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studio A

Annual Report 2018/19

+

Studio A artist
 Emily Crockford

Studio A

ABC Art Bites

Documentary





Thom Roberts in The National

Emily
Crockford's
Mural for
Westpac





Daniel Kim
wins highly
commended at
the Seed Stitch
Awards

Studio A's
international
collaboration
with One
Another





Studio A
features in
Time Out as
no. 1 ethical
design product

Studio A's
collaboration
with Spilt
Milk Festival



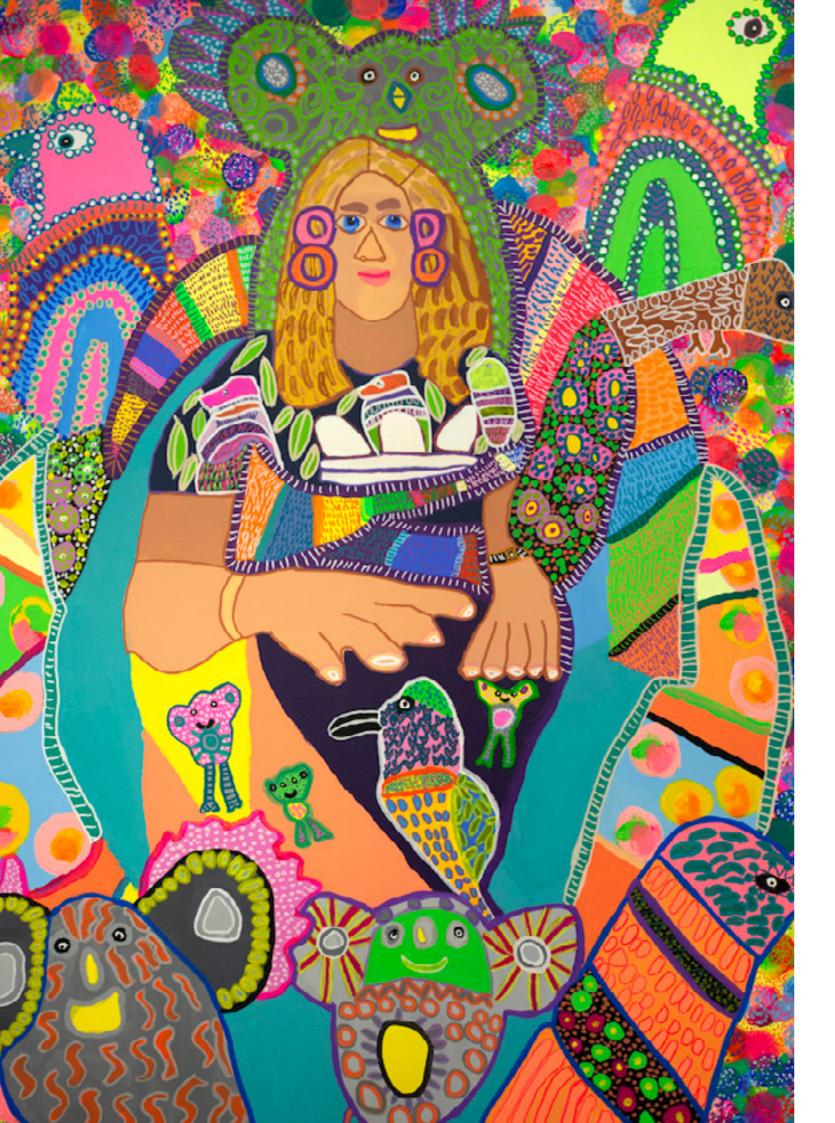


Emily Crockford in the Salon des Refusés

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Who we are

Studio A is a Sydney based arts company that makes great art and specifically provides professional development to artists with intellectual disability. We are the only studio of our kind in NSW. Through Studio A, our artists are exhibiting and selling their work, receiving commissions for new work and even licensing their intellectual property. We supply creative services to companies from Westpac to Sass & Bide to the Museum of Contemporary Art.

Studio A is driven to ensure artists with intellectual disability have a voice in contemporary Australian culture and to provide employment to our artists, they receive income when their art services are sold.

ABC iview is currently featuring a series of short documentaries profiling six Studio A artists. It is a great opportunity to see our work in action.

Studio A tackles the barriers that artists living with intellectual disability face in accessing conventional education, professional development pathways and opportunities needed to be successful and renowned visual artists. Our enterprise paves professional pathways for such artists so that they can achieve their artistic and economic aspirations.

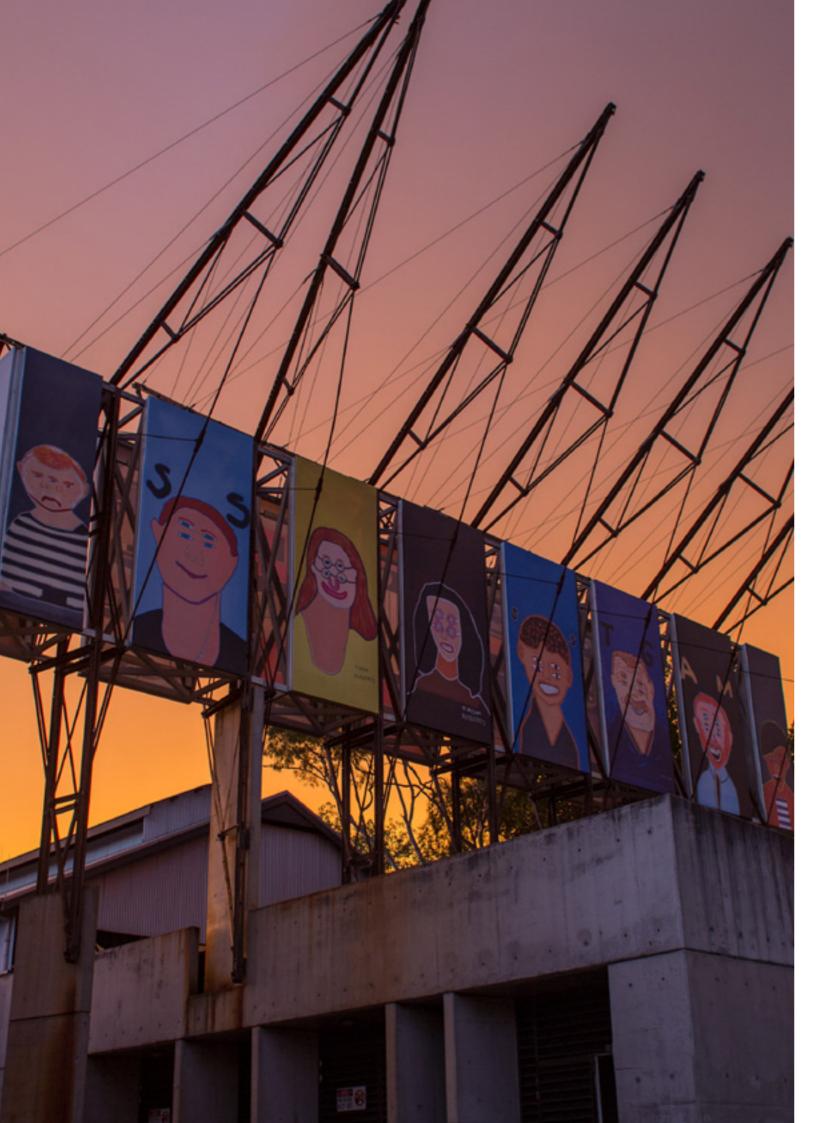
Studio A has an established record of strong/sustained creative partnerships and collaborations including Carriageworks, Koskela, Mud Australia, Erth Visual Theatre, Bearded Tit, Spilt Milk Music Festival, Kinokuniya Books, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney College of the Arts and UNSW Art & Design.

In 2015 & 2017 Studio A artwork was exhibited at the Underbelly Arts Festival and the Cemental7 Art Festival. In 2016 Studio A artist Peter Dudding was the first artist with intellectual disability to have a solo show at First Draft gallery in Sydney. Twenty Studio A works are held in Artbank's collection.

Carriageworks commissioned Studio A's multi-sensorial visual arts feast birdfoxmonster into their 2017 Artistic Program and in 2019 Studio A artist Thom Roberts is a curated artist in The National at Carriageworks.

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studioa.org.au



A message from the CEO



In creating Studio A I have always been motivated by the quality of artwork created by artists with intellectual disability and a frustration as to why this work is not seen by audiences. Studio A was conceived upon the conviction that talent and skill was not a limitation for our artists, it was lack of access to marketing, administration and art documentation systems that left our cohort of artists locked out of the art world. Studio A delivers the logistic support to empower our artists to extend their practice and to enable broader audiences to experience their work.

Over the past 12 months leading Australian corporations, media platforms, arts institutions and designers have commissioned, licensed and purchased Studio A creative services. Our artists' creative talent has been fostered and valued, proving that with the right support systems, artists with intellectual disability can practice as professionals.

Studio A artists, staff, volunteers, our tireless board, donors and every person who purchases or engages with our artists work is transforming Australia's cultural life. Together the Studio A community is creating a richer, more colourful and interesting culture.

Feedback in response to Emily Crockford's mural at Westpac Service Centre:

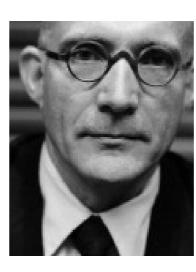
"Hi Emily, every day I pass your work and notice something new. I see a new perspective or pattern that brings so much pleasure to myself and all those who work in Concord. Thank you for making my everyday beautiful."

Gabrielle Mordy

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Annual Report 2018/19



A message from the Chairman



This Annual Report – our first – will give you an idea of the extraordinary achievements of Studio A since its recent inception: public exhibitions, public and private commissions, licensing of artists' copyright, sales of work, publications – it's all happening. The Studio is more successful than many thought possible and it is achieving this success through the skills of its whole team.

Our artists have special and different characteristics, but they share talent, commitment, determination and a great pride in being professional artists. They work in a dedicated way on their own art practice but also work collaboratively with their colleagues; they do so without cynicism, jealousy and they share the joys of success.

They are trained and assisted by their support artists. All people should have the opportunity to learn in ways that are appropriate to their individual capacities, interests and talents: one size does not fit all. Each of our artists receives bespoke skills training and career development which takes into account their individual capacities and aims. It is the extraordinary day to day work of Gabrielle, Emma and their team of professional artists and volunteers that helps our artists achieve their individual potential. On behalf of the artists and the Board, I thank this devoted team.

Thanks also to all those whose support gives life to Studio A: the tireless and generous Board, our supporters at the NDIS, Create NSW, Australia Council, NSW Government, Studio Artes (our mother-ship), donors, sponsors, public galleries and museums, collectors, commissioners and licensees. You all are part of Studio A and share the achievements of our artists.

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Shane Simpson AM

G - -X

Thom Roberts is a multidisciplinary artist with an intellectual disability who works in painting, drawing, animation, performance...He's a fabulous emerging

artist. W

Daniel Mudie
 Cunningham,
 Program Director,
 Carriageworks

The National

New Australian Art

Thom Roberts

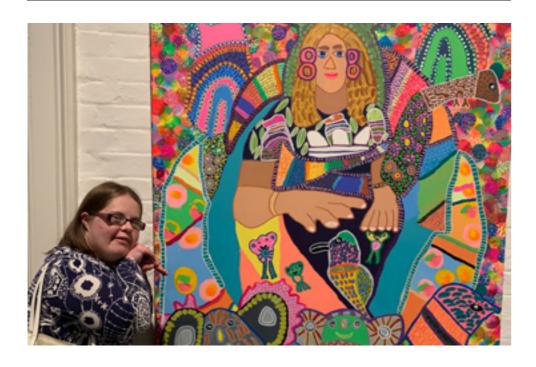
Thom Roberts identifies as a Studio A artist and a Countrylink Express train. Thom identifies himself and all those in his social network as a train type. He sees trains as people and people as trains. Accordingly, for The National Thom produced a series of 16 paintings depicting eight personalities, painted in both forms as person and train. The 'train-people' are friends, fellow artists and personalities that have left an impression on Thom. These paintings were captured and enlarged to looming proportions. The work now hangs strikingly from a repurposed truss at the entry to Carriageworks, 'a bedroom for trains' as Thom would say. As a train devotee this is particularly fitting.



Salon des Refusés

S.H. Ervin Gallery

Emily Crockford



Studio A artist Emily Crockford's painting, 'Funky Jungle Rosie in her Pom Pom Zoo', was selected for the Salon des Refusés exhibition at S.H. Ervin Gallery.

Each year the S. H. Ervin Gallery panel are given behind-the-scenes access to hundreds of works submitted to both the Archibald and Wynne Prizes. This year, the 'alternative' Archibald features 30 portrait and 23 landscape paintings handpicked by Cowra Regional Art Gallery director Brian Langer and S.H. Ervin Gallery director Jane Watters.

Emily, who has had a huge year with a number of major commissions, painted her friend and long time artistic collaborator Rosie Deacon in her Parramatta studio.

One Night Only

Australian Design Centre

Lisa Scott



On March 18 at the Australian Design Centre Lisa Scott presented an intimate showing of her very personal work. A delicate textile and text based dress inspired by the artists' lifetime of journal writing. Encompassing Lisa's vulnerability and courage, the work juxtaposes her fairytale dreams with the often unsettling reality of lived experience.

Lisa's mentor, artist Stella Rose McDonald, shared these words on the evening;

"Lisa congratulations on your night tonight. Your Dress, inscribed with the words from your ongoing journals, is beautiful. Thank you for sharing your life with us. It is an important act and one that many artists cannot do as fluidly and beautifully as you do."



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Studio A at

Sydney Contemporary

featuring Peter Dudding



Sydney Contemporary is Australasia's premier contemporary art fair, showcasing the region's largest and most diverse gathering of local and international galleries. Held at Carriageworks in Eveleigh the Contemporary was held from Thursday September 13 until Sunday September 16.

Studio A was curated into Paper Contemporary, Sydney Contemporary, featuring top modern and contemporary works of art on paper from leading galleries, print making workshops and art publishers within Australia, New Zealand and the UK. This year Studio A showcased the work of established artist, Peter Dudding.

With over 80 galleries exhibiting the very best in contemporary art from established and emerging talent it was an art event not to be missed. Sydney Contemporary was busy, vibrant and a lots of fun. Best of all Peter Dudding's work was well received!

'Lights Out Lover Boy'

Kimokumiya Sydney

Greg Sindel



In Collaboration with Sydney Contemporary, Greg Sindel took over the Wedge Gallery space and front window display of Kinokuniya Sydney.

Throughout the month of September, Greg Sindel's original graphic artworks and some large format prints were on display, giving fans an opportunity to get up close to his playful and brilliant heroes and villains.

Alongside Greg's original paintings were a number of his clever sculptural pieces and editions of his published graphic novels.

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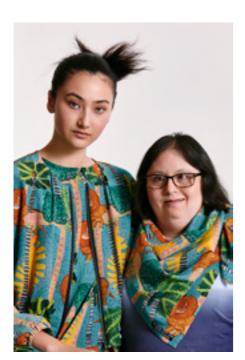
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I want people who see my work to be inspired. I want people of all different sizes and ages in all different parts of Australia to see my work on clothing, and I want them to know that I am a special and famous artist.

Studio A artistAnnette Galstaun

The Social Outfit







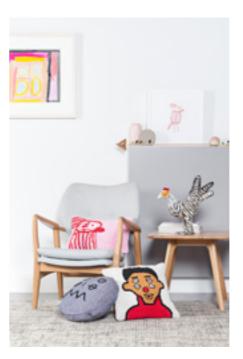
Galstaun

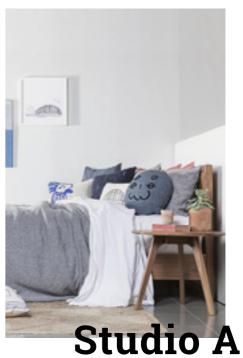
Studio A artist Annette Galstaun collaborated with The Social Outfit to design the Lioness print which is one of the highlights of King Botanic, The Social Outfit's Spring/Summer 2018-19 collection. The print combines motifs from two original paintings by Annette: Untitled (Lion and Lioness) and Under The Palm Trees. Annette's recent work depicts scenes from her favourite childhood fairy tales, movies and television series.

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One Another







artists

Studio A and One Another joined forces in 2018 to create a beautiful, socially conscious range that supported both Studio A artists and communities of women in India and South Africa. Original artworks by Studio A artists were reimagined using the traditional artisan skills of hand weaving and embroidery to create unique pieces that are rich in texture and story.

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Corban & Blair







Studio A artists

In 2018 Studio A collaborated with designers/manufacturers, Corban & Blair to create a suite of beautiful products where our artists worked directly on top of bespoke Corban & Blair product. The results were an exclusive range of diaries, wallets and notebooks. Corban & Blair collaborate with artists, designers and artisans to create products that are unique, authentic, and that tell our Australian stories.

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Bio Pak Art Series

Bi@Pak







artists

Artwork by Studio A artists Lauren Kerjan, Emily Crockford and Meagan Pelham was handpicked to feature in the BioPak Art Series cup collection. With sustainability and environmental conservation at its core, BioPak curator Kate Armstrong seeks out artists who explore environmental themes in their practice. The takeaway coffee cups feature limited edition designs and aim to promote the arts community.

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It was seriously such a pleasure to have Studio A, Greg and Thom a part of the event. I was so pleased overall...I think the calibre of the art put forward was incredible and it would be great to expand on things for 2019.

Jeff Drake
 Spilt Milk Festival Director



Months in the making Emily Crockford's beautiful 39 metre long mural for Westpac Concord was completed in October 2018.

Produced in collaboration with Group GSA, the design and colour palette was inspired by the natural environment and includes one of Emily's favourite motifs, the mandala.

Emily worked side-by- side with muralist Meg Minkley to complete the painting in just over a week.





Spilt Milk



Greg Sindel and
Thom Roberts
were invited in
November as guest
artists to the music
festival, Spilt Milk in
Canberra.

Artwork by both
Greg and Thom
was licensed for
large scale displays
to bring colour
and energy to the
festival and was also
commissioned to
share their artistic
talents with the
crowds.

Greg impressed with his super alter ego drawings and Thom fascinated with his crown readings.





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Guildford



This series of gouache paintings by Damian Showyin was commissioned for an apartment block built at Guildford in Western Sydney, specifically designed for people with disability.

Damian was singled out for his confident mark making and dynamic use of colour. The bright and cheerful works with a colour palette drawn from a wallpaper sample provided were commssioned to be hung in the foyer of the building.





3 The Japan Foundation - Level 4, Central Park
4 White Rabbe - 30 Ballour 52
5 Wellington 5t Projects - 19-25 Wellington 5t
6 Nanda Visibles - 12-14 Meapher 5t
7 Galerie pompom - 27-39 Abertrombie 5t
8 Sheffer Gallery - 38 Lander 5t, Durlington
9 Verge Gallary - Jane Foss Russall Plaza, Cry Rd, Darlington
10 Carnegeworks - 245 Wilson 5t, Eveleigh

A Sheffer Gallery - Jane Foss Russall Plaza, Cry Rd, Darlington
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A Sheffer Gallery - Jane Foss Russall Plaza, Cry Rd, Carnegeworks - 245 Wilson 5t, Eveleigh

A Sheffer Gallery - Jane Foss Russall Pl

Commissioned by Galerie pompom, Greg Sindel brought his illustrative flair to this postcard map design for art galleries in Chippendale & surrounds. The map can be found in any of the 10 galleries featured on the postcard. The result is a unique way to highlight all the great art happening in the area!



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Matt Kean

Minister for Energy + Environment



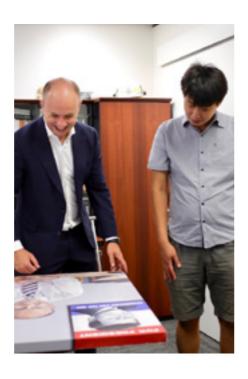
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Daniel Kim presented his painting of Matt Kean, Minister for Energy and Environment to the man himself at his offices in Hornsby in early 2019.

The development, painting and delivery of the oil painting was captured in the ABC Art Bites series episode that focuses on Daniel's practice.

With a number of excellent commissions under his belt Daniel has become a sought after portrait artist.





Props Collective









The Props Collective is a collaboration between seven Studio A supported artists – Emily Crockford, Skye Saxon, Damian Showyin, Phil Sidney, Guy Fredericks, Victoria Atkinson and Lauren Kerjan managed by Studio A's Principal Artist, Emma Johnston – who create ephemeral installations, decorative sculptures and performances for a variety of exhibition contexts. This series of Australian animal masks created by the Studio A Props Collective was commissioned by director Thomas Avery to be worn by actors in an upcoming film project, November 2018.

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I loved drawing people's crowns. It was a big surprise to see my Bert picture in the festival. It was massive, huge and I felt happy and proud. I want to come back down to Canberra and

do it all again. 🖊

Studio A artist
 Thom Roberts
 Spilt Milk

North Sydney Children's Festival

studio A



North Sydney Children's Festival in November of 2018 was a fantastic day out for everybody. Thanks to the incredible talents of Meagan Pelham, Skye Saxon, Thom Roberts, Greg Sindel and Emily Crockford the Studio A 'Bird Love Colour Wheel' was a big success! It was a hive of activity with children and parents participating in the various creative offerings provided by the artists.



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Co-Lab at Firs Dra



In celebration of Firstdraft's exhibition Paired, curated by Harriet Body, Studio A presented Co-Lab. Studio A Co-Lab was an experimental activation of the gallery space that involved much more than just looking at art. Visitors saw Studio A artists at work, worked with Studio A artists and became part of the work itself.



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Social Media

This year part of our marketing strategy was to increase our audience base and engagement by creating more varied and eye-catching content as well as allocating marketing budget for paid promotions across Facebook and Instagram.

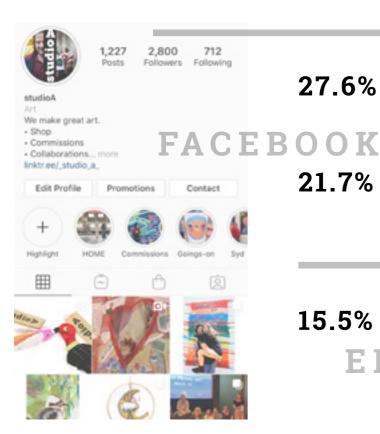
61.3%

growth in followers

INSTAGRAM

41.2%

growth in engagement



27.6%

growth in followers

21.7%

growth in engagement

15.5%

EDM

growth in subscribers

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Evolve

In April 2019 we participated in our second TWT Block Party, a fun and lively event that allows the studio to connect and engage with our local community.

The TWT Creative Precinct brings innovation and inspiration to the St Leonards area. Brand X is a non-profit arts organisation engaged to manage TWT Creative Precinct. It's focus is in the repurposing of spaces so that artists have a place to create new work.

The TWT Block Party is a free annual event of exhibitions, performance, music and workshops for all the community, taking over the back streets and laneways of St Leonards.

Studio A took over a garage on Atchinson Lane with the artists running workshops, making art sales and creating artworks live on site.





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Sometimes if people enjoy your stories and they say how much they love you and your talents then your self doubts have gone away. Sometimes fear is a great motivator.

Studio A artistGreg Sindel

ABC Art Bites Series

In June 2019 the Studio A documentary series produced for the ABC was released on iview. The series introduces 6 of Studio A's artists – Greg Sindel, Emily Crockford, Daniel Kim, Meagan Pelham, Lisa Scott and Thom Roberts. Each episode follows the ups and downs of an artist, tackling major creative and professional milestones as well as the day-to-day challenges faced by artists with intellectual disability.

CEO & Artistic Director of Studio A, Gabrielle Mordy said "One of the greatest challenges for Studio A artists forging professional careers is the common assumption that a person with intellectual disability cannot make great art. The Studio A Art Bites series boldly and importantly captures Studio A artists professional achievements and high artistic outcomes. The series plays a vital role in transforming limiting stereotypes and painting new progressive perceptions for and about artists with disability."





Directed and produced by Georgia Quinn, Studio A was commissioned for Art Bites, a joint initiative from ABC iview and Screen Australia and supported by Create NSW.

"Sometimes if people enjoy your stories and they say how much they love you and your talents then your self doubts have gone away. Sometimes fear is a great motivator." - Artist Greg Sindel, Studio A

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ABC Art Bites Series

Media Features

Four short-form

COCONTROLLUS MEDIA

COCONTROLLUS

COCONTROLLU



'ABC and Screen Australia
announce four Art Bites Projects.'

Screen Australia August 14 2019

creen Australia

through the

ABC and Screen

Australia's Art

Bites Initiative."

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ABC AND SCREEN AUSTRALIA ANNOUNCE FOUR ART BITES PROJECTS Lisa Scott who features in the project, Studio A Four short-form documentary projects have received funding through the ABC and Screen Australia's Art Bites initiative. In its third year, the initiative empowers creators to produce a 6

x 5 minute documentary series for ABC iview

"Studio A artists challenge the perceptions MSN etc."

society has of



'Crows Nest artists feature in new ABC documentary series.' Andrea McCullagh June 21 2019

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'Georgia Quinn's Studio A Documentary series bites in all the right places.'

Create NSW June 20 2019

those living with intellectual disabilities."

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Print Press



'Australian Made'. Jane Albert

Vogue June 2019 Issue really good

reflection of the changing artscape."

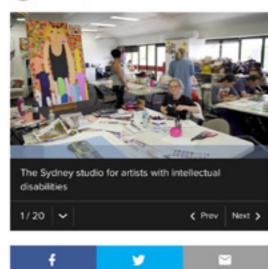
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'The secret artists behind Sydney CBD's building site murals.'

Sarah Swain April 14 2019







"[Ensuring]

Australia's cultural life includes truly



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TuneOut

Out Time

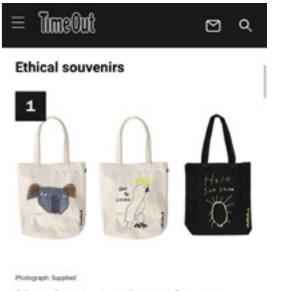


'This studio for artists with disability is turning out some of the city's best creations.'

Ben Neutze January 9 2019

'Ethical souvenirs.'

Emma Joyce December 11 2018



Koala tote bag from Studio A, \$45

Gabrielle Mordy, CEO and artistic director at Studio A in Crows Nest, says, "Studio A's limited edition range of totes features original

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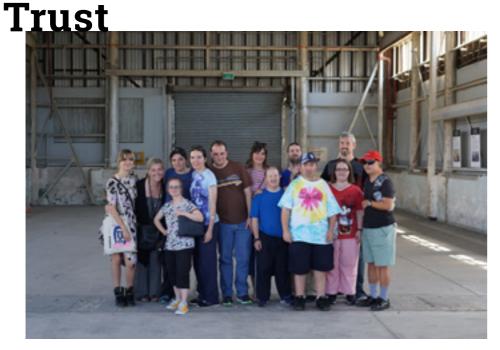
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Over the past 12
months leading
Australian corporations,
media platforms,
arts institutions
and designers have
commissioned, licensed
and purchased Studio A
creative services.

Studio A CEOGabrielle Mordy

Harbour







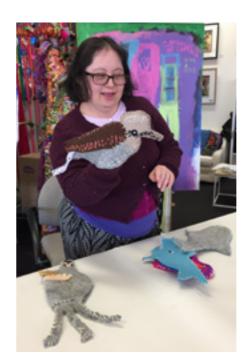
Home Exhibition

A curious name and an even more compelling site, Sub Base Platypus was the location for Studio A's major work in 2019, 'Home'. In partnership with the Harbour Trust, Studio A would be the first to exhibit in Retort House at this renewed site, formally a submarine base. In April the artists visited the site to develop and strengthen their concepts for the year's major work, set to open in October. The site is immense, beautiful and inspiring. We anticipate the work to be equally enlivening!

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Live Softly







Collaboration

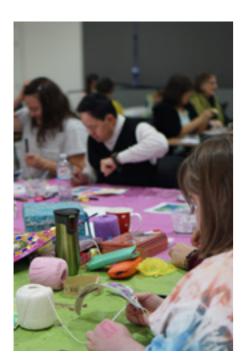
This year Studio A artists began the design and development of prototypes for a series of felted hand puppets. Inspired by Australian fauna the collection is to be produced in collaboration with social enterprise, Live Softly. Once the designs are finalised they will be sent to Nepal to be produced by marginalised and disabled artisans. There is lots of excitement about Studio A's latest range of design product, an ethical international collaboration that will see the employment of artists with disability locally and abroad.

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Peacock Gallery







Shops

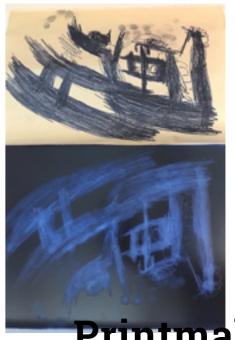
In early June seven Studio A artists took up a residency at Peacock Gallery Auburn. The early stages of the residency saw the artists engage with the local community through artist led workshops. The creative results of the community collaboration were brought together for an exhibition in the Western Sydney suburb in August.

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Hazelhurst Arts Centre







Printmaking Residency

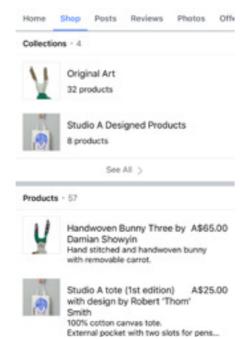
Over three months Peter Dudding developed his art practice at Hazelhurst Arts Centre as a resident artist. Under the tutelage of master printmaker Matthew Ablitt and support from painters Paul Williams and Kathie Najar, Peter was able to explore a new medium that is well suited to his graphic style and produce an exciting series of high quality artist prints.

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Shop online

Via Instagram













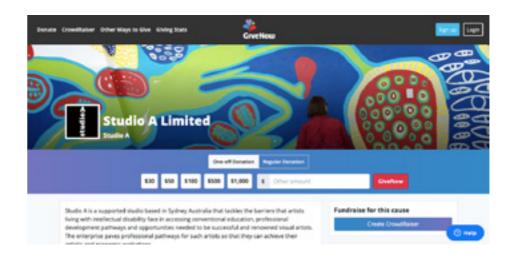
Via Facebook

Design product

This year we expanded Studio A's creative offering to include a brand new range of luxe totes and tea towels. The playful Australiana themed designs were created by Emily Crockford ('Koala' and 'Don't be Cocky') and Damian Showyin ('Helo Sunshine'). We also developed the ways in which Studio A art and design products could be purchased. Taking advantage of our growing audiences across Facebook and Instagram we built shopping functionalities across both platforms, linking our followers directly through to the Studio A web shop.

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New ways to donate



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Studio A Recurring Supporter

Become a securring supporter of Studio Al Your regular contributions ensure that our artists continue to make great act and create a truly diverse Australian art landscape. Recurring donations are tax-deductible.



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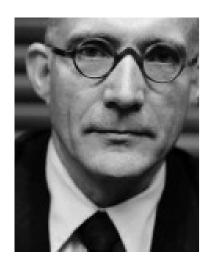
Donations are a vital part of keeping Studio A moving forward and based on feedback received from some of our regular supporters we implemented a recurring donation option and were accredited for inclusion on <u>GiveNow.com</u>, an Australian giving platform.

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Our artists have special and different characteristics, but they share talent, commitment, determination and a great pride in being professional artists.

Shane Simpson AM



Shane Simpson AMChair

Shane Simpson established Simpsons Solicitors in 1986. In 2011, the Federal Government awarded Shane a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for his service to the law and to the arts through leading roles in intellectual property and entertainment law, and as a contributor to a range of cultural organisations.

Board

Steve Badgery

Senior Marketing Manager - Business, CRM & D, The Westpac Group. Steve has breadth of experience across all functions of marketing, business planning and strategy as well as business development and project management. Steve has worked across various functions of Business marketing in the banking sector as well as previous roles with an Agricultural Investment Management Business with a focus on business planning, corporate advisory and asset management.



members



Kim Spinks

Kim Spinks is currently a freelance arts broker, project manager and consultant with particular expertise in government relations. She was previously at Arts (now Create NSW) for twenty years where she worked in a variety of positions including Manager Arts Strategy and Planning, Director Arts Development and Director Strategy & Capacity and for 9 years managed the state funding for theatre and dance.

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Lorraine Tarabay

Lorraine was formerly an investment banker in New York and Sydney specialising in corporate advisory. As a senior investment banker at JP Morgan in New York, Lorraine was responsible for the provision of advice (mergers, acquisitions, divestments and capital raisings) to many of Wall Street's largest companies including several multinationals. In Australia, Lorraine advised a diverse range of clients (public and private), as well as advising on various government privatisations.

Board

Barbara Ward

Barbara Ward is an experienced and qualified senior executive in the not-for-profit sector, with knowledge and expertise in the corporate service field including accounting and business administration. Barbara has been Managing Director of the San Foundation for the past 5 years. She is responsible for the foundations strategic day-to-day operation, which includes fundraising. Barbara sits on a number of charity boards both nationally and abroad and has received many rewards for her incredible work.



members



Dan Wright

Commercial Finance Manager - Seven West Media.

Dan is an experienced Chartered Accountant currently supporting the News and Public Affairs division at Seven.

Dan has also worked across media and retail sectors in Sydney and London. Dan gained his CA with Deloitte in Auckland in 2013 and is a University of Auckland graduate.

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Financial Report

	2019	2018
Income	\$	\$
Fundraising Grants Artist Fees Sales Studio ARTES Funding Other income	131,008 113,571 53,791 88,734 325,444 1,222	164,221 140,611 29,923 51,219 241,497
Total revenue	713,770	629,053
Expenditure		
Administration Artistic Studio	-64,864 -493,338 -65,934	-46,448 -450,657 -66,584
Total expenses	-624,136	-563,689
Interest income	680	715
Surplus for the year	90,313	79,547

2010

2010

Income

Where our funding came from in FY19

Fundraising

Donations and sponsorship made up 18% of our FY19 income and are critical to the success of our artists. We would like to thank all our donors for their generous contributions. The decline in donations received in FY19 is due to a large one-off donation received in FY18.

Grants

Create NSW is the main contributor of grants for Studio A. Income from Create NSW increased to \$80k in FY19 (FY18: \$70k). The difference in grants income between FY18 and FY19 is driven by timing of when grant money has been spent.

Artist Fees

Artist fees come from commissions, workshops and copyright licensing. These have almost doubled between FY18 and FY19 which is a reflection on the development of Studio A artists. This continuing growth is key to the success of Studio A as a social enterprise.

Sales

Artwork and merchandise sales have increased by 75% between FY18 and FY19, again testament to the development of our artists and the value placed on Studio A creations in the community.

Studio ARTES Funding

Studio A's program is supported through the work of Studio ARTES Crows Nest Branch, which is responsible for the support of the artists. Studio ARTES is a certified NDIS Service Provider and manage Studio A artists NDIS funding requirements. The increase in income is due to Studio A artists increase in participation within the program and an increase in NDIS rates.

350,000 250,000 150,000 100,000 50,000 0 Studio ARTES Funding Studio ARTES Funding

Expenditure

How our funding was used in FY19

Administration

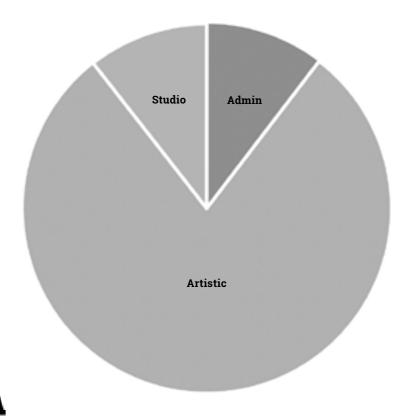
Administration costs are kept low at Studio A and represent just 10% of overall expenditure. This includes travel/fuel costs, accounting, audit fees and insurances.

Artistic

Artistic expenses are at the core of what we do and make up the bulk of Studio A expenditure. This includes payments to our artists, art consumables, framing/printing, artistic staff salaries and guest artist costs.

Studio

This is the cost of 'keeping the lights on' at our Crows Nest studio and includes rent, cleaning, IT support and depreciation.





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studio A

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