

# Curriculum Vitae – John Waller

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## 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

- 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 Fusetsu 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

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- 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.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