

OUTER
SPACE

Annual Report 2023



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Bridget Chappell and Debris Facility, *ANTENNA*,
Exhibition opening, 2023. Photo: Louis Lim.

↘ →
Charlotte Haywood, *FUTURE NOSTALGIA*, Exhibition
opening, 2023. Photo: Louis Lim.

Acknowledgement of Country

Outer Space respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land on which Outer Space stands, the Turrbal and Yuggera peoples, and pays respects to Elders – past, present and emerging.

We recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We acknowledge the 70,000+ years of creative and educational activity that has taken place on the land where we live, make, and present work. We aim to tread lightly and respectfully when contributing to this long history of storytelling.

Our Vision

Contemporary art is essential and thriving in Australia, ignited by experimental emerging art.

Our Purpose

To foster and sustain the Australian contemporary art sector by empowering emerging, early and mid-career artists with transformative opportunities to ambitiously develop their practices.

Our History

Founded in 2016 by Meanjin-based artists Lewellyn Millhouse and Caity Reynolds, Outer Space has grown from an artist-run initiative to an emerging contemporary arts space. Outer Space moved from West End to the Judith Wright Arts Centre in Fortitude Valley in April 2021. In 2020, Outer Space obtained Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) funding for the launch of a regional public art project across billboards, window gallery exhibitions and online platforms. Outer Space has also been the recipient of Arts Queensland Organisations Fund 2022-2025, and the Creative Australia Visual Arts and Craft Strategy (VACS) Fund 2025-2028, and is recognised as a nationally leading organisation. These crucial investments continue to support the evolution of Outer Space as a dynamic and inclusive contemporary arts space in Meanjin.



About Us

Outer Space is a not-for-profit Contemporary Arts organisation based in Meanjin (Brisbane). We collaborate with artists and arts workers to develop, make and present critically engaged creative practice in a supportive professional environment. Our exhibitions, events and programs welcome those involved in and curious about the arts.

Outer Space is committed to fostering a sustainable creative community in Meanjin that engages local, regional, national and global contexts.

Outer Space is dedicated to careers by connecting people with opportunities and creating a vibrant platform for open and constructive dialogues with art. We aspire to grow and diversify our audiences through compelling and challenging programs, a heightened digital presence and strong collaborative partnerships. We advocate for and support diverse artists and arts workers by guaranteeing fees, commissioning writing and documenting each exhibition to our distinct industry standard.

As we move into 2024 and beyond, Outer Space will continue to provide opportunities for creative development and artistic presentation that encourages the professional development of emerging, early and mid-career artists through our spaces at the Judith Wright Arts Centre. With support from Arts Queensland and Creative Australia across project and organisational funding, we look forward to growing our exhibitions programs through public programs and publishing, and expanding our professional development offerings to our community of artists.



Our People and Governance

Outer Space has a committed community of people as its backbone, with a broad scope of creatives and professionals involved in all areas of our operation. In 2023, Georgia Hayward, Keemon Williams and Tess Bakharia made up our core part-time team in the roles of General Manager, Exhibitions Assistant and Promotions Officer respectively.

As of the end of 2023, our organisational structure included a volunteer Management Committee (Board), a 0.8FTE General Manager, a 0.6FTE Exhibitions Assistant and a 0.6FTE Promotions Officer. The Management Committee (the Board) includes artists and representatives from the Brisbane arts sector, education and professional industries.

The Board works closely with the General Manager to develop and deliver programming that activates Outer Space's vision and purpose. The Board comprises artists, arts workers and those outside of the field (legal, governance, finance, architecture and marketing) ensure a diverse and inclusive approach to managing the organisation.



Danni Zuvela, Libby Harward & Dominique Chen,
Fluid Bodies, 2023. Photo: Louis Lim.

↳ Simone Hine, *Assets*, Exhibition opening, 2023.
Photo: Louis Lim.



2023 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Dirk Yates	Chair
Jacinta Giles	Secretary
Stephanie Mason	Treasurer (term concluded August 2023)
Reza Monem	Treasurer (term commenced October 2023)
Amelia McLeish	Board Member
Lauren Kelly	Board Member
Georgia Boe	Board member (term concluded October 2023)
Sam Harrison	Board member (term concluded October 2023)
Sandra Selig	Board member (term concluded October 2023)
Lara Cresser	Board member (term concluded October 2023)
Katrina Swanston	Board member (term commenced October 2023)
Sam Cranston	Board member (term commenced October 2023)
Emma Sczczotko	Board member (term commenced October 2023)
Brierly Broad	Board member (term commenced October 2023)
Sophia Sambono	Board member (term commenced November 2023)

2023 SALARIED STAFF

Georgia Hayward	General Manager
Keemon Williams	Exhibitions Assistant
Tess Bakharia	Promotions Officer

2023 CASUAL STAFF

Cassin Demnar	Install Assistant
Ebony Willmott	Install Assistant
Emily Grabski	Bar Attendant
Phaedra van Wersch	Bar Attendant
Sharna Barker	Bar Attendant

↘ Bianca Tainsh, *Intimate Organisms*, Exhibition opening, 2023.
Photo: Louis Lim.



This eternal body needs you. We invite you to intimately intertwine with us.

Flora, fauna, fungi and human coalesce.

Your voice will inspire this transaction of hum, talk, murmur, express...

explore the sounds of you, nourish another.

will be immortal? bond from.

in the cosmos of

body this encr

↘ ↓
Kyra Mancktelow, *Don't Read the Comments*, 2023.
Photo: Louis Lim.



Chair's Letter

Visiting the Museum of Contemporary Art in Sydney during the year I was impressed to see the representation of two Queensland artists that had previously presented key exhibitions at Outer Space at early stages of their careers. Showcased with four other artists as part of MCA's national survey show, the 2023 *Primavera: Young Australian Artists*, were artworks by Sarah Poulgrain (Outer Space exhibitions *A Set of New Skills* in 2019 and *Dreamboat* collaboration with Dana Lawrie in 2022) and Chris Bassi (Outer Space exhibition *Passages* in 2020). It was edifying to see the value and impact that Outer Space, as an organisation to support and foster the artistic practices of early-career artists, can have both within Queensland and more broadly in Australia.

Other alumni that have had significant representation in state, national, and international exhibitions in 2023 include Mandy Quadrio, James Barth, Tyza Stewart, Sancintya Mohini Simpson, and Dylan Mooney. The success of these artists, and the quality of their developing practices, is a point of pride within the local community. The assistance and advocacy that Outer Space has been able to provide to these artists – along with other artists, arts workers, writers, and audiences – is a unique role within Queensland that this small institution excels at.

Through the industrious work of General Manager Georgia Hayward, Exhibitions Assistant Keemon Williams, and Promotions Officer Tess Bakharia, in 2023 Outer Space delivered:

- Monthly exhibitions, supported by catalogue essays and artist talks.
- Façade projections on the Judith Wright Arts Centre.
- Exhibitions of emerging artist's works in the window gallery.
- The management of 6 artist studios.
- Professional Development workshops.
- A program of talks by visiting artists, including Archie Moore who will present work in the Australian Pavilion at the 2024 Venice Biennale.
- And Fundraising Auction to boost philanthropy towards the activities of the organisation.

It is a mighty output for a small team of part-time staff, supported by a volunteer board, at a regularity of exhibitions and opportunities for artists that is not matched within the state.

In addition to the programming activities, the collaborative efforts of the staff and the board in 2023 achieved:

- Confirmation of 4-year organisational funding with Creative Australia.
- Maintenance of the existing 4-year organisational funding, and 2023 program funding, with Arts Queensland.
- New financial planning and contingency measures around the program and operation budgets (with the first 6-months of the 2024 program to be self-funded).
- Confirmation as a Charity as part of our journey towards Deductible Gift Recipient status.
- Updates to the Constitution and other governance documents & policies to align with State Government reporting requirements.
- And assistance to Arts Queensland with facilities planning and input for future developments at the Judith Wright Arts Centre.

Through the support of Arts Queensland, Creative Australia, and individual supporters, we are recognised as a key destination, and stepping off point, for early career artists and arts workers to engage with audiences. It is a privileged position, of great responsibility, that the collective efforts of many individuals that have worked within the organisation are pleased to be part of and to progress for the benefit of everyone in our community.

Dirk Yates
Chair

General Manager's Letter

In 2023, Outer Space turned seven years old. It is hard to comprehend the impact such a young organisation has had on our local and national visual arts communities to champion the vibrant work of emerging and mid-career artists. Much of the integral and significant work Outer Space does, like many of our peers in the arts industry, cannot be summarised in KPI figures and quantitative metrics. Across our seven-year journey from an artist-run initiative to a small not-for-profit organisation, the artist-led program has remained at the heart of Outer Space.

We were honoured to work with 21 Queensland-based artists and curators, and 7 interstate artists, to present compelling and challenging new work across our two gallery spaces and facade projection projects. Our program explored a vast array of critical conversations; from topics of trauma healing and honouring cultural histories through woven, dance and resistance practices, to the plights of 24/7 capitalism and grappled with the emergent narratives and reimagined ideas for a more indigenous, more queer and more community-centred future. Another program highlight in 2023, was the launch of our Up Late series that invited senior and established industry professionals, Michael Candy, Lenni Hoffman and Archie Moore, to trace their beginnings in the arts industry and share their experiences and learning with emerging artists, curators and arts workers.

The ongoing strength of the organisation is in large part due to our incredible early-career arts workers, Tess Bakharia and Keemon Williams. It has been a privilege and a joy to work alongside them this year, and support their growth as passionate and visionary emerging creative leaders. I extend my overwhelming gratitude to industry mentors, Mariam Ella Arcilla, Erin Vink and Kirralee Robinson for their generous support of Keemon and Tess through their professional development in 2023.

As we move into 2024, the Outer Space community remains our focus. We are committed to providing transformative opportunities for both the development and presentation of critically-engaged art with emerging, early and mid-career artists and arts workers. Through our recent recognition as a registered charity with the ACNC, we are focused on diversifying our income sources and building our earned income activity next year, to ensure we support future generations of creative practitioners.

Georgia Hayward
General Manager





Objectives

As outlined in our 2023-2027 Strategic Plan, Outer Space's organisational objectives in 2023 were to:

1. Provide critical views of social politics through a strongly connected and relevant program.
2. Promote experimental art practices through an artistically vibrant program.
3. Advocate and support First Nations First.
4. Work with emerging, early and mid-career artists to professionalise their practices.
5. Build artistic capacity & connect networks.
6. Enhance critical discourse around our exhibitions program and broader ecology.
7. Enrich our digital engagement across diverse platforms.
8. Grow our cross-institutional collaborations & partnerships.
9. Maintain transparent & responsible governance.
10. Operate with financial stability.
11. Maintain sustainability in our operations.



Savannah Jarvis, *Surgical Fantasies*, 2023.
Photo: Louis Lim.

Activities & Achievements

Throughout 2023, we continued to expand gallery-based programs and professional development opportunities, alongside our core activities maintained from 2022.

Key programming highlights of 2023 included:

- 28 artists and curators paid to exhibit and realise ambitious projects
- 12 main gallery exhibitions with accompanying opening events
- 8 window gallery exhibitions
- 11 exhibition texts commissioned and published
- 6 Outer Space studio residencies in Fortitude Valley
- 3 Facade Projection programs
- 18 artists, arts workers and community members paid to deliver 11 public programs workshops and events for the community
- 3 professional development workshops
- 2 regional professional development workshops facilitated in Cairns and Toowoomba
- 1 industry collaboration with Brisbane Art Design (BAD) Festival
- 1 major publication to culminate the SUPERCUT project



Reina Takeuchi, *Oranges & other offerings*, 2023.
Photo: Louis Lim.



↑ ↗
Reina Takeuchi, *Oranges & other offerings*, 2023.
Photo: Louis Lim.

Key outreach & governance highlights of 2023

- Recipient of Creative Australia's Visual Arts and Craft Strategy Funding for Nationally Leading Organisations for 2025-2028
- 7,843 audience members engaged with cutting-edge contemporary experimental art
- 11% increase in digital traffic to 19,601 website visits
- 7 podcast interviews for Outer Space's platform IN-FORM
- 2 review published in *Lemonade: Letter to Art* and *Art Guide Australia*
- 32.8% increase in Instagram followers (4,835 to 7,195)
- Produced and sold Outer Space merchandise
- Became a registered charity with the ACNC, and commenced work towards Deductible Gift Receipt status
- Over \$25,000 raised at the Outer Space 2023 Annual Auction
- Supported creative development periods and studio visits with exhibiting artists

- Established access guide for Outer Space Main Gallery
- Professional Development for General Manager by Tarragh Cunningham from Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art
- Professional Development for Exhibitions Assistant by Erin Vink, Curator of First Nations Art, AGNSW
- Professional Development for Promotions Officer by Mariam Ella Arcilla, freelancer and Co-Chair of Runway
 - Community engagement at the IMA Market Day
 - Supported 3 work-place industry placements for university students
 - Established corporate partnerships with Half Moon Wine Store and Bunnings Newstead
 - Establishment of Employment and Conduct policy
 - Partnered with The Edge fabrication lab at the State Library of Queensland to offer professional development opportunities for volunteers
 - Established a strategic plan for 2023-2027

- Developed Board succession plan and Delegation of Authorities documents
- Staff and Board undertook cultural competency training
- Updated the Constitution to expand the Management Committee terms from a maximum of 2 years to a maximum of 4 years for sustainable governance and strategic management



Rebecca Ross, *Greater Sunrise*, 2023.
Photo: Louis Lim.

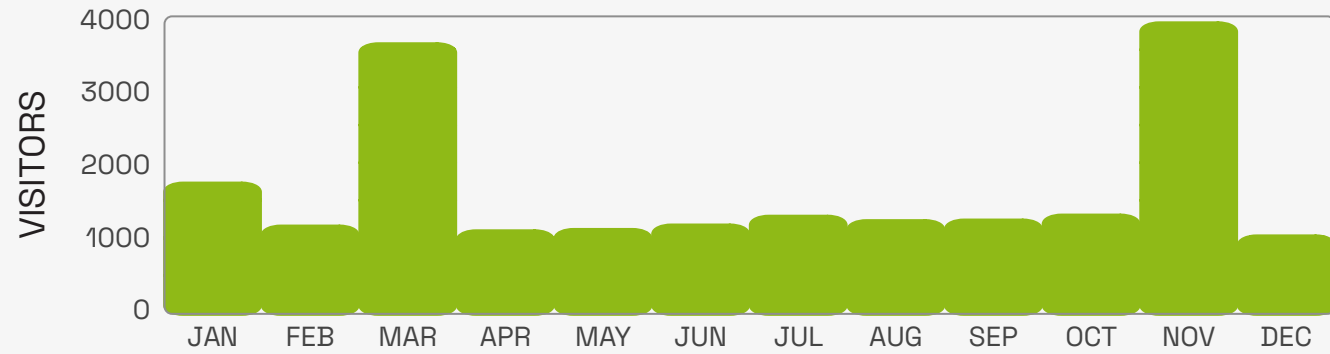


Rebecca Ross, *Greater Sunrise*, 2023.
Photo: Louis Lim.

Digital Engagement

Website – outerspacebrisbane.org

- 19,601 site visits between January 1–December 31, 2023
- Geography: Australia 87.9%, USA 4.23%, Germany 3.61%, UK 0.58% , Canada 0.28%, New Zealand 0.27%, other 3.13%.



Instagram

- 7,195 Instagram followers (32.8% increase from 2022)
- Top cities: Brisbane 37.8%, Melbourne 11.6%, Sydney 10.7%, Gold Coast 4.9%
- Gender (through a binary lens): Women 72%, Men 27.9%
- Ages: 25-34 36.5%, 35-44 27.3%, 45-54 15.1%, 18-24 10.1%, 55-64 6.4%, other 4.2%

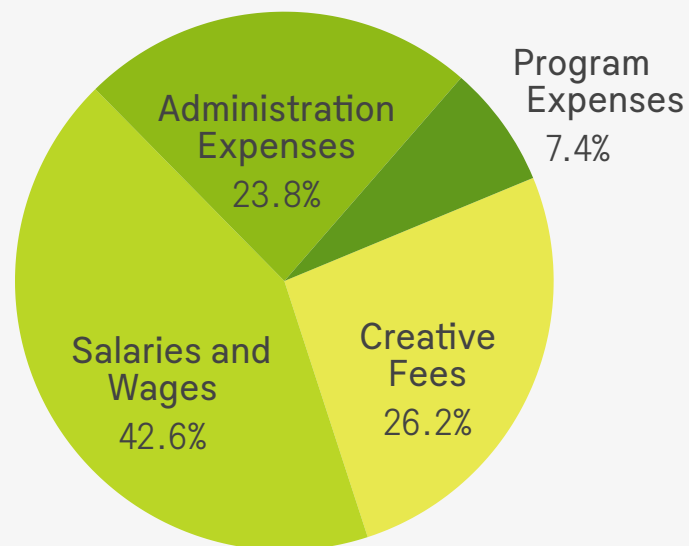
Financial Overview

Total annual income: \$363,810

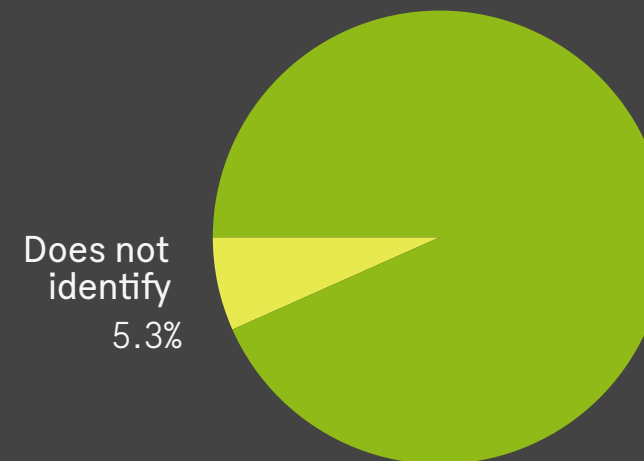
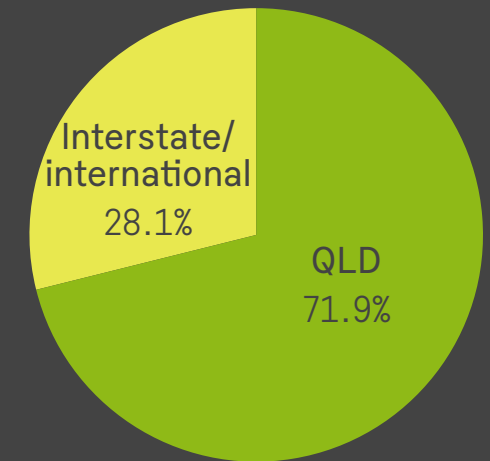
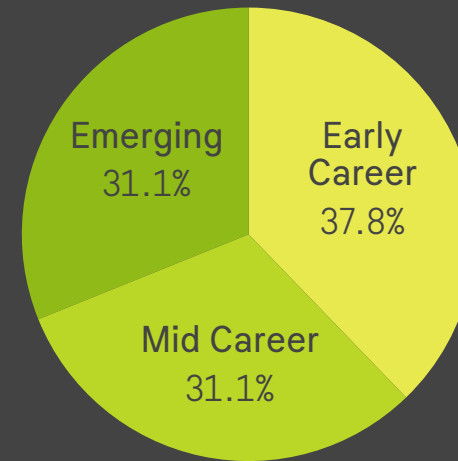
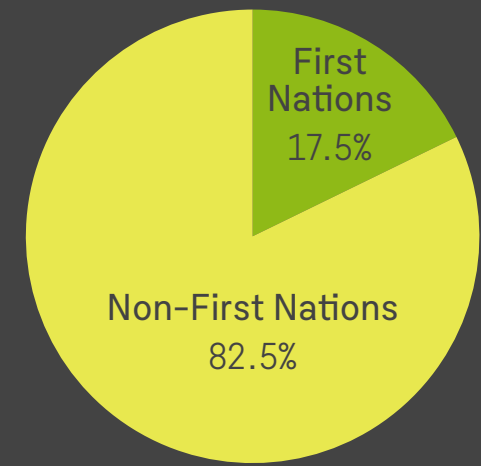
- 88.35% of annual income supported by grants
- Over \$42,000 earned income raised

Total annual expenditure: \$319,928

- Over \$83,900 expenditure on artists, writers and other creatives fees
- Creative Fees = \$83,950
- Program Expenses = \$23,518
- Salaries and Wages = \$136,395
- Administration = \$76,065

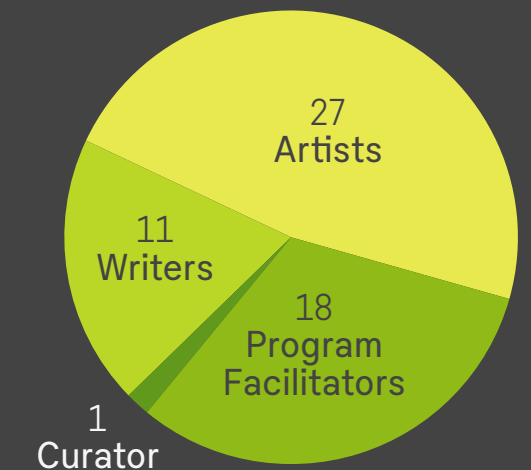


EXHIBITION PROGRAM CONTRIBUTOR DEMOGRAPHICS



PROGRAM OPPORTUNITIES

This graph is a representation of all individuals that have been engaged over the course of the year, however does not count for duplicated efforts.



JUDITH WRIGHT CENTER



Miguel Aquilizan, Jordan Azcune & Jessica Dorizac,
Material culture in a material world, Exhibition opening, 2023.
Photo: Markus Ravik.

Acknowledgements & Support

2023 ARTISTS, ARTS WORKERS & CREATIVES

Main Gallery Artists

Amy Claire Mills
Bianca Tainish
Bridget Chappell
Charlotte Haywood
Danni Zuvela
Debris Facility
Dominique Chen
Ivy Minniecon
Jessica Dorizac
Jordan Azcune
Kyra Mancktelow
Libby Harward
Miguel Aquilizan
Rebecca Ross
Reina Takeuchi
Savannah Jarvis
Simone Hine

Window Gallery Artists

Bindimu Currie
Darren Blackman
Merete Megarrity
Miri Badger
Morgan Hogg
Renee Kire
Tessa Bergan
Visaya Hoffie

Facade Projection Artists

Guy Lobwein
Jarrod van der Ryken
Zoe Wong

Regional Workshop Facilitators

Ben Tupas
Danish Quapoor
Keemon Williams
Kim Ah Sam
Melania Jack
Patty Preece
Peta Berghofer

Writers

Aniway Aquilizan
Danni Zuvela
Diego Ramirez
Jocelyn Flynn
Kieran Butler
Michael Do
Michael Winkler
Nicola Hooper
Sezzo
Tara Heffernan
Tristan Schultz

Public Program Facilitators

Amelia Mcleish
Amy Claire Mills
Anna Carlson
Bianca Tainish
Danni Zuvela
Debris Facility
Dominique Chen
Ivy Minniecon
Jordan Azcune
Karin Sellberg
Leif Gifford
Leo Woodfield
Libby Harward
Lucia Tường Vy Nguyễn
Miguel Aquilizan
Miss Gertrude
Rebecca Ross
Reina Takeuchi
Savannah Jarvis
Simone Hine
Tara Heffernan
Thv Flood

Professional Development Program Facilitators

Archie Moore
Leni Hoffmann
Michael Candy

VOLUNTEERS

We could not do what we do without the generous time and enthusiasm of our wonderful volunteers. We simply cannot thank you enough – we cannot open our doors without you! A very special thank you to our 2023 Outer Space Volunteers:

Alex Chadwick	Dru Handebo	Kay Deng	Renee Kire
Agatha Blaxell	Ellie De Caria	Lillian Whittaker	Sorour Fattahi
Anastacia Rashid	Emily Grabski	Lone Veirup	Toyah Robinson
Bella Strachan	Emma Kenward	Luca Masnata	Vanessa Pirsic
Bill Foley	Gavin Smith	Marcel Beatrix	Victoria Lenton
Chaelee Benny	Gemma Moore	Marilla Dallasta	Zoe Hawker
Claire Grant	Gong Shao	Meg Lonie	
Connor Andree-Evarts	Isabell Cort	Olivia Lapsley Scott	

OUR SUPPORTERS

Outer Space are sincerely grateful for the generous contributions of our 2023 program supporters whose support sustains the organisations vision to create a space for artists and arts workers to ambitiously experiment and develop their practices.

Funding Supporters



Australian Government

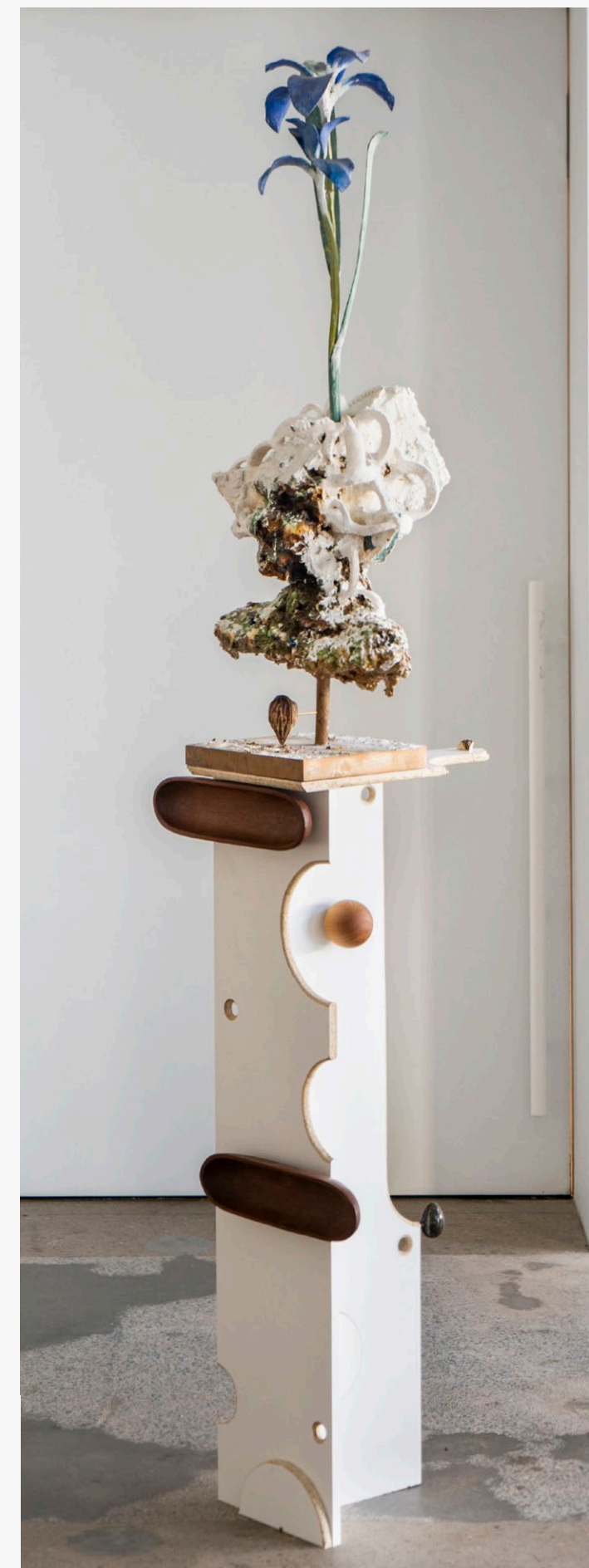


Corporate Partners



HALF MOON
WINE STORE

Program Partners



Support us

VOLUNTEER WITH US

Join our team of volunteers and help deliver our suite of exciting exhibitions and programs. To enquire about our volunteering opportunities, get in touch via email at admin@outerspacebrisbane.org.

BECOME AN OUTER SPACE FRIEND

Join the Outer Space Friends program and make your love for Outer Space official! The 12-month subscription program offers exclusive benefits to enrich engagement with the gallery, our artists and community. Open to all members of the general public.

Visit our website outerspacebrisbane.org/shop to sign up today!

BECOME A CORPORATE PARTNER

As our organisation continues to grow, partnerships with like-minded sponsors, collaborators, neighbours and supporters are crucial to securing a bright future for Outer Space. If you or your business is interested in collaborating with us, or supporting our programs, we would love to hear from you. Please email admin@outerspacebrisbane.org.



↗ →
Amy Claire Mills, *This will only hurt for a second*, 2023.
Photo: Louis Lim.



↘ ↙
Bridget Chappell and Debris Facility, *ANTENNA*, 2023. Photo: Louis Lim.



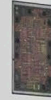
Aether
10re



Trance
Missionary



17
HEADS



10
HEADS



STATION GUIDE
87.5 - PIGS & DOGS
88.6 - VALLEY OF THE
WINDOWS
90.0 - NIGHT I
91.4 - RETAIL TELL
92.8 - 4.9VA.FM
93.7 - FATSHAUDI
94.5 - NIGHTWALK
95.6 - NYETTE OFA AGAPON

