



ARTS ACCESS VICTORIA

Outsider Art Magazine / Issue One / December 2012

artsider

THE PORTRAIT EDITION

IN THIS ISSUE.

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Jeffrey Phillips
Fiona Sutherland
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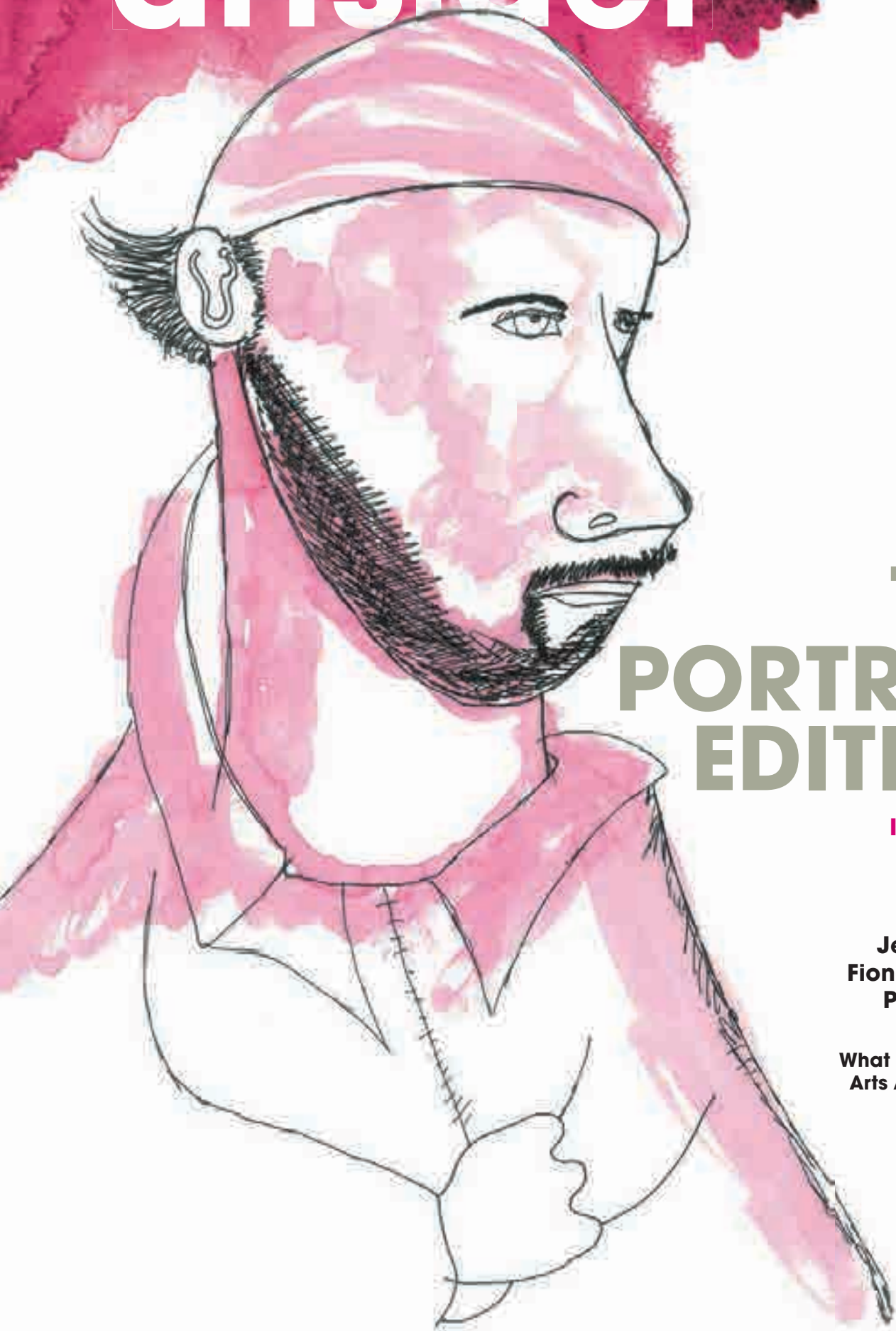


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DESIGN. www.festivalcreative.com

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INTRODUCTION.

WHAT IS OUTSIDER ART?

When asked “Why do you create art?,” Vinh Nguyen, one of the artists featured in this inaugural issue of Artsider Magazine, responded, “I want to make money and I want to be famous”. This is a perfectly valid and reasonable response but it puts him at odds with the original definition of “Outsider Artist”.

French artist Jean Dubuffet first coined the term Art Brut, later to become Outsider Art, in the middle of last century. He was referring to art created outside of mainstream artistic practice and art that did not belong to recognised arts institutions. Particularly taken by the notion of “pure and authentic creative impulses,” Dubuffet saw Outsider Art as being void of competition and untainted by contemporary culture. He began the Collection de l’Art Brut which is still viewable today at the Chateau de Beaulieu in Lausanne, Switzerland. Dubuffet felt that true Outsider artists had no interest in the display or sale of their work. Vinh’s objective to make money and be famous would surely exclude him from this notion.

There are now many institutions around the globe devoted to Outsider Art including Intuit: The Centre for Intuitive and Outsider Art in Chicago and Arts Project Australia in Melbourne, as well as

publications such as the quarterly Raw Vision. There have been major shows devoted to Outsider art at some of the worlds leading galleries, and artists such as Adolf Wölfl and Henry Darger have become posthumously famous worldwide. With this broadening impact and acknowledgment, the line on which Outsider Art sits has become blurred and the definition is now debated.

The definition of Outsider Art is, to me, a question of access. An Outsider artist, whether by choice or not, does not partake in or have access to the mainstream artistic culture. There are many reasons why access to current culture may be an issue: it may be that the artist is excluded due to barriers with communication, geographical isolation and/or lack of access to education. As such Outsider Art is defined by the artist rather than the work. An Outsider artist may choose to produce a Cubist work but a Cubist cannot decide to have an Outsider phase.



ARTWORKS: Joceline Lee

This also means that Outsider Art covers a very wide scope of work – architecture, visual arts, writing and to some extent performance and music.

Our new magazine Artsider encompasses all Outsider forms and in subsequent issues we hope to explore many of it’s sub-genres but for our first issue we focus solely on the visual art of Satellite art studio based in Wheelers Hill, Victoria. Satellite studio was established by Arts Access Victoria in 2012 as an opportunity for artists with an intellectual disability or acquired brain injury to develop their individual practice. The studio is small, with only five current artists and is situated in between a public library and the Monash Gallery of Art, a contemporary photographic gallery. The location has provided a source of continually changing inspiration, particularly for the recent show Hoppe Portraits: Society, Studio and Street featuring the work of Emil Otto Hoppé.

The choice of portraits for the Satellite artists was initially a functional one – a pragmatic response to a bare studio with limited supplies: as long as there were two in the room there was a head to draw.

As each artist initiated their own projects and fields of interest they would return to the portrait on an almost daily basis. It is an endless subject matter and one that has been pursued by countless artists, making the freshness and unique qualities of this body work all the more startling.



Rhian Hinkley

Editor, Artsider Magazine

Arts Access Victoria

ABOUT.

ARTS ACCESS VICTORIA

Arts Access Victoria is the state's leading arts and disability organisation. For almost 40 years, we have been dedicated to extending the cultural participation of people with disability as artists, arts workers and audiences.

We achieve this aim by challenging definitions of culture so art produced by and about people with disability achieves greater recognition, support and appreciation; by facilitating meaningful and sustainable career pathways for artists and arts workers with disability within the arts and cultural community; and by fostering the understanding and uptake of inclusive practices by the arts and cultural sector.

Arts Access Victoria produces a range of multi-artform projects across Victoria to present and advance the work of artists with disability. We aim to program work of the highest calibre, representing dynamic collaborations with established and emerging artists.

Our inclusive programs have resulted in more than 300 enduring community partnerships, characterised by respect for the individual artist and their creative expression. The work is driven by a shared aim of removing barriers and creating a platform for the artists' vision and art-making, often resulting in exploring new perspectives, methods and technologies. Arts Access Victoria works to raise the profile of artists with disability, and position their work to be acknowledged, commented on and analysed alongside other practicing artists.

We see Artsider is an important vehicle for profiling the work of artists with disability and building the creative case for inclusion of these artists across all areas of the arts.



ARTIST PROFILE.

vinh nguyen

Vinh Nguyen takes his practice seriously and he is very proud of his Vietnamese heritage.

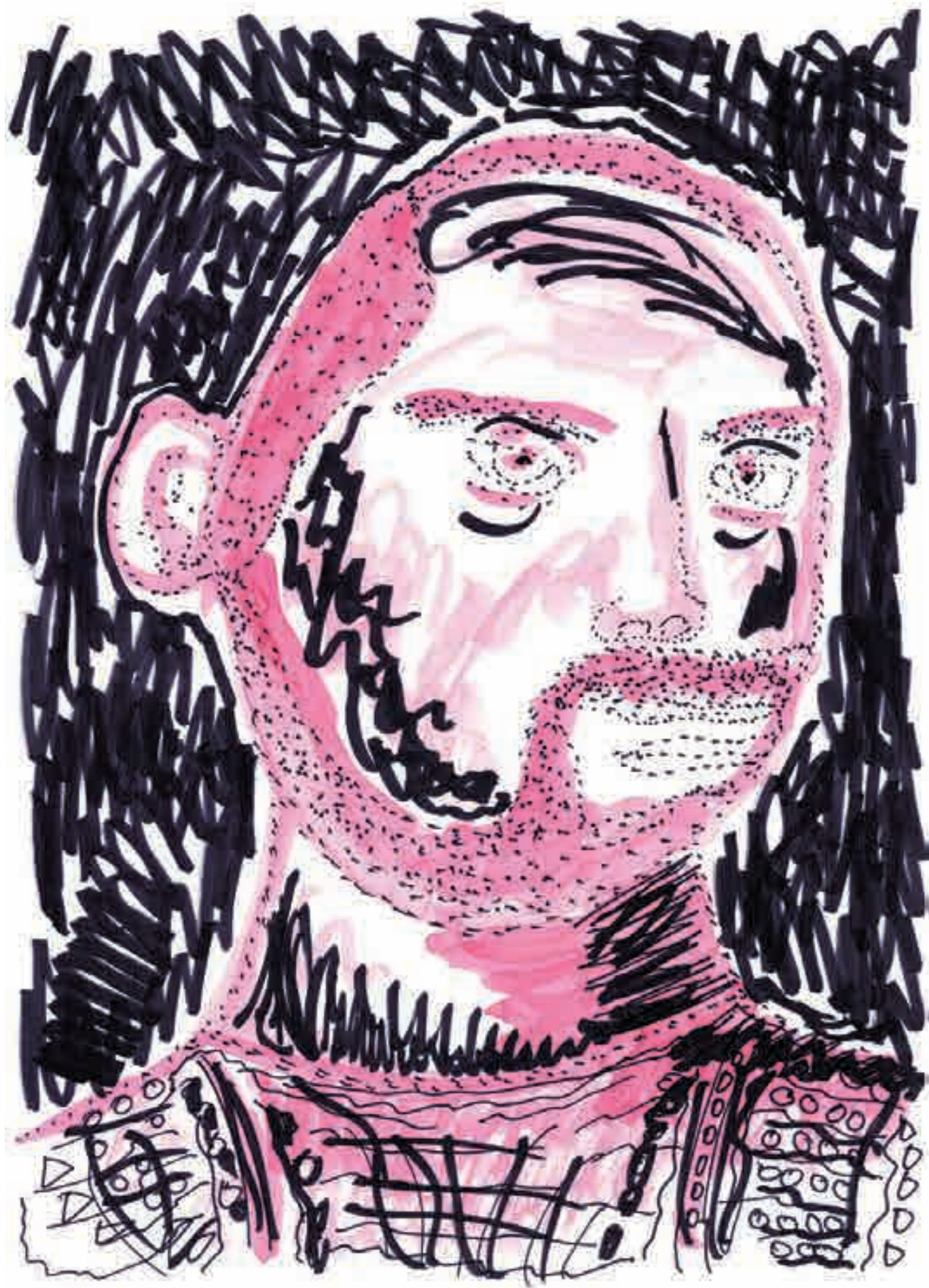
Many of Vinh's early works portrayed family members and famous figures within the Vietnamese community.

Vinh becomes immersed in his work – he “switches off”, “calms down” and focuses entirely on the job at hand, something he has trouble doing with many other aspects of his life. He can easily switch between pencil, ink, watercolour and charcoal in one sitting and is equally adept in the digital world especially when working with a stylus and tablet.

Vinh's portraits are emotionally charged. He is very sensitive to the mood and attitude of his subjects and there is something quiet and contemplative in their expression, a little piece of Vinh himself.









ARTIST PROFILE.

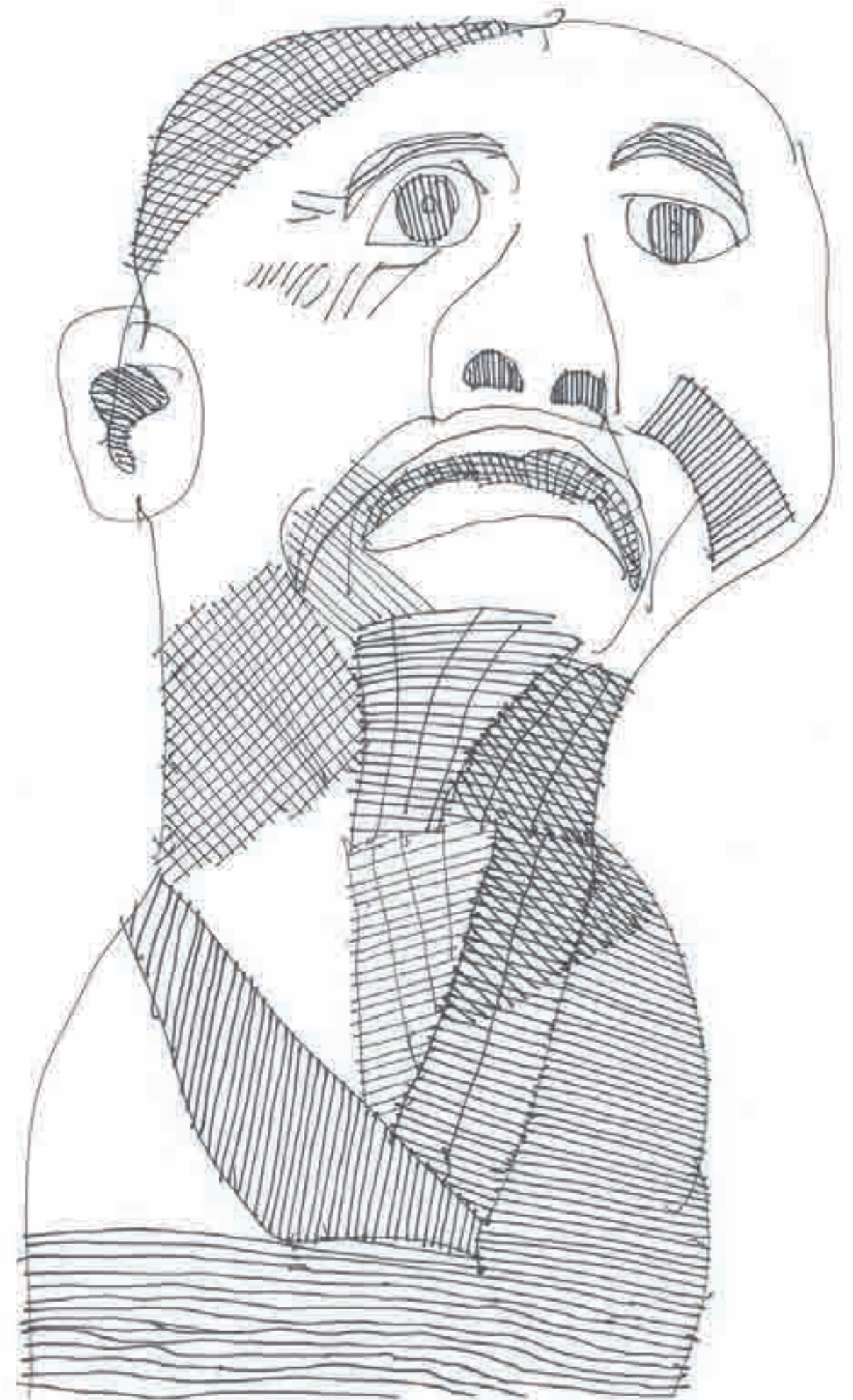
jeffrey phillips

Nobody draws faster than Jeffrey Phillips. His ability to work swiftly and his love of repetition have attracted him to hand-drawn animation.

He has completed a number of lengthy animated films – most notably *Menagerie* (2010) in which he drew and hand painted the photographic sequences of Eadweard Muybridge.

Jeffrey is an intense and focused artist, each line deliberate and planned. In the last year he has spent many hours refining his technique, adopting a highly patterned textural style. The fine cross-hatching within his portrait series is so detailed that at times the images appear to vibrate.







ARTIST PROFILE.

paula whiting

**Paula Whiting is an animal person,
and of all the animal kingdom
horses are her favourite.**

She has completed numerous equine drawings and paintings, often in her distinctive linear fashion and with an astonishing attention to detail. It is this detail that she has carried through to this current body of work.

Her portraits are at once engaging and confronting, often creating the eerie illusion of the image staring straight back at the viewer.

Paula is a long time member of Art Day South and has exhibited in numerous group shows over the past 10 years.









ARTIST PROFILE.

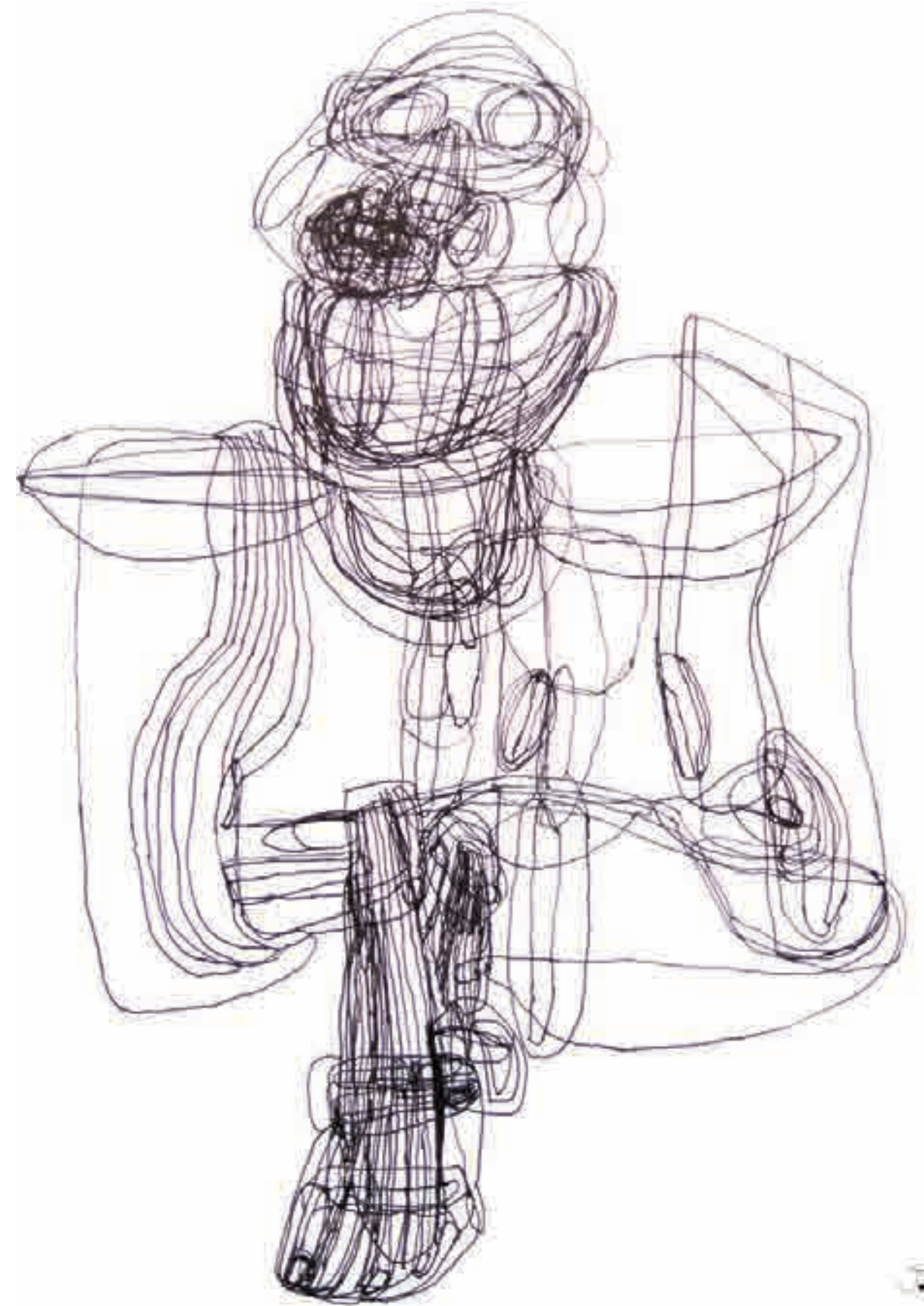
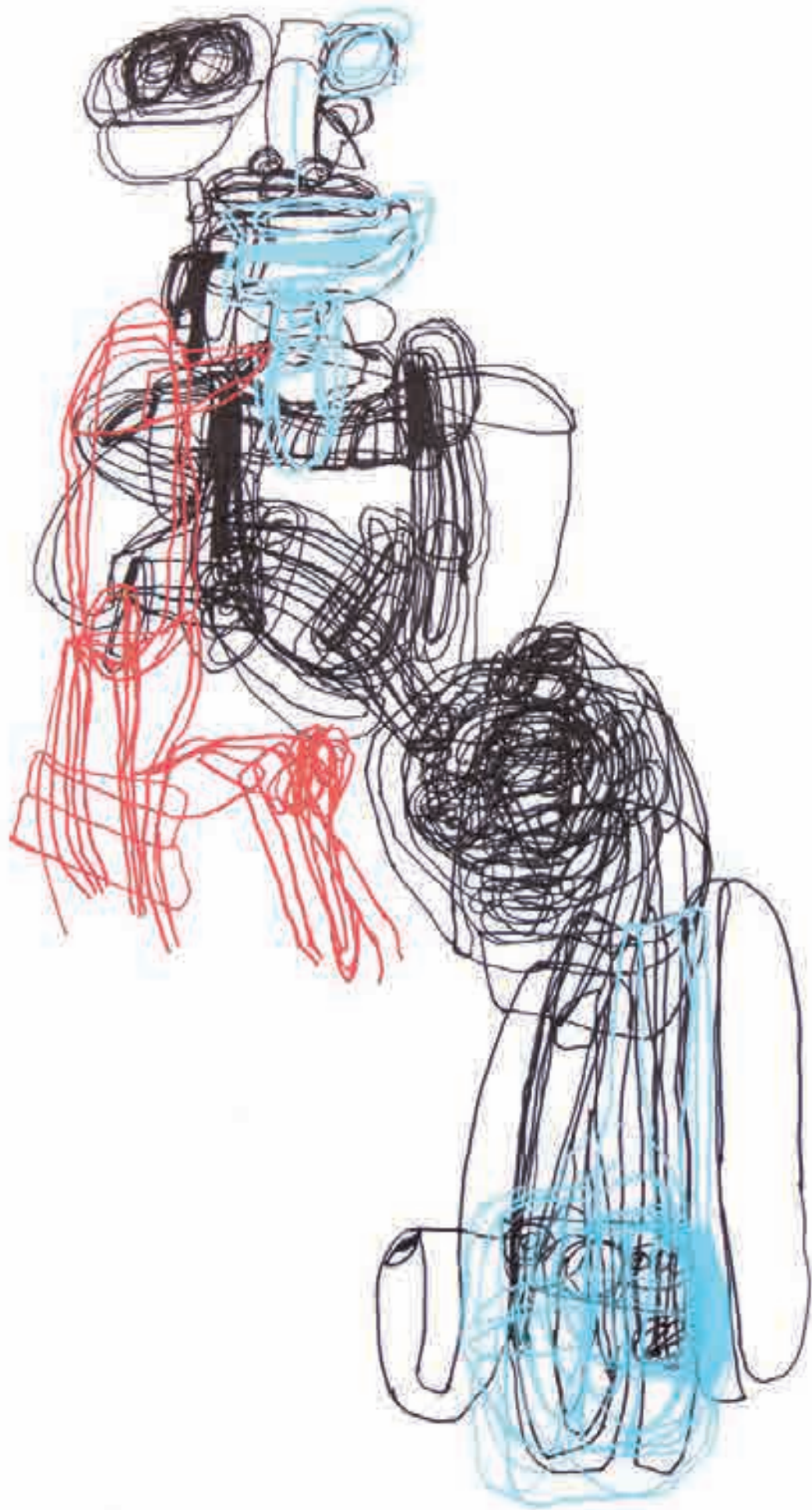
joceline lee

**In 2010 Joceline Lee was awarded
a JUMP mentoring scholarship.**

The following year produced the show *Rendered Bones* at 'No Vacancy' gallery in Melbourne winning her the award of 'Best Visual Arts Show' at the Melbourne Fringe Festival. *Rendered Bones* featured studies of skeletons from below the Melbourne Museum and the delicate architectural style that she developed is evident in this portrait series.

She often works herself into a state of deep concentration, working for many hours without a break. She works slowly and carefully, her gaze only shifting to reappraise her subject.

Joceline's style is unique and distinctive. She works in closed loops, ensuring that each line finds its way to another. There are no loose threads.



ARTIST PROFILE.

fiona sutherland

For Fiona Sutherland this body of work represents a return to the artistic world after a long hiatus.

She brings with her a wealth of experience which is evident in the considered nature of her portraits. She has a great knowledge of local and international artists, often assisting other artists with references to work that may interest them.

Fiona is very confident with colour, she is unafraid to work with a very wide palette. Her work has a real sensitivity, a lightness of touch, her figures emerging from the page as if approaching through a mist.





WORKSHOPS.

GET INVOLVED!



Art Day South



Art Day South is a flagship program of Arts Access Victoria. For more than 12 years it has been a model of 'inclusive practice'. Facilitated by professional practicing artists and fully supported by qualified disability workers, Art Day South is an opportunity for members to develop their creative and social skills as individuals and as collaborators. Art Day South exhibits and performs in and around the wider Melbourne area and has a long running relationship with the Gertrude Projection Festival and The Melbourne Fringe Festival.

Artstop 21



Artstop21 provides visual arts workshops that create opportunities for residents from Supported Residential Services to access, participate and lead in the arts. Located in a vibrant community centre in the heart of Brunswick, this program brings professional arts practice to people experiencing mental health issues, socio-economic disadvantage, isolation and complex physical disabilities. Facilitated by practicing local artists, this open studio provides quality arts materials and a professional space for individuals to pursue their own styles, mediums, selected themes and content.

Deaf Arts Network



Deaf Arts Network (DAN) engages and supports deaf artists and the deaf community, and is dedicated to increasing participation of deaf and hard of hearing people in the arts as artists, arts workers and audiences. Deaf Arts Network delivers high quality training workshops for Deaf and hard of hearing people who wish to develop their artistic skills, provides access for deaf and hard of hearing people to the arts and delivers outstanding creative programs and projects, in partnership with arts organizations.

Satellite



Satellite is an arts studio for artists with a disability situated at the Monash Gallery of Art in Wheelers Hill Victoria, a contemporary gallery space specialising in modern and contemporary Australian and international photography. The studio is small, allowing the artists to work closely with professional artists in a one-on-one capacity. The focus of the Satellite studio is to enable each artist to further develop their individual visual arts practice and to independently research their own themes and subject matter.

Arts Access Victoria delivers a range of arts programs for people with a disability including:

Way out West



The art making of Way Out West is alive and eclectic, spanning puppetry, painting, print making and performance. The group is a model of best practice inclusive theatre and works to represent the rich cultural diversity of Melbourne's North West region. Facilitated by a team of professional artists and support workers, Way Out West is a place for people with a disability from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds to discover and develop artistic skills and pathways to meaningful performance opportunities.

Get Out!



Get Out! a visual and performing arts respite ensemble program is strongly placed within the Frankston community arts hub at the Frankston Arts Centre, often sharing the Cube 37 space with other community multi-media and creative writing groups, and with the rotating exhibitions that the Cube 37 gallery space holds. The group experience a wide range of art making and performance methods.

Experiencing Arts



Experiencing Arts provides an opportunity for artists with a disability to engage with the broader artistic community. The group meets monthly, travelling to galleries, theatres and studios in and around the Melbourne CBD. The program focuses on exposure to contemporary local and international techniques and themes in Art as a means of informing one's own practice.

Arts Access Arts Classes



Exploratory, skill based and with a number of opportunities to exhibit in any one year, the Arts Access Art Classes (AAAC), a partnership program between Arts Access Victoria and the Eastern Region Mental Health Association. The AAAC deliver art groups to people living in the local community who identify as living with, or recovering from, mental illness. With groups across Melbourne's South East region, one in Noble Park and two in Pakenham, there is plenty of opportunity to rediscover your artist self, or to further your visual art making practice in a supportive environment with professional art facilitators and trained support workers.

Other projects include...

Nebula, Australia's only accessible portable contemporary art space; the Pathways for Artists Program, a professional development program for emerging artists; The Writer in Residence Program, a partnership project with Writers Victoria; and The Other Film Festival, the leading international disability arts festival in Australia.

To find out about more projects and for further information you can go to our website www.artsaccess.com.au



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