


Next Wave, 2019 Annual Report

The background features a vibrant blue field with several thick, light green lines. A vertical line runs down the center, intersected by two diagonal lines that cross each other in the middle. The lines are solid and have a consistent thickness, creating a modern, geometric aesthetic.

Next Wave,

is located on the land of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation.

We pay our respects to Elders past and present, as well as to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the wider Melbourne community and beyond. Indigenous sovereignty has never been ceded and we acknowledge that we continue to make art on what always was and always will be, Aboriginal land.

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A note from the CEO

2019 was a huge year of achievement and celebration for Next Wave.

Following a national roadshow and artist call out, we commissioned 28 major works for Next Wave Festival 2020. We gathered with our artists to dream, learn, discuss and build friendships at two week-long artistic lab intensives. We celebrated 35 years of Next Wave with a spectacular birthday party and a resoundingly successful fundraising campaign; launched the refreshed face of Next Wave with our first rebrand in 10 years; and leveraged over half a million dollars in cash support for emerging artists from across the country to develop new work.

The artistic vision set for the biennium centred around the idea of A Government of Artists. This framework was developed through long-seeded conversations with artists and peers, in recognition that late capitalism has brought with it, mass economic inequality, the normalisation of the surveillance state, a culture of post truth and political scapegoating, environmental crisis and cultural decimation through ongoing colonisation. This framework for artistic presentation, which garnered more applications than Next Wave has yet seen in recorded history, poses that artists play an important role in the urgent call for, and enactment of local and global change. We set forth with the belief that artists are some of the deepest, most critical and ambitious thinkers this country has to offer, and that Next Wave can work to amplify artists' voices as cultural leaders with the dreams, ideas and critical awareness to lead change through creative expression.

Festivals can be seen themselves as political structures, where networks of capital, ideology, information and love can be reorganised, reimagined and performed through the collective experience of the Festival. An ethos of hospitality, generosity and care through dialogue and collaboration sat at the heart of our methodology for working towards Next Wave Festival 2020: A Government of Artists.



ROSLYN HELPER
Director/CEO

2019 Impact

\$89,300

paid to artists

28

Festival works commissioned

464

artists engaged

300

artists at Kickstart Roadshow events

18

Interstate Next Wave Festival
artists engaged

116

events hosted at Brunswick
Mechanics

16

Victorian Next Wave Festival artists
engaged

17

events presented as part of Critical
Mass

28

new works commissioned

6,000+

audience attendees at Brunswick
Mechanics

2019 Impact

20

artists in residence at Brunswick Mechanics

\$23,521

raised via donations

30

weeks of free space provided through Creative Developments

158

generous donors

300

students engaged through New Student Precinct

30,000

website page views

35

Next Wave partnerships brokered

46,000

website users

7,655

Instagram Likes

13,497

Facebook Page likes



DJ SEZZO performs at Next Wave's 35th Birthday Party (2019)

Program & Artistic Highlights



The Next Wave National Roadshow and Call Out

NEXT WAVE HITS THE ROAD.

Next Wave's Roadshow kicks off the commissioning cycle and ensures that as many artists feel welcome to apply for inclusion in Next Wave Festival as possible. Over three weeks during the national call out, Next Wave visited 10 peer institutions across six states and territories. Information sessions were attended by 300 artists nationally, and 73 artists booked in for face-to-face sessions to talk through their artistic proposals.

At the Next Wave office, staff responded to 361 phone enquiries and provided feedback on 67 draft applications. A record 223 applications were received (12% increase on 2017 and 59% increase on 2015), with the broadest reach across states and territories recorded to-date.

A selection committee comprised of Roslyn Helper, Erica McCalman, Rhen Soggee, James Nguyen and Onyx B. Carmine assessed the applications and selected 28 works for commission.

300

artists engaged

10

sessions

Next Wave X

2019 marked the second iteration of our Next Wave X partnerships program, a national co-commissioning scheme that acknowledges and aims to ease the extra financial and logistical hurdles that interstate artists face when producing and presenting their work in Melbourne. Working with 10 cultural partners from across the country (an increase from 7 in our 2017-18 cycle) this year's X artists received a \$10,000 co-contribution, residency time, the premiere of their work at Next Wave Festival 2020, followed by a re-presentation of their work at the partnering institution.

11 projects were commissioned via Next Wave X:

Ben Brooker and Kate Power (SA) – co-commissioned with Vitalstatistix
fine print magazine (SA) - co-commissioned with ACE Open
Bruno Booth (WA) – co-commissioned with Perth Institute for Contemporary Art
Daz Chandler (NSW) – co-commissioned with Punctum
Marcus Whale (NSW) – co-commissioned with Liquid Architecture
Moreblessing Maturure (NSW) – co-commissioned with Campbelltown Arts Centre
Black Birds (NSW) – co-commissioned with PACT Centre for Emerging Artists
Rachel Meyers (TAS) – co-commissioned with Liquid Architecture
Alex Last (TAS) – co-commissioned with Salamanca Arts
Libby Harward (QLD) – co-commissioned with Bleach* Festival
Warraba Weatherall (QLD) – co-commissioned with Metro Arts

14

artists engaged

10

cultural partners engaged

11

new Festival works developed

100%

interstate artists engaged

Kickstart

A further 17 projects were commissioned through our Kickstart program, with artists receiving seed funding of up to \$5,000.

Matt Aitken and Lyndon Blue (WA, VIC)
Nanette Orly and Andy Butler (NSW, VIC)

Belinda Locke (VIC)

Lay the Mystic and Efren Pamilacan (VIC)

Isabella Whāwhai Waru (VIC)

Nana Biluš Abaffy (VIC)

Neika Lehman (VIC)

Roshelle Fong and Keziah Warner (VIC)

Ngoika Bunda-Heath (VIC)

Sapna Chandu (VIC)

Ripley Kavara, Isabella Whāwhai Waru, Yabelle Kerkow, Vicki Kinai, Peter

Lemalu, Florence Folole Tupuola (VIC)

Riot Stage (VIC)

Make or Break (NSW)

Ivey Wawn (NSW)

Kalanjay Dhir (NSW)

re:group (NSW)

Aaron Claringbold and Rebecca

Mccauley (VIC)

In addition, Kickstart supported 4 placements for emerging producers.

Morgan Little (VIC)

Joshua Allen (VIC)

Celeste Aldahn (ACT)

Rosie Leverton (VIC)

34

artists and producers engaged

56%

Victorian artists engaged

17

new works

44%

Interstate artists engaged



Kickstart Artists in Lab 1 and Lab 2 (2019)



Lab Intensives

For the first time, Next Wave supported lead artists from all commissioned projects across Next Wave X and Kicksstart to attend both lab intensives.

The labs were an opportunity for artists to:

- Establish a national network of peers
- Discuss and develop their artistic projects
- Learn best practice in access, environmental sustainability and cultural inclusion
- Develop a shared vision, language and presenting framework for the Festival

Taking place over five days in May at Abbotsford Convent, Next Wave designed a comprehensive program of workshops and talks covering key elements of creative and professional practice for emerging artists for Lab 1.

Lab 2 took place over five days in Sydney at PACT Centre for Emerging Artists. This Lab was an opportunity for each artist/group to present their Festival work in progress to the cohort, alongside Next Wave staff, invited artists and industry peers. Work in development showings prompted feedback, dialogue and encouragement.

Next Wave also partnered with Performance Space, giving artists an opportunity to engage with the Liveworks Festival program. Through this partnership, artists were given complimentary and discounted tickets to Liveworks shows and participated in a networking session with local, national and international APAM delegates..

Session highlights:

- Open Dialogue: Settler Consciousness in Arts Practice – with Priya Srinivasan
- Closed Session: First Nations Yarning Circle (Mob Only)
- Creative Workshop: Considering Practice – with Leisa Shelton
- Panel: Accessible Arts (the rehearsal room and audiences) – with Anja Kangeisser, Katrine Gabb and Will McRostie
- Information Session: Audio Description and YOU – with Will McRostie
- Artist Talk: Art as Action (artistic ethics and practice) – with Luke George and Roslyn Helper
- Alumni Presentation: Sarah Aiken and Rebecca Jensen
- Alumni Presentation: Aphids
- Alumni Presentation: James Nguyen
- Information Session: Sustainability – with Will Foster and Jen Rae
- Panel: Creating Safe Cross-Cultural Collaborative Spaces – with Tania Canas and Rani Pramesti
- Artist Talk: Working with The Land You Live On – with Moorina Bonini
- Information Session: Hack the Tax and Manage Your Money – with Erin Milne
- Open Dialogue: Working Within/Against the Global Technocracy – with Roslyn Helper and Sarah Aiken
- Workshop: Next Wave Festival 2020: Envisaging our collective landscape – with Moorini Bonini and Kalyani Mumtaz
- Information Session: Finding the Right Space for your Work and Building Relationships with Venues – with Bron Belcher and Lauren Clelland
- Workshop: Senate is in Session: advocacy workshop – with Esther Anatolitis
- Creative Development Showing: Lilian Steiner and Emile Zile at Arts House



48

Festival artists engaged

28

artists and arts workers engaged

Broadcast

Funded with the assistance of a Creative Victoria Marketing Innovation grant, Next Wave developed a new platform called Broadcast – an online, artist-led journal to share resources around artistic practice from artists' perspectives. To launch the platform, Next Wave commissioned and produced three experimental artist videos by Bruno Booth, Luke Duncan King and Feyen D'Evie.

Produced by Anita Spooner.

[VIEW BROADCAST HERE.](#)

3

artists engaged

67%

Victorian artists

33%

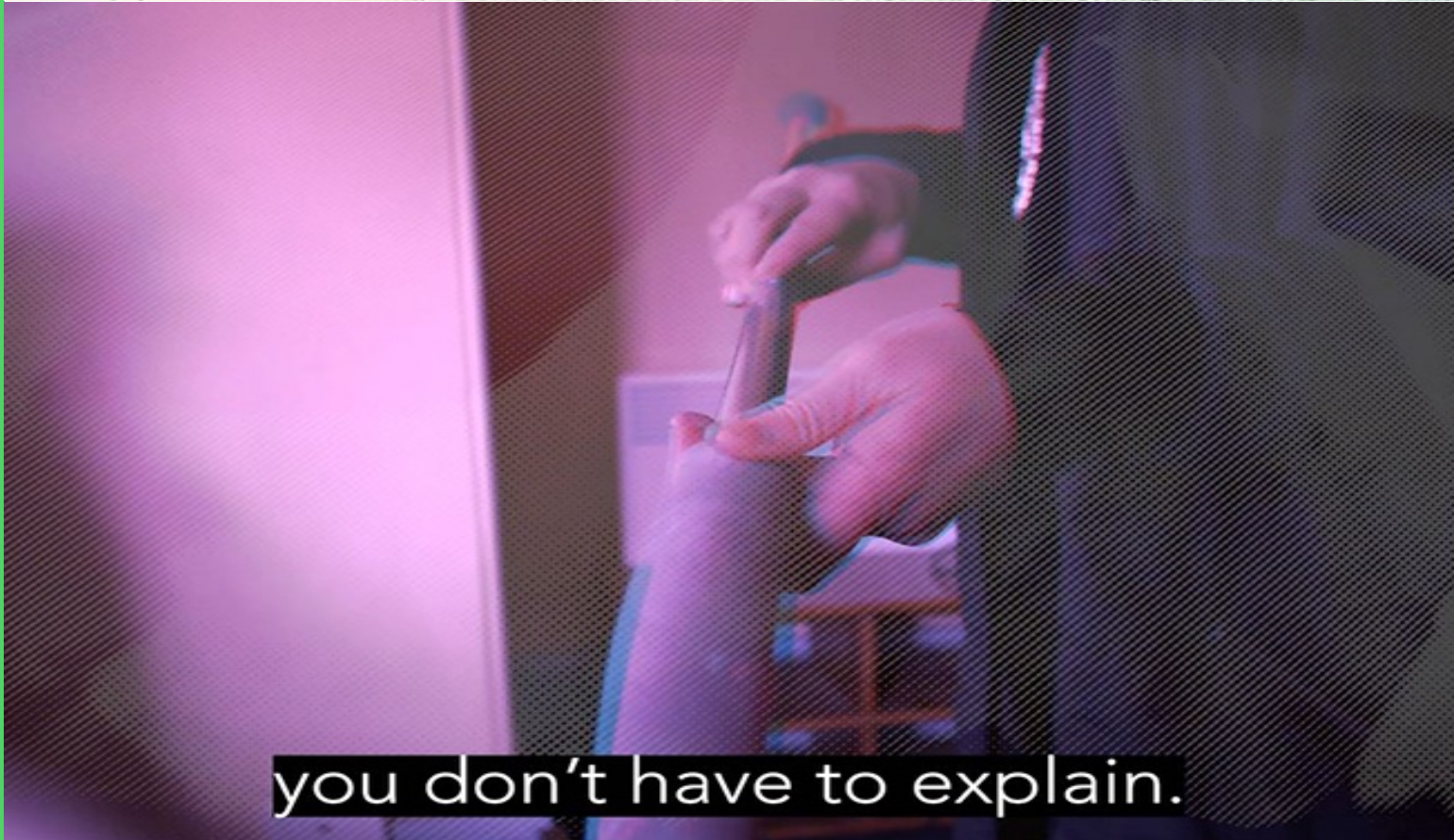
interstate artists

657

unique page views



My name's Bruno Booth,



you don't have to explain.

Brunswick Mechanics

Collaboration to Co-spoiltation: working together in the arts

Collaboration. Co-production. Co-presentation. Co-sploitation. How do institutions, artists and community groups work together in the arts? This event unpacked the power dynamics of co-production, a word increasingly used by institutions to describe methods of engaging cultural communities in artistic programming.

How can individuals and communities ensure co-production is a genuine, two-way relationship and not just a box ticking exercise? What is best practice for artists and organisers working within the realms of socially engaged art? Do cultural communities need institutional participation and recognition in the first place and who says so? A packed house joined Next Wave and Deakin University for an evening of readings, performances, case studies and conversation.

Facilitators:
Tania Canas, Andy Butler, David Henry, Peter Waples Crowe and Kate ten Buuren.

Catering provided by Mabu Mabu.

5

artists engaged

100%

Victorian artists

Creative Developments

Next Wave runs a biannual Creative Development program in which artists or companies with a new performance project are offered up to two weeks of free space, along with access to tech, production and industry support. Approximately 30% of projects chosen were from artists who live in the City of Moreland. Creative Development artists and their works included:

- *WAISTD* by Rebecca Jensen and Sarah Aitkin was presented at Arts Centre Melbourne
- *Helping Hands*, by neuro-diverse performance group A-tastic was presented at La Mama
- *Possession* by Marcus Whale will be presented as part of next Wave Festival 2020
- *Famili* by Ripley Kavara presented at Midsumma Festival 2020
- *Birrup* by Ngioka Bunda-Heath, will be presented as part of next Wave Festival 2020
- *Wet Nurse* by artist collective 110% was presented at c3 Contemporary Art Space
- First International cross-cultural Creative Development, which included 4 Australian collaborators: Ngioka Bunda-Heath (Dancer, Choreographer); Zoe Barry (Sound Designer); Justine Campbell (Dramaturg), working with 3 artists from Singapore: Adi Jamaludin (Actor) Faizal Masjudi (Actor, Live Camera) Jeffrey Tan (lead artist, Producer).



20

Creative Developments



Image: *White Rabbit* presented as part of Critical Mass 2019

Critical Mass

For the second year, Critical Mass was presented in partnership with Black Dot Gallery and Siteworks as part of Melbourne Fringe.

Over two weeks in September, a series of live performance, film, visual art and multidisciplinary events rolled out in Brunswick. The selected participants represented a diverse cross-section of identities and artistic practices operating in Australia today. Bobby Vignora, along with key Next Wave staff mentored each artist to present their work, supporting artists heavily in the areas of production management, marketing, and media support. Additional support through in-kind space and tech for the presentation of works was provided to artists along with generous box office split and front of house support to realise their projects. Curatorial support was provided by Producer-in-Residence Onyx B. Carmine.

Highlight was renowned theatre-maker and performer Bron Batten presentation of Waterloo, a live-art performance that deconstructs the artists' fraught relationship with a high-ranking member of the military, and in the process, questions the deep-seeded constructs of our own human morality. Waterloo was voted the winner of the Peoples Choice Award 2019, and continued to tour to Fringe World Festival Perth and was nominated for Best Production in the Contemporary and Experimental category for the Green Room Awards Association.

Presented as part of Melbourne Fringe Festival 2019.

17

artists engaged

17

events

Anthrophony at Brunswick Music Festival

A collaboration between Edwina Green and Isha Ram Das Curated by Moorina Bonini and Kalyani Mumtaz

An interactive installation at Brunswick Mechanics Institute for Venues 3056 as part of Brunswick Music Festival, 2019.

In the field of sound ecology, the terms biophony and geophony refer to the environmental sound of non-human nature. When an ecology is health, its audience frequencies support one another and create a diverse soundscape. When anthrophony (human noise) disrupts this delicate soundscape, the entire ecology is affected. These sound ecologies are present in every area of the natural world. *Anthrophony* will place the audience in a hypersensitive environment where their actions have direct repercussions, in an evolving environment.

Presented as part of Brunswick Music Festival 2019.

2

artists engaged

188

audience attendance

100%

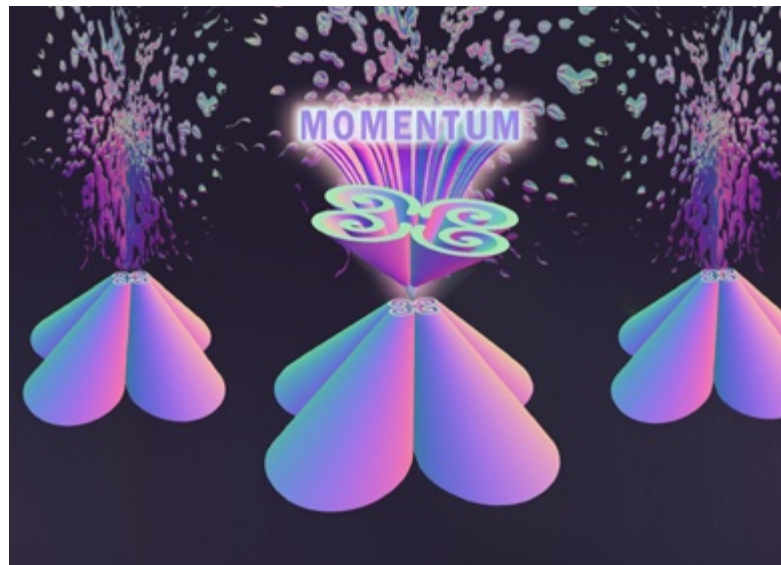
events

Momentum Next Wave's 35th Birthday Party

Momentum, was co-curated by Kalyani Mumtaz and Moorina Boonini. Developed with a futuristic provocation, the program looked to 2054, when Next Wave would be a black organisation that had taken over the world and re-centred ways of knowing, being, and healing through the celebration of creativity.

Inviting 9 artists to form a super-warrior Mob of Artists to reflect on their time working with Next Wave and re-work a project to highlight the distance between their past selves, their present practice and their visions for the future. These re-works were to highlight the distance between their past selves, their present practice and their visions for the future. Whilst keeping the cyclic nature of art and Next Wave at the fore, *Momentum* held the organisation accountable. This transformative take-over was joined by our friends from many Nations with their cutting-edge performance and musical language. *Momentum* was informed by an understanding of Next Wave being in motion for 35 years, constantly shedding its skin and hurtling forward without fear. As an arts organisation it being agile in order to be responsive and relevant. Informed by the Next Wave archive brought to life by yarning with Next Waves past directors, two of Next Waves Blak staff presented: a futurespective for Next Wave 35 years from now.

Participating artists:
General Feelings x Crdio
Kōtare x KYAANZ
Megan Cope
Timmah Ball
Mandy Nicholson
Tracey Rigney



9

artists engaged

520

audience attendance

New Student Precinct - Melbourne University Partnership

Next Wave's partnership with the University of Melbourne's New Student Precinct continued in 2019 where we were been tasked with curating artistic activations on campus and creating unique mentoring programs, involving students at all stages of their conception and delivery.

2019 activities included The Living Pavilion Program. pop-up, a film mentorship program, and installation of several large public artworks on campus by leading Australian artists. We were also able to offer student, Marley Halloway-Clarke an internship at the Next Wave Office.

Next Wave's partnership with the University of Melbourne will continue in 2020.

300

students engaged

1000+

audience attendance

90%

student led program



From left to right: Hugo Comisari, Dr Jeanine Leane, Indiah Money and Marley-Holloway Clarke.

Artwork: Indiah Money, Renegotiated Movement, 2019. Five wood panels, acrylic on wood, 600x1200mm each.

Image credit: Tiffany Liu, New Student Precinct Student Ambassador.

Our Values

Next Wave has an enduring commitment to social and environmental sustainability, cultural inclusion and broad accessibility. These commitments are enshrined as actions and protocols in our Sustainability Action Plan, Disability Action Plan and Commitment to First Nations Peoples.

2019 Sustainability Initiatives

- 2 Lab sessions on environmental sustainability delivered
- 90% artists reported higher awareness of environmentally sustainable practices
- 100% carbon emissions offset with Tree Creds
- Compost bin installed at Meat Market

2019 Disability Inclusion Initiatives

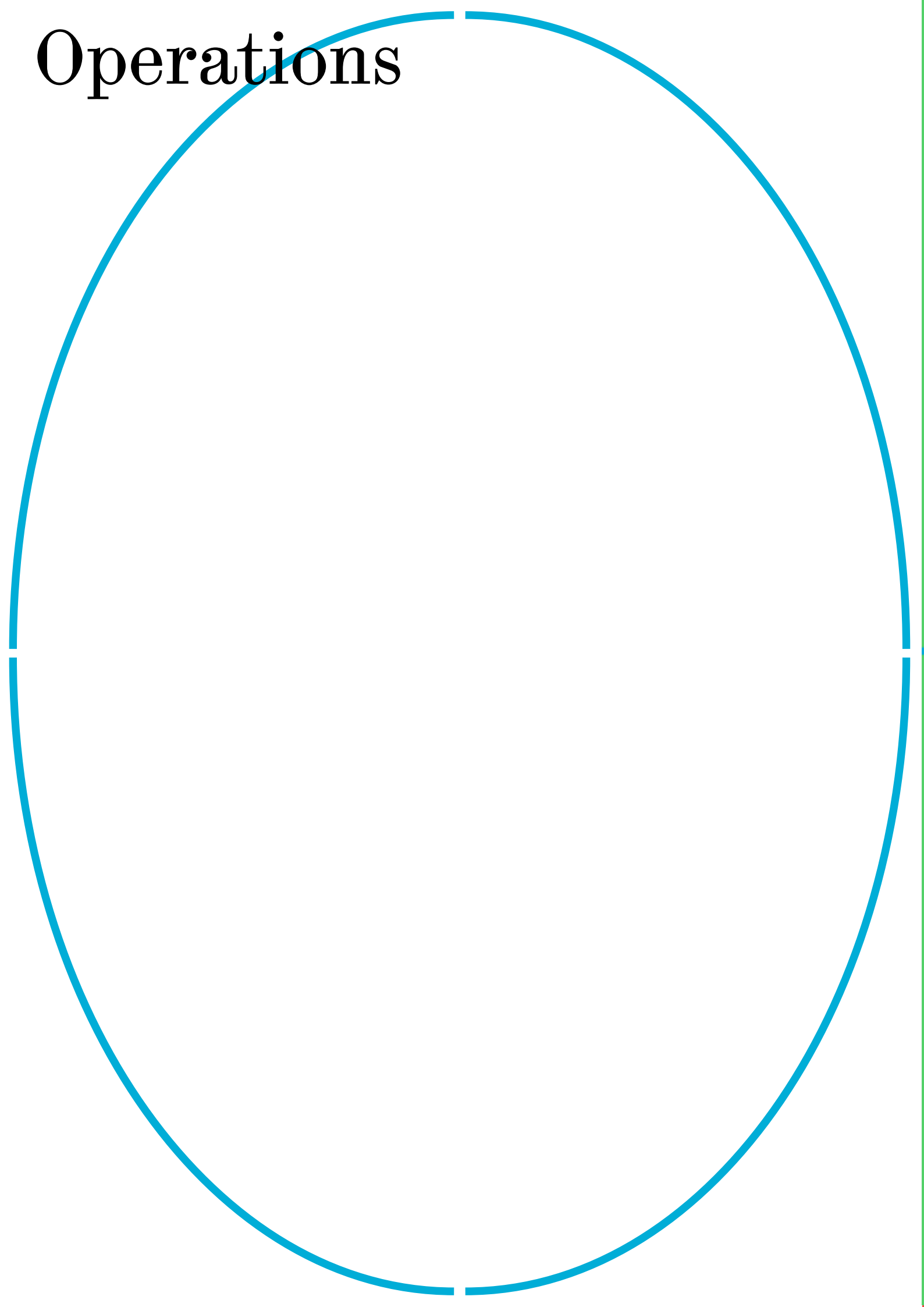
- 4 Next Wave artists with disability engaged
- 3 Lab sessions on access and inclusion delivered
- 90% artists reported higher awareness of access and inclusion practices
- Next Wave's Disability Action Plan presented at Arts Activated conference, hosted by Accessible Arts
- 5 staff members attended Arts Activated conference
- Partnership with Arts Access Victoria ongoing
- Next Wave rebrand included extensive consultation with Arts Access Victoria, with the following features embedded via an 'Access Toolbar' into the website:
 - o Auslan video instructions for using the website
 - o Plain view toggle
 - o Remove clutter toggle
 - o Screen mask toggle
 - o Text to speech function
 - o Mp3 downloads of selected text

2019 Cultural Inclusion Initiatives

- 5 Lab sessions addressing cultural inclusion delivered
- 90% artists reported higher awareness of cultural inclusion practices
- 2 consultations with Wurundjeri Land Council
- All significant Next Wave public events began with a Welcome to Country
- Budget allocated for cultural business, including consultation and 'Welcome to Country' bookings across all relevant activities



Operations



Next Wave Rebrand

Next Wave undertook its first organisational rebrand in ten years, unveiling a fresh new look across all digital platforms. Mike Giesser worked with Public Office to design and deliver a timely, recognisable and highly functional brand identity that embodies Next Wave's dynamic and multifaceted nature.

Next Wave conducted extensive consultation with Arts Access Victoria throughout the process, which resulted in a number of innovative functionalities across the website and digital platforms, and was lauded for setting a new industry benchmark in best practice.

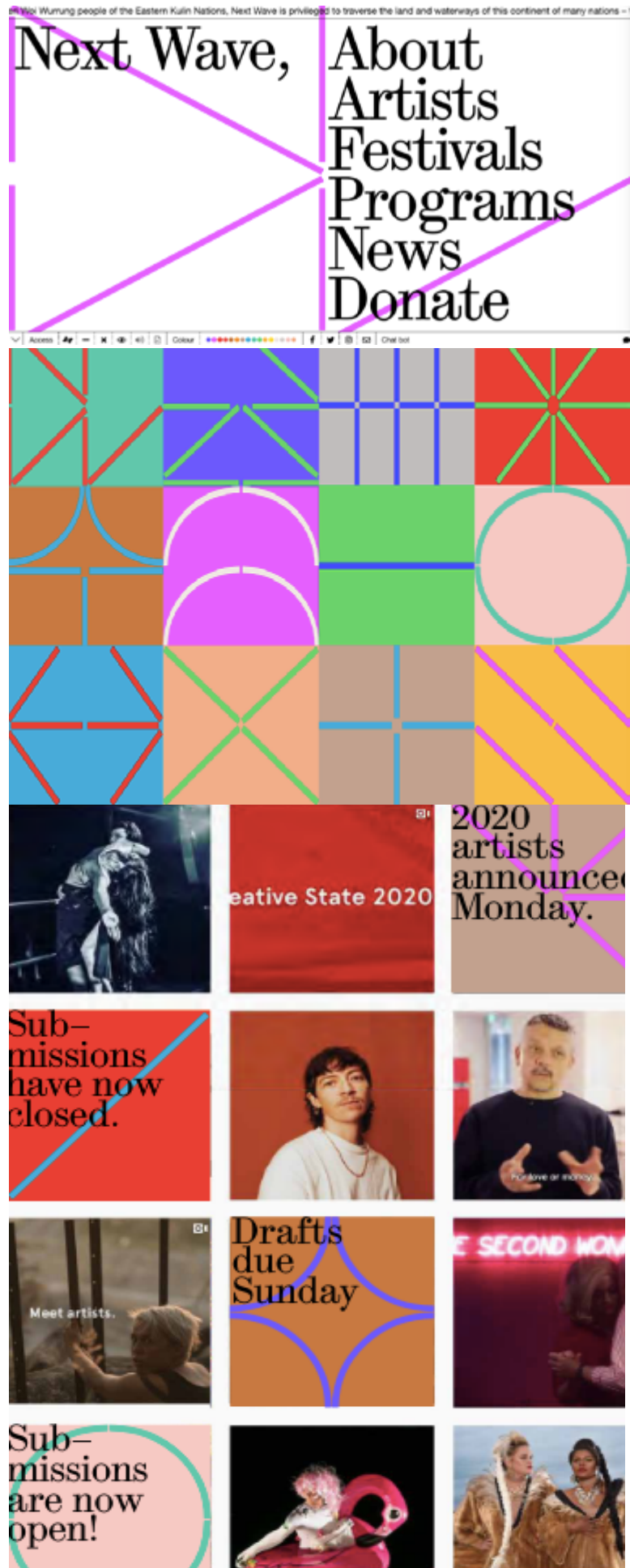
“Giesser devised a visual language that could come together harmoniously, then break apart again. Paired with huge colour palettes, he created something that is never static, encapsulating the multiplicity and pluralism of the arts organisation”.

– It's Nice That

“The Next Wave website, demonstrating great attention to accessibility, has incorporated the feedback of Arts Access Vic consultants with diverse access needs, to create a high standard of inclusion”.

– Arts Access Victoria's Access Development Officer, Janice Florence

VIEW NEW
WEBSITE HERE



Building renovations and Civic Launch of Brunswick Mechanics

From April-November 2019 Brunswick Mechanics underwent significant renovations to the interior of the building, maximising Next Wave's potential to develop, present and work within the space. Renovations included a new entry to Studio 1, inbuilt bar and foyer area.

Additionally, Moreland City Council redeveloped the forecourt area at the exterior of Brunswick Mechanics, creating a space for community to gather. This included footpath upgrades, landscaping, reclaimed bluestone and timber deck seating, new lighting upgrades and a rain garden.

These upgrades were supported by Moreland City Council, Gandel Philanthropy and Helen McPherson Smith Trust.



Producers in Residence

In 2019, Next Wave launched its Producers-in-Residence program, a platform for three First Nations creatives to develop skills in producing, programming and curating in the arts and creative industries.

Following a call out and application process, we welcomed Moorina Bonini, Onyx B. Carmine and Kalyani Mumtaz (pictured) into the team.

Working across both the Next Wave office and at Brunswick Mechanics, Onyx curated Next Wave's Critical Mass Program, whilst Kalyani and Moorina curated and produced 'Anthrophony' for Brunswick Music Festival, as well as Next Wave's 35th Birthday Party, Momentum.



Fundraising

Next Wave Collective

Next Wave Collective is a two-year giving program, where an intimate group of supporters experience

Next Wave's unique festival cycle from the inside. Supporters meet artists, are invited to work in development showings, receive invitations to events at Next Wave and Brunswick Mechanics, and support artists in the making of their work.

With thanks to: Stephen Armstrong, Kristy Ayre, Chris Cottrell, Matthew Fisher, David Geoffrey Hall, Bonnie Leigh-Dodds, Stephanie Kavall, Stephanie Lyall, Zackary McLennan, Vanessa Pigrum, Lara Thoms, Ishtar Vij, Janenne Willis, Lesley Young.

Matched Funding Campaign

To celebrate our 35th Birthday, Next Wave ran a successful matched funding campaign with assistance from Creative Partnerships Australia. We raised \$11,751 from 158 donors across a six-week campaign,

\$21,751

raised in donations

158

generous donors

Staff

In 2019 Next Wave farewelled Erica McCalman, Lauren Clelland, Susannah Day, Bonnie Leigh-Dodds, Sarah Werkmeister and Bobby Virgona. We thank each outgoing staff member for their immense contributions to Next Wave.

Next Wave Festival Staff

Roslyn Helper
Director/CEO

Priya Pavri
General Manager

Bron Belcher
Senior Producer

Sullivan Patten
Business & Operations Manager

Jacqueline Hanlin
Programs & Operations Manager
(Brunswick Mechanics Institute)
/ General Manager

Sarah Werkmeister
Marketing & Communications Manager

Anita Spooner
Associate Producer (Partnerships)

Magenta Sheridan
Administration & Operations Coordinator

Nikki Lam
Associate Producer

Alec Reade
Associate Producer

Emily Sweeney
Associate Producer

Kalyani Mumtaz
Producer in Residence

Moorina Bonini
Engagement Coordinator (First Nations)

Brunswick Mechanics Staff

Alice Muhling, Andrew Goddard, Ella Sowinska, Emma Lockhart-Wilson, Isabella Hone-Saunders, James Weryett, Jonathon Watts, Joseph Parro, Merri Leeworthy, Zoe Rabb

Board Members

Vanessa Pigrum
Chair

Nicole Smith
Co-Chair

Hinda Crosbie
Treasurer

Isthar Vij
Public Officer

Steven Rhall
Kristy Ayre
Stephen Armstrong
Lesley Gillan

Financial Report

Next Wave Festival Inc

for The Year Ended 31 December

Revenue		\$	\$
Artist Payments	2	1,141,976	1,320,290
Production expenses		(191,979)	(326,339)
Marketing expenses		(92,019)	(59,549)
Employment expenses		(46,615)	(129,506)
Administrative expenses		(659,900)	(670,117)
<i>Net current per year surplus</i>		(133,104)	(123,513)
		18,359	11,206
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
<i>Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the association</i>		18,359	11,206

Partnerships & Thanks

GOVERNMENT PARTNERS

Australia Council for the Arts
Creative Victoria
City of Melbourne
City of Yarra
Moreland City Council

TERTIARY PARTNERS

Deakin University
University of Melbourne New Student
Precinct

CULTURAL PARTNERS

Vitalstatistix
ACE Open
Perth Institute for Contemporary Art
Punctum
Liquid Architecture
Campbelltown Arts Centre
PACT Centre for Emerging Artists
Salamanca Arts Centre
Bleach* Festival
Metro Arts
Performance Space
Abbotsford Convent
Mabu Mabu

ACCESS PARTNERS

Arts Access Victoria
Accessible Arts
Description Victoria

HOSPITALITY PARTNERS

Archie Rose
Noisy Ritual
Mountain Goat

Next Wave is the most comprehensive platform in Australia for a new generation of artists taking creative risks. Next Wave delivers Kickstart, a nationally focused, artistic and professional development program, and major presentation opportunities through our biennial Festival and national partnerships program Next Wave X.

Next Wave also manages the Brunswick Mechanics Institute, a centre for experimental performance and artist-led learning, which enables us to support artists in the development and presentation of experimental work year-round.

Next Wave is a values-driven organisation and, advocating for cultural inclusion, broad accessibility and best practice in environmental sustainability, with deep respect for the traditional custodians of the lands and waters that sustain us, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.