

**Evolution of Disability Arts in Australia**

**QUT Ethics Approval Number 2021000382**

**Research team**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Current Organisation</b>
Prof Professor Bree Hadley	bree.hadley@qut.edu.au	Queensland University of Technology
A/Prof Edward Paterson	eddiep@unimelb.edu.au	The University of Melbourne
Prof Kathleen Ellis	katie.ellis@curtin.edu.au	Curtin University
A/Prof Janice Rieger	j.rieger@qut.edu.au	Queensland University of Technology
A/Prof Michael Whelan	m.whelan@qut.edu.au	Queensland University of Technology
Ms Caroline Bowditch	cbowditch@artsaccess.com.au	Arts Access Victoria
Dr Christen Cornell	c.cornell@australiacouncil.gov.au	Australia Council for the Arts
Ms Caitlin Vaughan	c.vaughan@australiacouncil.gov.au	Australia Council for the Arts
TBC	PhD TBC	Queensland University of Technology
Racheal Missingham	r.missingham@qut.edu.au	Queensland University of Technology
Jordan Alice	jordan.fyfe@curtin.edu.au	Curtin University
TBC	Research Assistant TBC	The University of Melbourne

**Why is the study being conducted?**

This research project aims to create the first archive documenting, analysing and theorising disability arts in Australia. Australian disability arts are recognised globally for its innovation and impact. However, the historical legacy this celebrated contemporary work builds upon is largely undocumented.

This project aims to address this gap by studying archival records, conducting oral history interviews, and then co-designing a disability arts archive with artists and other stakeholders. This is stage 1 of the research project will focus on accessing previously unavailable records and documents showing full spectrum and volume of work by artists with disability, and diversity of legacy of practice, often assumed to be small and recent to be considered as part of the online disability arts archive. This includes oral history documentation.

It should benefit scholars, arts organisations, artists and government by creating a comprehensive, co-curated, culturally respectful record to inform present and future policy initiatives designed to make the arts industry more inclusive of people with disabilities.

You are invited to participate in this research project because you are over the age of 18 and have been involved in disability arts and/or media practice in Australia.

### **What does participation involve?**

Your participation will involve video recorded interview at an agreed location, or online through Zoom that will take approximately one hour of your time.

Questions will include:

- Are there experiences, events, or people that stand out as formative in getting you interested and involved in disability arts?
- What was the motivator for doing your work?
- What motivates your work today? Has your motivation, or your style, changed over time? If so, why?
- What do you think spectators think of your work? Is that really important to you?
- Do you want to identify/be identified as d/Deaf, disabled, neurodiverse, having a medical condition or a mental health condition?

Your participation in this research project is entirely voluntary. If you agree to participate you do not have to answer any question(s) you are uncomfortable answering. You can withdraw anytime during the interview without comment or penalty. If you withdraw within 8 weeks after your interview, any information already obtained that can be linked to you will be destroyed upon request. Your decision to participate or not participate will in no way impact upon your current or future relationship with QUT. You will be provided with the video recording and transcript of your interview and upon receipt given 8 weeks to request changes.

### **Do you have any accessibility and/or cultural access requirements?**

The research team recognises that participants may have accessibility requirements to support their inclusion in this research. That may include an Auslan Interpreter, computerised translation, or other forms of support.

The research team also recognises that participants who identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, or people from culturally or linguistically diverse background, may also require interpreters and support workers who are able to provide support in an appropriate language and cultural framework.

The research team encourages participants to let us know their disability and/or cultural access requirements when expressing interest in participating in the oral history interviews.

### **What are the possible benefits for me if I take part?**

It is expected that this research project may benefit you directly, by sharing your interview and work in the disability arts archive. The outcomes of the research may also benefit academic researchers and other institutions to gain better understanding of disability arts in Australia.

To recognise your contribution should you choose to participate, the research team is offering acknowledgement of participation with a small honorarium of a \$25 Woolworths gift card.

### **What are the possible risks for me if I take part?**

There are some small risks beyond normal day-to-day living associated with your participation in this project. With all interview research, there is a small possibility that others may be critical of your views. If you name other people in your answers to our questions, there is a risk that you may provide perspectives that they may disagree with. Risks are managed by allowing you the option of being identified or not, as well as the opportunity to review your transcript and request that certain statements be amended or deleted.

If you chose not to be identified, your video recording will not be included in the archive, only an anonymised version of the transcript of your interview – if you wish, we can give you a pseudonym. However, if you choose not to be identified, it is still possible that others in a relatively small industry may recognise anecdotes or incidents you have shared.

QUT provides for limited free psychology, family therapy or counselling services for research participants of QUT research projects who may experience discomfort or distress as a result of their participation in the research. Should you wish to access this service please call the Clinic Receptionist on **07 3138 0999** (Monday–Friday only 9am–5pm), QUT Psychology and Counselling Clinic, 44 Musk Avenue, Kelvin Grove, and indicate that you are a research participant. Alternatively, Lifeline provides access to online, phone or face-to-face support, call **13 11 14** for 24 hour telephone crisis support. If you are aged up to 25, you can also call the Kids Helpline on **1800 551 800**.

### **What about privacy and confidentiality?**

As you are an arts or media maker already known for your work, your public commentary on your work, and on the industry, we will be citing you by name. You will have the opportunity to review your video recording and the transcript of it. You can redact any comments you do not wish to appear in the research, or in the archive of disability arts in Australia. You can also choose to remain anonymous if you wish to.

If you choose to have your comments during the interview remain anonymous, every effort will be made to ensure that the data you provide cannot be traced back to you in the archive, reports, publications and other forms of presentation. Nevertheless, while unlikely, it is possible that due to industry being relatively small, other arts and media makers may still recognise you, or believe they have recognised you, from the comments in your transcript.

Any data collected as part of this research project will be stored securely as per QUT's Management of research data policy. Raw data will be stored for a minimum of 5 years, and can be disclosed if it is to protect you or others from harm, if specifically required by law, or if a regulatory or monitoring body such as the ethics committee requests it.

As the research project involves video recording:

- You will have the opportunity to verify your comments and responses prior to final inclusion through the review of your video recording and transcript.
- The raw recording will be retained for the minimum retention period of 5 years after the last research activity.
- It is not possible to participate in the research project without being recorded.
- Edited footage of interview will, with the participant's consent, be kept perpetuity in the archive.

Data collected during this research may be made available to researchers for future research projects investigating d/Deaf and disability arts in Australia.

The research project is funded by Australian Research Council and they will have access to the data obtained during the project.

### **How do I give my consent to participate?**

We would like to ask you to sign a written consent form (enclosed) to confirm your agreement to participate.

If you are unable to provide written consent the research team will be happy to video record your consent, given through your preferred communication modality – verbally, through Auslan, Deaf/Blind sign language, or a text-to-speech computer mediated communication device.

### **What if I have questions about the research project?**

If you have any questions or require further information please contact one of the listed researchers:

**Chief Investigator:** Bree Hadley [bree.hadley@qut.edu.au](mailto:bree.hadley@qut.edu.au)

### **What if I have a concern or complaint regarding the conduct of the research project?**

QUT is committed to research integrity and the ethical conduct of research projects. If you wish to discuss the study with someone not directly involved, particularly in relation to matters concerning policies, information or complaints about the conduct of the study or your rights as a participant, you may contact the QUT Research Ethics Advisory Team on 07 3138 5123 or email [humanethics@qut.edu.au](mailto:humanethics@qut.edu.au).

**Thank you for helping with this research project. Please keep this sheet for your information.**