

# Local Spotlight

Wednesday  
3 December



In person screening

Local spotlight will be broken up into 3 sessions:

**Session 1:** Local screen works (11 films)

**Session 2:** Dance Shorts (3 films)

**Session 3:** Embracing Voices (1 film)

Experience the vibrancy of disability-led screen storytelling. Explore innovative ways to create work and connect with audiences. Be challenged and transported through original and untold stories!

Please join us on International Day of People with Disability for our Local Spotlight screening program. We are featuring 15 Victorian made screen works. Including animations, short films and documentaries.

**When:** Wednesday 3 December, 1:30 - 5 pm

**Where:** Gandel Lab, ACMI, Federation Square

**Access:** Auslan Interpreted, captioning, audio loop, wheelchair accessible, quiet room, assistance animals welcome, support staff available.



**Cost:** Free

**Booking:** Please book your spot via Humanitix

# Local Spotlight screening - Session 1

## Art Day South and Get Out! Studio Shorts

2017 - 25 | Australia | English



These films are an extension of the visual art practices of the studio artists into animation, live action, performance, dance and music.

### Producers

Arts Access Victoria

## Hand Forrest

2 Minutes | 2024 | Australia | English



The work responds to the theme of stormy weather, speaking both to the escalating climate crisis and to internal struggles: weathering mental health challenges and finding a way through to the other side.

### Director/ Writers

Patrick Tonks, Alister Karl

**Producers** Arts Access Victoria

## Beautiful

5 Minutes | 2025 | Australia | English



Patrick was wrongly diagnosed with schizophrenia for nine years, an experience explored through this new work.

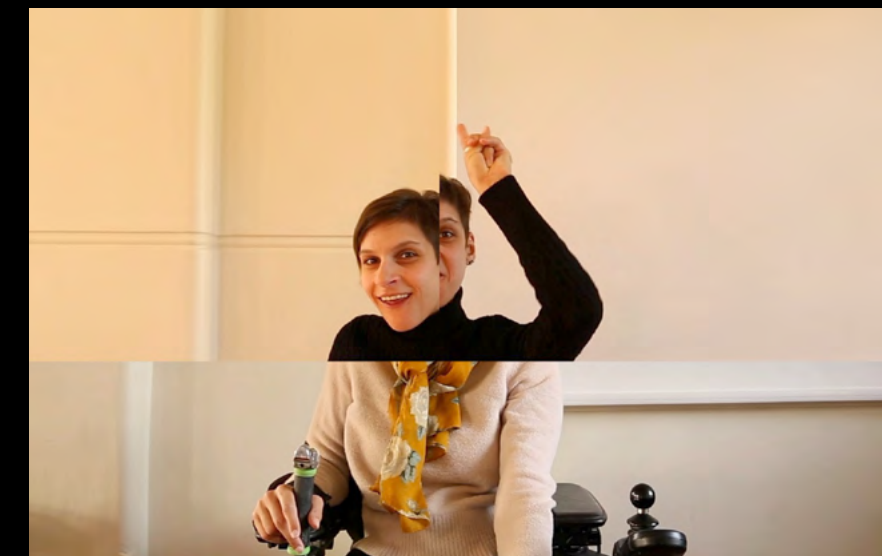
### Director/ Writers

Patrick Tonks, Alister Karl

**Producers** Arts Access Victoria

## My Self Portrait

3 Minutes | 2024 | Australia | English



A powerful work exploring Nicole's artistic journey. "See me, see past my Cerebral Palsy, look beyond my wheelchair and see my photography through my lens."

### Director/ Writers

Nicole Tsourlenes

**Producers** Arts Access Victoria

## Feeling

13 Minutes | 2025 | Australia | English



Jamie, a passionate dancer, is determined to deliver the performance of a lifetime at his end-of-year show — all in the hopes of impressing Sarah, the girl of his dreams.

**Director/ Writers** Jake Willis

**Producers**

# Local Spotlight screening - Session 2 and 3

## Belonging I Am

11 minutes | 2025 | Australia | Auslan



Belonging Am I “ explores the universal journey for identity and connections. Navigating the landscapes of inner selves, yearning against the backdrop of a constantly changing world, seeking places outside themselves that encapsulate the authenticity of their own existence in time and space

**Director/ Writer** Irene Holub

**Filmmaker** Ramas McRae

**Musician** Gregor Kompar

## From One Extreme

12 Minutes | 2024 | Australia | English



Created by a neurodivergent filmmaker working from within a feminist lens, this film uses the female body and employs the physicality of movement as a tool to interrogate the challenges inherent in navigating a world that can feel out of control, painful and overwhelming.

**Director/ Writer/ Producer**  
Nikki Willson

## Face to Face

25 Minutes | 2023 | Australia | English

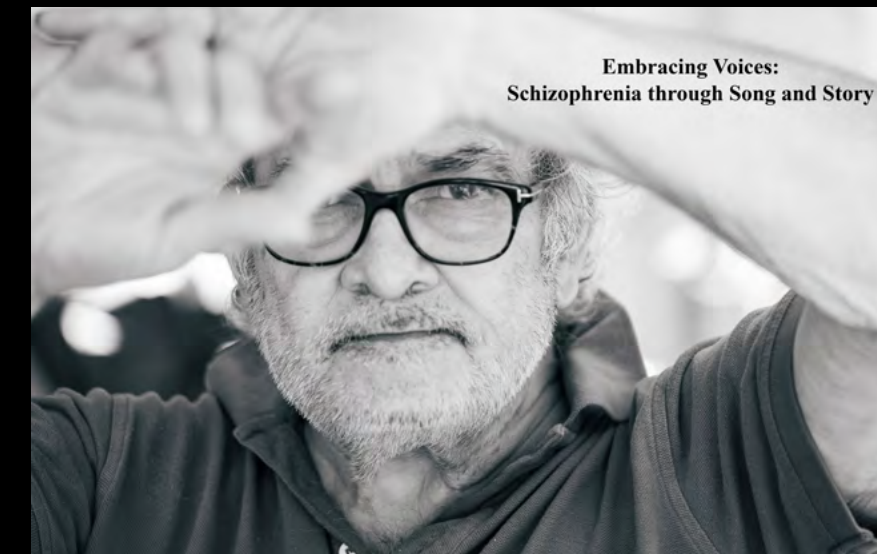


Led and co-created by The Demographic Dance OFF, a collective of Deaf and Disabled and Neurodivergent artists, Face to Face is an evocative work filmed in 2022 for As part of the And or Program for the Midsummer Festival season.

**Director/ Writer** Pearl Blackk  
**Producer** Inclusive Creative  
Producer

## Embracing Voices

33 Minutes | 2025 | Australia | English



Embracing Voices follows a group of people with lived experience of schizophrenia as they share their art, music and stories. Looking back on their time in psychiatric wards and reflecting on the lives they are building now.

**Director/ Producer**  
Mercedeh Makoui