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Small Acts, Long Ripples

Yana Taylor

13 April – 22 June 2024

We pay our respects to the Dharawal people who are the traditional custodians of the land, whose deepening connection to culture and customs have cared for this country for over 60,000 years. We acknowledge Elders past, present and future for their immense spiritual connection to place which was never ceded.

Dharawal land has always been recognised as a meeting place for people from other lands, and in this spirit we respectfully continue this tradition through the bringing together of our communities through arts and culture.

This Always Was and Always will be Aboriginal land.

'Small Acts, Long Ripples' was also conceived and made on the lands of the Burramattagal of the Dharug people and on the lands of the Kurna people.

Content Warning:

Two of the stories in *'Small Acts, Long Ripples'*,
'Photo Table' and *'Rock Chic'*
include references to suicidal thought



'Photo Table', 2024, courtesy the artist

Small Acts, Long Ripples

Yana Taylor

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Stories of others' experiences are often heard in the background, like a podcast while doing the dishes or travelling. Multidisciplinary performance-maker Yana Taylor has designed a deep listening environment where a group of people tell their stories of transformation.

Everyday encounters in our life may seem small or insignificant, until we look back. Those amongst us whose life conditions are precarious often rely for their ongoing health and survival on these incidental moments. The resonance of these small acts is long. Against individualism, the artist communicates the power we have in each others' lives, even when we are not acquainted or not aware.

These storytellers, while diverse, are not categorised in a program catalogue nor are their stories derived from interview questions. For an intimate experience, visitors are invited to take their time and to listen within the installation.

Each story is unique and was told by the storyteller to Yana Taylor.

'Small Acts, Long Ripples' is commissioned by Campbelltown Arts Centre and began as a creative development at C-A-C in 2022.'

Lead Artist: Yana Taylor

Storytellers:

Renee Allara, Richard J Bell, David Capra, Kalanjay Dhir, Yana Taylor and Mémé Thorne



Climate Action, 2024 courtesy the artist. Photo: Yana Taylor

Yana Taylor

Yana Taylor is a contemporary performance maker and performer based in Western Sydney. Her work is devised with interdisciplinary teams combining live performance (movement, voice & acting) with video and photography. Taylor's starting points are micro and macro fissures or pressure points in inequities of power. These processes involve in-depth research in archives and literature. During her residency at Parramatta Artist Studios in 2020, Taylor staged a large live and screen installation work 'Leading is Following is Leading' in Liveworks, Carriageworks and presented the digital exhibition 'Land, Vista, Food, Colony'. She made 'Beautiful Rot', an installation of decomposing compost as part of 'Hundreds and Thousands', Liveworks (2022).

Taylor is also a freelance director and dramaturg. From 2000-13, Taylor was a core member of documentary theatre ensemble version 1.0 inc., a group of artists who made deeply

political and personal research-based performances which engaged with significant political and social issues using innovative theatrical strategies. Taylor was a core member of the team working across all areas from research and development to writing, acting and film. Key works included: 'Disappearances Project' (2012-13) which was presented around Australia and at Brighton International Festival; 'Table of Knowledge' (2011); 'This Kind of Ruckus' (2010); 'Deeply Offensive and Utterly Untrue' (2007); 'Wages of a Spin' (2006); 'Certain Maritime Incident' (2004); and 'Second Last Supper' (2001).

Taylor holds a PhD from the University of Sydney (2007). Her research is focused on the influence of body-based practices in the performance making by first wave contemporary performance makers of the 1980-90s associated with Sydney's Performance Space.

Storytellers

Renee Allara

Renee Allara lives and works in Western Sydney. She is an advocate and uses art as a therapeutic tool to help people struggling. She's thriving and laughs every day. Life is good. Renee's installations, drawings and paintings derive from microscopic images of insects, bacteria and genetic material. Renee likes to play with the tension of high vs low art, elevating everyday objects and focusing the attention of the audience on the beauty of the details of the world around them. She is interested in the interrelationships of people and creatures and the spaces they occupy. Renee forms a connection with the subject of each piece she creates. The repetitive nature of her work means the production of each piece is an almost meditative process.

Richard J Bell

Richard J Bell calls himself a Contemporary Creative Soul and multiform artist, who delves into genres such as creative memoirs, contemporary poetry, lived experience opinion pieces, sculpture, photography and kupesi drawings. Starting off writing about his lived experience of schizophrenia with the hopes others who have similar experiences will read and relate to it on an emotional level, he is currently transitioning from illness to wellness and rather than fighting the hurt, pain and injustice, he is working on exploring his own culture and heritage through different Polynesian kupesi designs superimposed over original photos of Tonga.

David Capra

Performance artist David Capra is known for his collaborations with dachshund Teena. In 2016, they appeared on the 9 Network's Today Show to promote their fragrance, Eau de Wet Dogge. In 2015, 'Teena's Bathtime' was launched at the MCA's Jackson Bella Room, where visitors related to Teena's experiences around anxiety - Teena doesn't quite enjoy bathtime. In 2018, they performed 'The Long and the short of it: Life lessons from art-dog Teena' to an audience of 5000 at TEDx Sydney and answered the question "What makes a dachshund the perfect muse?" in an article for the Guardian newspaper. The two featured in Genevieve Bailey's documentary 'Happy Sad Man' (Melbourne Film Festival) following the lives of 5 men managing their internal worlds. Last year David and Teena collaborated with Kaldor Projects, producing a series of "Teena Takes on..." educational videos and Kaldor Studio project at the Art Gallery of NSW.









Kalanjay Dhir

Kalanjay Dhir is an artist and musician based in Sydney on unceded Dharug land. His sculpture and video work draws on popular culture, sci-fi and myth. Kalanjay's sculpture and video practice integrates elements of his South and South East Asian identity, religion, and mythology but in its Western Suburban context. From 2017-2020, he worked from Parramatta Artists' Studios and in 2019 this led to co-founding Pari, an independent artist-run space supported by Create NSW, and co-directed with local peers. Alongside Kilimi and DJ Atro, he hosted Wednesday Sunset on FBi Radio for 3 years, spotlighting emerging musical acts from west and southwest Sydney.

Mémé Thorne

Mémé Thorne began her performing career in physical theatre with the Netherland's famous International Theatre Research Group – Kiss in 1980. As a founding member of the ensemble, Sidetrack Performance Group, Marrickville (1984-2000), she made many of their signature works. A freelance actor since, Mémé has enjoyed diverse roles with companies in NSW, QLD and VIC in film, television, theatre, and physical theatre. And continued to perform in theatre and film since relocating to Willunga, SA in 2012. Mémé has been an active member of Extinction Rebellion SA since early 2019 and a Conscientious Protector since 2022. She considers her commitment as a Climate Activist to be her most significant role to date.

Artwork List

No.	ARTWORK TITLE	YEAR	MEDIUM	DIMENSIONS (MM)
	<i>Bathroom</i>	2024	single channel audio	7:34 minutes
	<i>Bathroom</i>	2024	digital photograph on cotton rag	841 x 594
	<i>Ants</i>	2024	single channel audio	4:10 minutes
	<i>Ants</i>	2024	wax ants, tray and theatre light	dimensions variable
	<i>Rock Chic</i>	2024	single channel audio	6:38 minutes
	<i>Rock Chic</i>	2024	single channel digital video	1:05 minutes
	<i>Persimmons</i>	2024	single channel audio	8:09 minutes
	<i>Persimmons</i>	2024	model persimmons	230 x 450 x 450
	<i>Photo Table</i>	2024	single channel audio	8:59 minutes
	<i>Photo Table</i>	2024	table with donated family photographs, live web cam feed	dimensions variable
	<i>Climate Action</i>	2024	single channel audio	11:37 minutes
	<i>Climate Action</i>	2024	slide show, single channel video	5:16 minutes



'Rock Chic', 2024 (film still), courtesy the artist

Project Team

Lead Artist (concept, director/designer of environment, maker of installations and recorder of stories)

Yana Taylor

Storytellers

Renee Allara
Richard J Bell
David Capra
Kalanjay Dhir
Yana Taylor
Mémé Thorne

Sound Editor and Consultant

Ludwig El Haddad

Filmmaker of Rock Chic film loop and Climate Slides

Yana Taylor

Photographer of Bathroom

Carlos Gomes

Composers / Engineers, Rock Chic Audio Loop

Lauren Woodward (Imperial Broads)
Liam Judson

Creator of Headphone Installation

James Brown

Actors in 'Rock Chic' and 'Bathroom'

Brooke Ryan, Sam Watson-Wood
Ruby Skinner

Creative Producer

Anthea Doropoulos

Curator

Isabelle Morgan

Assistant Curator

Anne-Marie Brockenhuus-Schack

Assistant Creative Producer

Anne Cutajar

Head of Curatorial

Adam Porter

Production Lead

Frank Mainoo Boamah

Collections Officer

Sam Spragg

Education and Creative Learning

Julia Quinn

Celeste Wrona

Samantha Relihan

Media and Communications

Ellen Formby

Communications & Exhibition Design

Donna Vo

Gallery Technicians

Nicci Bedson

Corrigan Fairbairn

David Langosch

Thomas Sandberg

Jamie Manweiler

Tom Yousif

Lucy Whitelaw

Special Thanks

Kate Skinner (Ruby's mum)

Bernie (for location of Bathroom), Mark R Fraser

To all those who donated photographs via C-A-C's callout plus to Valerie Berry, Seini F Taumoepeau and Joy Cruz. Extra special thanks to all the team at Campbelltown Arts Centre

C-A-C Team

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'Climate Action', 2024 courtesy the artist. Photo: Yaña Taylor

Campbelltown Arts Centre
1 Art Gallery Rd Campbelltown
Open daily, 10am - 4pm
02 4645 4100
c-a-c.com.au



Located on Dharawal land, Campbelltown Arts Centre is proudly owned by the people of Campbelltown and is a cultural facility of Campbelltown City Council. Campbelltown Arts Centre is assisted by the NSW Government through Create NSW and also receives support from the Packer Family Foundation and the Neilson Foundation. 'Small Acts, Long Ripples' was conceived and made on the lands of the Burramattagal of the Dharug people and on the lands of the Kurna people.

Image Credit