to re-establish his/her career, which has been interrupted due to extenuating circumstances.

Application forms are available from National Association for the Visual Arts (NAVA) tel 02 9368 1900 Web: www.visualarts.net.au

Waverley Art Prize 12th-11th July 2001. Entry forms and information available from Waverley Woollahra Arts Centre 138 Bondi Rd, Bondi NSW 2026 Ph 9387 2461 or fax 9389 1486

What's On

Choices Workshop

June 3, 9:30am-4pm @ Global Learning Centre, Albion. The future is not set. As human beings we have enormous power to enact change and influence the world's direction. Choices aim is to bring people together who would like to use creative means to bring about a more sustainable and respectful future for all. Further info: ph(07) 3876 7031 choicesss@hotmail.com

Beyond Borders

June 12-15 @ The Sydney Opera House. Beyond Borders aims to confer with experts both inside and outside the art world to consider where art is heading. The XV International Society for the Performing Arts Foundation Congress provides a forum for delegates to create their own vision of how the international arts community can move beyond the geographic, cultural and intellectual borders that divide it. \$575. Further info: info@ispa.org www.ispa.org or McDonnell Promotions ph(07) 9310 3716

Oze culture: getting it online

June 13-14 @ The Hotel Sofotel, Melbourne. The conference focuses on the opportunities created by the internet and digital media for arts production and the operation of cultural organisations. For registration and updates: www.can.net.au/conference/ or Stephen Cassidy ozeculture@dcita.gov.au

Necta Space

19th conference Sat 7th July & Sun 8th July - Newtown High school of performing arts Cnr King & Newman Streets Newtown Necta web site www.pages.ivillage.com

Cultural Diversity Project

July 27-29 Sydney. This International conference, hosted by Artspace Visual Arts Centre, and its national and international speakers and artists will address questions around the future directions of the multicultural project supported by the Australia council. Go to www.artspace.org.au

Art, Health and Design World Symposium

October 2002, Sydney. Expressions of interest are sought from cultural and art spaces who wish to participate in Synergy, Art, Health and Design World Symposium Sydney 2002, by presenting the work of contemporary artists or communities working in the context of health. Website: www.placemaking.com.au Marily cintra Symposium convenor 02 9828 6313 or Mira Martic, Symposium curator 02 9722 7758.

Diversity in Health Conference Sydney May 28-30

What's On

Australian Transcultural Mental Health Network (02) 9840 3383

Schizophrenia Awareness Week

May 20-26th Sunflower Seeds, yellow ribbons and badges will be available in train stations and shopping centres throughout Sydney to commemorate schizophrenia awareness week. Also, check out the new on-line discussion forum at www.sfnsw.webcentral.com.au

Multiple Sclerosis Week

June 3-9. P MS Australia on 1800 042 138

Sydney Film Festival

8-22nd June 2001 State Theatre & Dendy Opera Quays. Ph Festival Office 9660 3844 or www.sydneyfilmfestival.org

National Hearing Awareness Week

August. Deafness Forum p (02) 6262 7808 TTY (02) 6262 7808

Awakenings Festival

12-21 October, Horsham, Victoria Now in its sixth year, this Wimmera event features, drama, dance, music, workshops and outdoor recreation. For details on the festival and copies of the publication, *Essence of Experience*

(cost \$10 plus postage), which captures the spirit of the event contact the organisers: Wimmera Uniting Care.

p 03 5362 4006 or 03 5382 4065 email wimnet@netconnect.com.au or www.awakenings.horsham.net.au

November 25-27 Access Expo - Melbourne

p 03 9415 1200 Email access.expo@paraquad.asn.au

International Day of People with a Disability

December 3rd - celebration of ability. For ideas to help your organisation or business plan ahead visit the 2000 International Day website at www.nican.com.au or contact your local FACS office on 1300 653 227

Other interesting news and websites

For Poetry buffs, Sydney 2001 World congress of Poets, Poetry weekend October 7th-11th 2001 for further information Check out www.poetrykit.org/oz/ozevents.html

Article exhibition, June 8, 2001 will be held at Woolloomooloo Wharf, Sydney. A post card catalogue of the exhibition art works will be on sale and all profits donated to UNICEF Australia, check out the website www.articlexhibition.com

What's On

Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre, poetry readings the first Sunday of every month Enquiries Please phone David Price 02 9825 0402

Disability news on the internet; Details on all Commonwealth disability related programs as well as details on the peak national disability organisations www.facs.gov.au/disability/odd/disnews.htm

The Disability referral guide is a searchable database of peak disability organisations in NSW. It also lists disability information services and agencies that handle complaints and discrimination. www.stlib.slsw.gov.au

The Education to Employment package contains a wealth of information for university students with a disability who have finished their studies and are looking for work. It includes among other things, advice on how and when to tell prospective employers about their disability, information on Govt. programs and links to University careers officers. The package also has a searchable database of specialist employment agencies that assist people with a disability to find jobs in open employment. The web address is www.slsw.gov.au/access/employ

Disability Arts to Build on 2000

Success The Australia Council and DADAA are working closely with State/Territory bodies to develop and promote the interests and work of Australians with disabilities and disadvantage. Last year the Australia Council adopted its Arts and Disability Action Plan 2000 to 2003. The action plan highlights Council's ongoing work with DADAA on creating opportunities for artists and the development of cultural tourism and other initiatives. The plan is a working document and the council welcomes comments, through Mark Stapleton, Manager Policy and Planning, on p 1800 226 912 or email: m.stapleton@ozeco.gov.au For further details visit the Councils website www.ozco.gov.au or the DADAA site www.dadaanat.net.au

The ACT Writers Centre has published the first edition of The Young Writers Survival guide, Australia's first definitive information resource guide for young writers. The book is 60 pages long with details about local and national short story and poetry competitions, publishing opportunities for young people, web sites, helpful hints and informative articles. Copies available for \$8 (incl postage and handling) contact Gorman house on 6262 9191

The National Arts and Disability

Centre (NADC) located in Los Angeles is the National information dissemination located, technical assistance and referral centre specialising in the field of arts and disability. They are currently looking for new work to add to their online gallery and can be contacted on email bstoffmacher@mednet.ucla.edu or www.nadc.ucla.edu/gallery.htm

MAD Online (Make a Difference) is a new internet-based initiative in development by the Inspire Foundation funded by The Myer Foundation. A place where young people can get involved in social and political change, and 'make a difference' in their communities. www.madonline.com.au

Nava's website (National Association for the Visual Arts) is currently under development. Part of this new site will include the Visual Artists and craftspeople database. You can get on this list or update your details by contacting Philip Byrne at nava@visualarts.net.au

Talent Unplugged deals with all aspects of the Australian arts and used as a launching platform for new and unknown talent. (appeals to the thirty plus market) go to www.talentunplugged.com

Seminars

Fusion Central Coast arts and culture forum 2001- Friday 25th May 2001 9am-4pm Laycock St Theatre, North Gosford
ph: 4325 8846 Email: inga.brasche@gosford.nsw.gov.au

Spatial Cultures Conference

June 2-3, organised by the University of Newcastle this conference is concerned with how space is culturally produced. There will be six sessions covering: virtual space; painted space; cultural policy: architecture, art and the public domain; memory and landscape; domestic space; and 'queers'pace. \$25/\$10. Further info: cressgod@hotmail.com

Australia Theatre of the Deaf (ATOD) will also be developing a website very soon.

New AARTS Staff Member

Hello I'm Geri, the new Information and Office Manager and I'd like to take a minute to introduce myself. I've already spoken to some of you over the phone, and for those of you I'm yet to meet, I'm sure we'll chat in the not too distant future as I'll be looking after memberships and am hoping to see you at a few of the events that are coming up.

I have a history of working within the arts sector and during the last four years have been fortunate enough to have worked for the Museum of Contemporary Art, The Australia Council for the Arts and the National Trust.



I'm really enjoying working with the guys here at AArts and look forward to achieving the many endeavours that lie ahead.