

Regional Arts Fund

Quick Response Grant

Case study

Lisa Anderson: In the Breath of Ghosts



Image: Volunteers at work, photo by Lisa Anderson

Project Summary

Lisa Anderson received this Quick Response Grant to assist in training and work-shop for the local volunteers in the interaction skills needed for innovative responsive guiding in immersive environments

Public Outcome

This funding was to undertake workshops for the six volunteers who participated in the installation of "In the Breath of Ghosts" at the Civic Hall. The volunteers worked with the workshop leader, Penelope Bartlau, to develop skills in guiding audience in small groups through the installation. They used specific theatrical elements of being 'voiceless' but rather using the Federation Handbells as tools, and they worked with possession of the space, costuming, mask work and hand gestures. The public outcomes were demonstrated through the process of audience participation.

Artist Benefits

This workshop helped the workshop leader, Penelope Bartlau, to further develop an approach to upskilling others. The applicant, Lisa Anderson, through participating in the workshop, developed skills in performance work, guiding and in articulating the experience of an art installation work to others who will collaborate in the viewing experience. Linda Franklin, who was to be the security assistant for the guide, also participated in the workshop and helped develop outcomes for herself as an art therapist and artist.

Community Benefits

Many of the workshop participants took part to understand the process and skills involved in bringing physical theatre aspects into the formal demands of 'guiding' within contemporary immersive art installation.

The volunteers and participants in the workshop developed specific abilities to use the Federation Hand Bells from the Museum of Victoria within a performance work that incorporates a mix of improvisation and situational study. The volunteers also used these skills to teach others to participate in similar performance works.

Participants developed an appreciation of the use of performance art and physical theatre in guiding practices for new employment opportunities within arts, culture and tourism events.

Several volunteers discussed the sense of ownership and engagement they felt for the Civic Hall, as space that has been unoccupied for many years and felt a confidence to explore their relationship to the community and the city structures.



Australian Government

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Project Start Date	17/08/2015
Project End Date	30/09/2015
Project Location	Ballarat
Federal Electorate	Ballarat
No. Audience	180
No. Participants	25
Project Beneficiary	General Community
Main Art Form	Multi Artform
No. Artists Paid	1
No. Artists Unpaid	2
No. Arts Worker Paid	1
No. Arts Worker Unpaid	0