

Curriculum Vitae – John Waller

Contact Details

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Biography

John Waller is an Australian artist working predominately in digital media. His current practice focuses on the production of video and sound for screen, projection, and installation projects.

John's art career began in the early 1980s, following studies at the Queensland College of Art, Brisbane, where he majored in painting. By the mid eighties his practice had moved to include photocopy and installation works. By the early nineties, his practice was primarily focussed on computer based multimedia works and installations. In 2008 he completed a PhD by project in the School of Art at RMIT, Melbourne, developing *entity*, an artificial life inspired, interactive computer animation.

Over the last four decades John has exhibited in some one-hundred group and solo exhibitions, both in Australia and internationally. These include exhibitions at The Queensland Art Gallery, the Institute of Modern Art, the University of Queensland Art Museum, the Museum of Contemporary Art, and QCA Gallery, Brisbane; The Ivan Dougherty Gallery, Sydney; Experimenta Media Arts Festival, Melbourne; the Northern Centre for Contemporary Art, Darwin; and Camera Work Gallery, London.

He has also shown extensively in Artist Run Initiatives and alternative spaces, including THAT Contemporary Art Space, Arch Lane, Gallerie Brutal, and John Mills National in Brisbane; Grey Area, Stop 22, Seventh, and The Library Artspace, J-Studios, Melbourne; and the Darwin Visual Arts Association and Tactile Arts, Darwin. Animation works have also been included in the Second International Symposium on Electronic Art (SISEA) in Gröningen, The Netherlands, and in Media Wave '93, a video festival in Gyor, Hungary.

In support of his work he has received grants and funding from government agencies including the Digital Media Fund (Film Victoria), Arts Queensland, the Australian Film Commission, and the Australia Council.

In addition to his PhD, John's other qualifications include an Advanced Diploma in Electronic Design and Interactive Media (RMIT), and certificates in Training and Instructional Skills. He also has extensive teaching experience in universities and other training institutions, including Charles Darwin University, Darwin; the University of Melbourne, RMIT, Swinburne University, Box Hill Institute, and Cambridge International College, Melbourne; and Mount Gravatt College of TAFE, Brisbane.

Chronology

Education

2000 - 08	PhD by Project, part-time, School of Art, RMIT, Melbourne
2007	Certificate IV in Training and Assessment, MBG Education, Melbourne
2004	Certificate IV in Assessment and Workplace Training, Australian Institute of Education and Training, Melbourne
1999	Bachelor of Computer Science (First Year), Latrobe University, Melbourne
1995 - 96	Advanced Diploma, Electronic Design and Interactive Media, RMIT, Melbourne
1993	Certificate in Instructional Skills, South Brisbane TAFE
1989	Experimental Music (Audit only), University of Queensland, Brisbane
1985	Semester workshop in Super 8 Film, Queensland College of Art, Brisbane Experimental Music (Audit only), University of Queensland, Brisbane
1983	Video workshops, Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane
1978 - 80	Queensland College of Art, Brisbane (Painting Major)

Individual Exhibitions

- 2012 **The River**, The Night Screen, Seventh Gallery, Melbourne
 2011 **Propeller**, The Night Screen, Seventh Gallery, Melbourne
 2007 **entity**, School of Art Gallery, RMIT, Melbourne
 2006 **For one night only**, Gossard project space, RMIT, Melbourne
 1994 **burning...**, Bartleme Galleries, Brisbane
Untitled video installation, McWhirters shop front window, Valley Mall, Brisbane
 1992 **Recent Drawings**, Savode Gallery, Brisbane.
 1991 **K/nights in Shining Amour - Part II (The Maiden's Revenge)**, Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane, collaboration with David Crouch, Jacqueline Evers, and Adam Wolter
 1990 **K/nights in Shining Amour**, Galerie Brutal, Brisbane, collaboration with David Crouch, Jacqueline Evers, and Tony Moore
 1989 **The Great Australian Landscape:**
Part I, MINI MOCA, Museum of Contemporary Art, Brisbane
Part II, arch lane Annex, arch lane PUBLIC ART, Brisbane
Part III, arch lane PUBLIC ART, Brisbane
 1985 **Something Fishy (A Little Cat Nap)**, installation in La Boite Theatre Foyer, Brisbane, collaboration with Adam Wolter
Gallery of the Dyslexic Frog, gallery/installation/performance/community art project, Public Service workplace, Brisbane, collaboration with Tony Moore
 1983 **Sunday Afternoon at the Gallery, Friday Night in the Mall, Sunday Afternoon in the Gardens**, series of public performances, Brisbane
 1981 Brisbane Community Arts Centre Gallery, Brisbane

Group Exhibitions

- 2023 **Das Kapital**, 236 Chapel Street, Prahran, Melbourne
 2022 **Circadian Visions**, Ngudooroo (Lamb Island), Queensland
 2019 **CCP Salon**, Centre for Contemporary Photography, Melbourne
Refugia, Nan Giese and Northern Editions galleries, Charles Darwin University, Darwin
Fluidity, Darwin Visual Arts, Darwin
 2018 **CCP Salon**, Centre for Contemporary Photography, Melbourne
Untitled, Northern Centre for Contemporary Art, Darwin
ArtMart 2018, Northern Centre for Contemporary Art, Darwin
Changes: forty years of art practice, POP Gallery, Queensland College of Art, Brisbane
 2017 **Cat with the Hat**, Monitor, Northern Centre for Contemporary Art, Darwin
ArtMart, Northern Centre for Contemporary Art, Darwin
Hatched, Darwin Visual Arts Association, Darwin
CCP Salon, Centre for Contemporary Photography, Melbourne
 2016 **ephemeral traces: Brisbane's artist-run scene in the 1980s**, University of Queensland Art Museum, Brisbane
An Awful Lot of Coffee, Darwin Visual Arts Association, Darwin
Junk to Funk, Darwin Visual Arts Association, Darwin
Peer Review, Northern Centre for Contemporary Art, Darwin
Constellations, Tactile Arts, Darwin
CCP Salon, Centre for Contemporary Photography, Melbourne
 2015 **Milestone**, Northern Centre for Contemporary Art, Darwin
CCP Salon, Centre for Contemporary Photography, Melbourne
Through the Keyhole, Darwin Visual Arts Association, Darwin
12 x 12, Darwin Visual Arts Association, Darwin
 2014 **Electricity**, Darwin Visual Arts Association, Darwin
Warp Festival, Darwin Fringe, Happy Yess, Darwin
 2012 **Visible Horizon**, AIRY and Fusetzu Galleries, Yamanashi, Japan; The Library Artspace, J-Studios, Melbourne
 2011 **Experimental Sounds Sculptures and Installations**, The Library Artspace, J-Studios, Melbourne
 2010 **Plus One 2010**, The Library Artspace, J-Studios, Melbourne, collaboration with Natalie Grant
 2009 **Gulag**, Counihan Gallery in Brunswick, Melbourne
Gertrude Street Projection Festival, Melbourne

- 2008 **International Students' Exhibition**, Shanghai Biennale 2008 (exhibition of PhD materials)
Plus One, The Library Artspace, J-Studios, Melbourne, collaboration with Mary Peacock
- 2006 **Siemens–RMIT Fine Art Scholarship Awards**, RMIT Gallery, Melbourne
- 2003 **Modelling Space**, Project Space, RMIT, Melbourne
- 1998 **White Elephant Sale**, Grey Area, Melbourne
- 1997 **Roof Roof: an evening of dance, movement, machine and images**, the roof of KC Parksafe, Victoria St, Melbourne
QWERTY: approaches to a digital aesthetic, Linden Gallery, Melbourne
- 1996 **short, sharp, and very current**, Experimenta Media Arts Festival, Lonsdale Street Power Station, Melbourne
Graduate Exhibition, Electronic Design and Interactive Media, Project Space, Building 94, RMIT, Melbourne
CyberFringe/C.A.T. Digital Imaging Awards, Stop 22, Melbourne
- 1995 **Beta Test**, New Media Network, Melbourne
Digital Shifts, Noosa Regional Gallery, Queensland
C.A.T. Digital Imaging Awards, Waverley City Gallery, Melbourne
- 1993 **Media Wave 93**, Gyor, Hungary
Fearless, Artestudio, Bergamo, Italy; Forum “Kunst und Schule”, Gutersloh, Germany
Southern Crossings/Empty Land, Angel Row Gallery, Nottingham, England; Zone Gallery, Newcastle, England; Focal Point Gallery, Southend-on-Sea, England
Post, Coode View Gallery, Melbourne
Vitae, RMIT Faculty Gallery, Melbourne
- 1992 **Southern Crossings/Empty Land**, Stills Gallery, Edinburgh
Empty Land, Camerawork Gallery, London
Reference Points: A New Perspective, Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane
Fact, Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane; Linden Gallery, Melbourne
Box Play, Savode Gallery, Brisbane, collaboration with other gallery artists
- 1991 **Instant Imaging**, Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane
Against Pure War, Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane
- 1990 **SISEA** (Second International Symposium on Electronic Art), Gröningen, Holland
Scanning the Code, Ivan Dougherty Gallery, Sydney
Above the Apothecary, belowZERO, Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane
Space 90, Queensland College of Art Gallery, Brisbane
International Visual Poetry Exhibition, Victorian Writers' Centre, Melbourne; Western Australian Writers' Centre, Perth
RSVWWZ, Ausgraph 90, Melbourne; belowZERO, Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane
Video Art and New Technology Festival, Film and Television Institute, Fremantle
Queensland Images - A Film Festival - Library Program, Queensland State Library, Brisbane
The Bigger Than Ben Hur Art Prices Auction, Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane
Condemned Commodity Circus, Galerie Brutal, Brisbane
Actions Speak Louder Than Words, Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane
Strangers in Paradise - Premonition, Hole in the Wall, Galerie Brutal, Brisbane
Ze Bruck Zenze, Rondeau, Sydney
The Inaugural Arch Lane Drawing Prize, arch lane PUBLIC ART, Brisbane
Word Fest, Visual Poetics, Queensland Cultural Centre, Brisbane
- 1989 **Visual Poetics**, Museum of Contemporary Art, Brisbane
Random Access, Museum of Contemporary Art, Brisbane
Works on Paper, arch lane PUBLIC ART, Brisbane
Open studio exhibition, BAF Studio, Brisbane
The Truth, arch lane PUBLIC ART, Brisbane
- 1988 **Axis File, Sites of Dis-Closure**, 2B/The Garage, New York City, U.S.A.; arch lane PUBLIC ART, Brisbane.
Mass Exodus - The Eviction Art Show, 315 Given Tce, Paddington, Brisbane
- 1987 **John Mills Annex**, John Mills National, Brisbane
- 1986 **State of the Art/Art of the State**, photocopy exhibition, Old Darnell Gallery, University of Queensland, Brisbane

- 1985 **Brisbane Hot**, Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane
 This Work Was, THAT Contemporary Art Space, Brisbane
 This is THAT, Gladstone Art Gallery, Gladstone
 Opening exhibition, THAT Contemporary Art Space, Brisbane
1984 **Art-Space/Street-Space**, Art Space annex, Mark Foys Dept Store window Sydney,
 collaboration with Ruth Propsting
1983 Brisbane Community Arts Centre, Brisbane

Grants and Awards

- 2016 ACMI Video Award, CCP Salon, Centre for Contemporary Photography, Melbourne
2010 ArtStart, Australia Council, funds to develop business, marketing, and networking tools for a
 new media art practice
2002 Digital Media Fund, Film Victoria, funds to develop *entity*, an artificial life inspired,
 interactive, computer animated character
1992 Individual Professional Development Program, Arts Division, Queensland State Government,
 funds to attend the Third International Symposium on Electronic Art, Sydney
1989 New Image Research program, the Australian Film Commission and the Queensland Film
 Development Office, funds to develop a computer generated animation

Public Collections

Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane, Australia
The University of Queensland Art Collection, Brisbane, Australia

Professional Positions and Responsibilities

- 2014 - 16 Management Committee member and Treasurer, Darwin Visual Arts Association, Darwin
2010 External Consultant for a PhD by project, School of Media and Communication, RMIT
 External PhD examiner, School of Visual & Performing Arts, University of Tasmania
2009 - 12 J-Studios management committee, Melbourne
1989 Coordinator, Random Access exhibition, Museum of Contemporary Art, Brisbane
1985 Co-founder, Treasurer, and Joint Co-ordinator, THAT Contemporary Art Space, Brisbane
1983 - 85 Founding management committee member and (1984-5) Treasurer, Art Workers Union, Qld
 (which became the Queensland Artworkers Alliance in 1986)

Related Employment

- 2013 – 15 Charles Darwin University, Darwin, lecturer in Interactive Digital Media
2012 Swinburne University TAFE, Melbourne, sessional teacher, Graphic Design & Digital Media
1999 - 2011 Cambridge International College, Melbourne, teacher in Multimedia
2003 - 05 The University of Melbourne, sessional lecturer, Interactive Multimedia, School of Creative
 Arts, Faculty of Arts
2003 Monash College, sessional teacher, Digital Imaging, Diploma of Art and Design Studies
1997 - 2002 RMIT, sessional lecturer Computer Graphics and Multimedia, School of Art and Culture,
 Faculty of Art Design and Communication
1998 Box Hill Institute, sessional teacher, Design for Interactive Media
1997 - 98 Freelance multimedia designer/programmer - Grey Interactive, WAM
1997 Tantamount Productions, Multimedia Assistant
 Freelance animation for Pulse, dance-performance project, Melbourne
1996 Freelance animation for Pacific Magazines and Printing Annual Report
1995 Magian Multimedia, scanning, digital photo-retouching, and digital imaging
1993 - 94 Mount Gravatt College of TAFE, teacher and Computer Graphics subject co-ordinator,
 Certificate in Arts, Brisbane

Bibliography

- Howie, T., “Strange take on art peer”, NT News, Thursday, November 24, 2016
- Johnson, F., “Out of the gulag”, The Age, Friday, April 17, 2009
- Zurbrugg, N., “John Waller Interviewed by Nicholas Zurbrugg”, Electronic Arts in Australia, Continuum, Vol. 8, No. 1, 1994
- Lillington, D., “Southern Crossings/Empty Land”, Time Out, London, August 5-12, 1992
- Zurbrugg, N., “Instant Imaging”, Eyeline, No.16, Spring 1991, p 32
- Richards, M., “Photocopies more of the same”, The Courier Mail, Tuesday, May 21, 1991
- Zurbrugg, N., “Random Access”, Eyeline, No.11, Autumn 1990, p 27
- Woolcock, P., “Charlotte Street arrives as an art centre”, The Courier Mail, June, 1985
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- Catalogue, *Gulag Studios 1994 – 2009*, Sheridan Palmer, Gulag Publishing, 2009
- Catalogue, *RMIT University School of Art Postgraduate Art Research by Project*, catalogue for International Students' Exhibition, Shanghai Biennale 2008
- Catalogue, *Southern Crossings/Empty Land*, Camerawork, London, 1992, pp. 11, 67-68
- Catalogue, *Instant Imaging*, Queensland Art Gallery, 1991, pp. 6, 8-9
- Catalogue, *Pat Hoffie/Sue Baker, Anna Gibbs/R.S.V.W.W.Z.*, Institute of Modern Art, 1990
- Catalogue, *Visual Poetics*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Brisbane, 1989, p. 55
- Catalogue, *Random Access*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Brisbane, 1989