



**The J. M. Coetzee Centre
for Creative Practice
ANNUAL REPORT
FY 2021 – 2022**

Director's Report

Over 2021 and 2022, as we have emerged from a period of hibernation, our focus at the J.M. Coetzee Centre for Creative Practice has been visibility and impact. To this end, we have presented a lively calendar of events; cultivated relationships with partners across the cultural sector; fostered productive relationships with donors and foundations; seeded and developed research projects; and substantially increased our student membership and student-led projects. A new Advisory Board was appointed in 2021 to assist in the next steps of the JMCCCP's evolution, including the development of a strategic plan.

Our calendar of events has unfolded under the theme areas of Precarity, Intermediality, and South/South, ably managed by JMCCCP Administrator Jana Norman in collaboration with JMCCCP members. We have established fruitful collaborations with the Adelaide Festival, the Coriole Music Festival, the State Library of South Australia, the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, the Art Gallery of South Australia, the South Australian Museum, *The Sydney Review of Books*, *InReview*, and the Adelaide City Council, and are most grateful to our philanthropic partners the Hackett Foundation and the Thyne Reid foundation, and also to our private donors for their generosity. I would like to offer special thanks to Dr Jana Norman, Professor Anne Pender and student member Ben Nicholls for their enormous contributions, and to Professor Jennifer Clarke and Professor Jennie Shaw for their ongoing support of the JMCCCP. This report has been compiled with the assistance of Professor Andrew van der Vlies, Professor Julian Murphet, Professor Anne Pender, A/Professor Meg Samuelson, and Dr Aaron Humphrey, and student members Ben Nicholls, Lyn Dickens and Gemma Parker.

Professor Anna Goldsworthy

JMCCCP MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the JMCCCP is comprised of some of the world's most illustrious creative arts scholars and practitioners, not only in their respective creative disciplines, but also in the innovative cross-artform collaborations that are the Centre's *raison d'être*.

Management Committee

Professor Jennie Shaw
Professor Graeme Koehne (Chair)
Professor Anna Goldsworthy (Director)
Professor Anne Pender
A/Professor Meg Samuelson
Dr Luke Harrald
Dr Aaron Humphrey
Dr Konstantin Shamray

Members

Professor Mark Carroll
Professor Brian Castro
Professor Jennifer Clark
Professor Dorothy Driver
Professor Natalie Edwards
Professor Patrick Flanery
Professor Jean Fornasiero
Professor Peter Goldsworthy
Professor Nicolas Jose
Professor Graeme Koehne
Professor Jenny McMahon
Professor Julian Murphat
Professor Ian North
Professor Jennifer Rutherford
Professor Catherine Speck
Professor Andrew van der Vlies
Professor John West-Sooby
A/Professor Carl Crossin
A/Professor Mandy Treagus
A/Professor Meg Samuelson
Ad/Professor Tim Gruchy
Ad/Professor Sally MacArthur
Dr Chelsea Avard
Dr Anne Cawrse
Dr Luke Dollman
Dr Ben Madden
Dr Matt Hooton
Dr Lisa Mansfield

Advisory Board

Professor Dorothy Driver
Professor Jennifer Rutherford
Dr Oliver Mayo
Mr Andrew Hunter
Professor Anne Edwards
Professor Anne Pender
Professor Nick Jose
Dr Melanie Bennett

Affiliates

Professor Elleke Boehmer
Professor Paul Carter
Professor Kurt Heinzelman
Professor Susan Sage Heinzelman
Professor Nicholas Mathew
Professor Kai Wiegandt
A/Professor Michael Halliwell
A/Professor Claire Roberts
A/Professor Jonathan Bollen
A/Professor Sally MacArthur
E/Professor Ian Gibbins
E/Professor Stephen Muecke
Ad/Professor Robyn Ferrell
Ad/Professor Steve Vizard
Dr Jonathan Bollen
Dr Steve Brock
Dr Shannon Burns
Dr Michelle Cahill
Dr Dylan Coleman
Dr Gillian Dooley
Dr Kai Easton
Dr Kerryn Goldsworthy
Dr Lisa Harms
Dr Barbara Holloway
Dr Rita Horanyi
Dr Eva Hornung
Dr Carol Lefevre

Members (cont)

Dr Maggie Tonkin
Dr Tsan-Huang Tsai
Dr Madeleine Seys
Ms Jill Jones
Mr Stephen Whittington

Early Career Researchers

Dr Aidan Coleman

Student Members

Ms Claire Charlesworth
Ms Jane Costessi
Ms Lyn Dickens
Mr Glenn Diaz
Mr Dylan Henderson
Ms Caitlin Merlin
Ms Jenny Molloy
Mr Benjamin Nicholls
Ms Gemma Parker
Ms Cheryl Pickering
Mr Alex Sutcliff
Ms Jane Turner Goldsmith

Affiliates (cont)

Dr Amy Matthews
Dr Racheal Mead
Dr Joshua Nash
Dr Ros Prosser
Dr Camille Roulière
Dr Gabriella Smart
Dr Carrie Tiffany
Dr Christopher Williams
Dr Sean Williams
Dr Annette Willis
Mr Hossein Asgari
Mr Ken Bolton
Mr Joe Chindamo
Ms Nicolette Fraillon
Mr Juan Garrido Salgado
Ms Chloe Hooper
Mr Lloyd Jones
Ms Catherine Kenneally
Mr Thomas Shapcott
Mr Tim Gruchy
Mr Arvo Volmer

Title Holders

Professor Andrew Gibson
Ad/Professor Terence Crawford
Dr Fran Bryson
Dr Heather Taylor Johnson

EVENTS

January – July 2022

After Kreutzer

8-13 March 2022

Theme: Intermediality

In this retelling of Tolstoy's *Kreutzer Sonata*, Anna Goldsworthy joined with celebrated violinist Andrew Haveron for a recital and monologue in Ayers House. Co-presented with The Adelaide Festival, this performance was sold out, with extra shows scheduled through popular demand. Reviews and endorsements were glowing, and preparations for a 2023 national tour is currently underway, including an appearance at the Perth Festival.

'Anna Goldsworthy and Andrew Haveron combine Tolstoy and Beethoven to make a powerful statement about obsession and the objectification of women.' *Limelight Magazine*

Olive Schreiner Influence

18 March 2022

Theme: South/South

Mandy Treagus, Nicholas Jose, Alex Sutcliffe, Dorothy Driver and Andrew van der Vlies, with discussant Susan Sheridan, traced new creative and intellectual itineraries as they tracked 'the influence and afterlives of Olive Schreiner', South African author and feminist, across Australian and southern African literatures. The presenters are contributors to *Olive Schreiner: Writing Networks and Global Contexts*, ed. Andrew van der Vies and Jade Munslow Ong (Edinburgh University Press, forthcoming 2023) – an output of the editors' South African Modernisms research grant from the UK Arts and Humanities Research Council.

The Waste Land at 100

22-23 April 2022

Theme: Intermediality

At the end of April, 'the cruellest month', the JMCCCP and the Department of English, Creative Writing, and Film jointly sponsored a celebration of the centenary of the 'greatest poem in English of the twentieth century'. The event, held in the State Library, was attended by a COVID-capacity audience of 50 members of the public, and featured an introductory lecture, a full reading of the poem in different voices, a musical performance of music featured in (or suggested by) the poem, a slideshow of images and places mentioned in the poem, a discussion of the poem's legacy by contemporary local poets (along with some readings of poems prompted by Eliot's masterpiece), and an audience Q&A with the presenters. The standout component was the musical performance, led by Konstantin

Shamray, which was exceptional in quality and very moving in context. Overall, a very successful and meaningful tribute.

Provocations #4: Hope is the thing with feathers

28 April 2022

Theme: Precarity, Intermedality.

Supported by the Hackett Foundation, our 2022 series of provocations on ‘radical hope’ returned to the innovative digital immersive venue, the Lab, featuring keynote presentations by Deborah Cheetham AO; Chair of the Commission for the Human Future, Dr Arnagretta Hunter with Kim Cunio, Head of the ANU School of Music; and former Greens senator, Scott Ludlam; alongside local provocateurs Joshua Nash, Stephen Whittington, Christopher Houghton, Thomas Moran, and Cheryl Pickering. This was a lively evening encompassing song, multi-media, the spoken word, improvisational theatre, and music composition. Selected papers will be published in a special edition of *The Sydney Review of Books* in August 2022.

The Sense of an Ending

21-22 May 2022

Theme: Intermediality

In *The Sense of an Ending*, the JMCCCP joined forces with the Coriole Music Festival to bring together some of Australia’s finest musicians for an exploration of Late Style, along with a public talk by Professor Julian Murphet, pianist Paavali Jumppanen, broadcaster Andrew Ford and JMCCCP Director Anna Goldsworthy. Of special significance to the JMCCCP was the world premiere of ‘The Blessing’ by Andrew Ford, with a new libretto by the Centre’s patron, J.M. Coetzee, based on his celebrated novel *Elizabeth Costello*, directed by Mitchell Butel and performed by mezzo-soprano Elizabeth Campbell and oboist Celia Craig. Planning for further performances is underway, both at the Melbourne Recital Centre and in Europe. The festival was highly acclaimed, and sold out. It was recorded by the MBS network for subsequent broadcast, and received glowing reviews.

‘This unique festival showcased some ingenious programming, including two impressive new works by Andrew Ford and Anne Cawrse... Andrew Ford’s commissioned 25-minute work, *The Blessing*, sets a section from Nobel laureate JM Coetzee’s novel *Elizabeth Costello* – and what an ingenious piece it is....This performance was a true tour de force...With *The Blessing*, Ford and Coetzee have created something that is virtuosic, inventive and above all highly appealing.’ *Limelight Magazine*

Bedtime stories

2 June 2022

Theme: Precarity

In this public forum, writer Chloe Hooper discussed her new memoir about her partner Don Watson's cancer diagnosis, *Bedtime Story*, with JMCCCP member, Peter Goldsworthy, who is currently working on his own cancer memoir, *Finishing School*. Hosted by JMCCCP title holder Heather Taylor Johnson, this was a thought-provoking and moving evening, featuring two of Australia's most prominent writers. The JMCCCP also supported Chloe Hooper's appearance at the Creative Writing Seminar on Friday June 3.

She Speaks

1-2 July 2022

Theme: Intermediality

The J.M. Coetzee Centre for Creative Practice joined the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra for a weekend of performance and discussion celebrating female voices in music. In this event of national significance, co-curated by JMCCCP member Anne Cawrse and Anna Goldsworthy, staff and students of the Elder Conservatorium of Music joined the musicians of the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra and guest artists for an enlivening weekend of conversation, chamber music, symphonies and song. The weekend was recorded by ABC Classic for future broadcast, and received unanimously positive reviews.

'A festival of exceptional quality...The curators should be commended on both the quality of this particular program and their wider contribution to shifting the direction of classical music in Adelaide.' *Limelight Magazine*

'*She Speaks* festival has sought to blow away long-held myths and prejudices surrounding women in the musical professions, and to restore to the stage many significant works by female composers.' *InDaily*

EVENTS

July – December 2021

Talking Pictures and Artists in Conversation

17-18 September 2021

Theme: Intermediality

The JMCCCP collaborated with the Papercuts Comics Festival to host two events celebrating comics and graphic storytelling. Talking Pictures featured nine cartoonists performing live readings of autobiographical comics created specifically for the event, thematically linked to the topic of food, and touching the way food connects with personal identities, cultural and history. Artists in Conversation was a panel discussion between acclaimed graphic novelists, including Ariel Slamet Ries (*Witchy*), Brenton E McKenna (*Ubbys Underdogs*), Jason Pamment (*Treasure in the Lake*) and Safdar Ahmed (*Still Alive*), chaired by Georgina Chadderton (*Oh Brother*).

William Barnes Concert

10 October 2021

Theme: Intermediality

Presented by Dr Gillian Dooley, Professor Tom Burton and Alex Roose, this event focussed on the poetry of William Barnes through a selection of readings and settings of his work, such as Vaughan Williams's *Liden Lea*, for instance.

Symposium: Art and the Republic: The Case for Aesthetic Education

24-25 November 2021

Theme: Precarity

This international symposium brought together a range of experts and practitioners to respond to a crisis of learning in primary/secondary and tertiary settings in Australian education. It did so on the basis of a theorization of learning untried in the Australian context, which it calls 'aesthetic education.' Participants included Professor Tim Mehigan from the University of Queensland; Professor Nicholas Mathew from the University of California at Berkeley; Professor Justin O'Connor from the University of South Australia; and JMCCCP members Dr Maggie Tonkin, Professor Anne Pender and Professor Anna Goldsworthy. Its purpose was partly planning for a future Centre of Excellence bid (see 'Ongoing Projects', below).

Southern Waters: A Creative and Critical Symposium

1-3 December 2021

Theme: South/South

The JMCCCP partnered with the ASAL Patrons Readings program to present Southern Waters: A Creative and Critical Symposium, featuring readings, performances and conversations by an exhilarating range of writers, scholars, pianists, dancers and choreographers from Australia and Africa. The symposium reflected on the resonant ways in

which water, both salty and fresh, describes and sounds the South, and the pressure that water – or its absence – places on creative form and critical thought. Members of the organising team – Meg Samuelson, Mandy Treagus, Maggie Tonkin, Matthew Hooton, Madeleine Seys, Theodora Galanis and Nicholas Jose – are co-authoring a book based on the symposium with Jana Norman, and, with JMCCCP affiliate Kai Easton, are preparing a major follow-on event: ‘Southern Spaces 23’ will host the 2021 Nobel Laureate Abdulrazak Gurnah, celebrate the 20 year anniversary of JMCCCP Patron JM Coetzee’s Nobel Prize, and convene a suite of literary events and provocations with leading writers and public intellectuals addressing the critical contexts of our times from southern vantage points across Australasia, Africa, the Indian Ocean and the Pacific.

ONGOING PROJECTS

Members and affiliates of the J.M. Coetzee Centre for Creative Practice bring their collaborative creativity and research expertise to a range of ongoing initiatives.

Creative Education

Theme: Precarity

Key members of the JMCCCP including Anna Goldsworthy and Anne Pender are working towards submission of an ARC Centre of Excellence bid for the next round of funding in 2026 in which the JMCCCP would be a node. As mentioned above, they hosted an international symposium on the topic of 'Aesthetic Education' in November 2021, after hosting a preparatory reading group on creative practice and contemporary society. Goldsworthy and Pender are Chief Investigators on an ARC Discovery project application led by Professor Tim Mehigan at UQ for funding in 2023 under the title 'Creative Education: Rethinking the Humanities in the Contemporary University'. They are also working on a small pilot project with Associate Professor Mathew White (Education) on 'Arts Education and Wellbeing in Australian Education'. A second symposium will be hosted at UG in September 2022.

Building Memories

Theme: Intermediality

The Buildings Memories project is an exciting collaboration between researchers in the School of Humanities and the School of Architecture. Researchers on the project are currently building historical virtual reality models of two culturally significant buildings in Adelaide: the Adelaide Cyclorama which existed on Hindley Street at the turn of the last century, and the Bonython House designed and built by famed local architect John Chappell in 1965. These two case studies that will be used to develop the research pipeline and further provide immersive VR models to experience the historical, architectural, and cultural reconstructions. The models will allow users to explore the historical records of these buildings through an experience akin to 'time travelling.' The transformation of historical records into immersive spatio-temporal recreations is a significant research output in its own

right. Public demonstration of the models will generate further publicity for the research. The project is led by Dr Aaron Humphrey, with team members Dr. Amit Srivastava, Associate Professor Edward Palmer, Dr. James Curry, Meherzad Shroff, Steve Cook and Benjamin Nichols.

Rebooting the Muse

Theme: Precarity/Intermediality

JMCCCP members Mark Carroll, Luke Harrald and Anna Goldsworthy are chief investigators with Clemence Due for an ARC Linkage project 'Rebooting the Muse: Post-COVID-19 sustainability in the performing arts'. Rebooting the Muse advocates new ways of tackling the urgent challenges facing the Australian performing arts in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and climate change emergency, with partner organisations the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra; State Theatre Company of South Australia; Patch Theatre, and Light Cultural Foundation. In the second half of 2022, Luke Harrald presents 'Rupture' with the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, while Anna Goldsworthy presents a series of recitals with Seraphim Trio for Illuminate Adelaide. In September 2022, the JMCCCP mini-festival PianoLab, supported by the Thyne Reid Foundation, will also be investigated as part of this examination, with findings relevant to performing arts organisations and cultural policy.

JMCCCP First Nations Fellowship

Theme: South/South

Sponsored by Melanie Bennett and Hugo Stephenson, the JMCCCP First Nations Fellowships support the production of new work by First Nations artists, awarded to a creative writer and musician in alternate years, beginning with a writer in 2022. The Fellowship comprises \$10 000, and office space at the JMCCCP. The Fellow will also be invited to engage with our neighbours on the North Terrace Cultural Precinct, by exploring and researching the collections of the South Australian Museum, or by participating in the programs of the Art Gallery of South Australia, particularly those scheduled around Tarnanthi, Reconciliation week and NAIDOC week.

Podcast Series

Theme: Intermediality

Anna Goldsworthy interviews writers on the music that has been their inspiration, and musicians on books that have inspired them, in a series of discussions focussing on craft. Six episodes have now been recorded and are currently in production, featuring musicians Adam Page, Deborah Cheetham and Paavali Jumppanen, and writers Chloe Hooper, Humphrey Bower and Peter Goldsworthy. The episodes will be available in the second half of the year through the JMCCCP website, and through other podcast platforms. Produced by Steven Love, with theme music by Adam Page.

The African Library

Theme: South/South

The African Library is a virtual reading group and online platform hosted by JMCCCP member Associate Professor Meg Samuelson. It will be launched in the second semester of 2022 in partnership with *InReview* and will comprise bi/monthly reading group meetings introduced by invited speakers, including from Africa and Australia, along with commissioned reviews of recently published works.

STUDENT MEMBER PROJECTS

The J.M. Coetzee Centre for Creative Practice boasts an active and innovative student cohort who in addition to their own research and creative practice collaborate in the creation of public and student-oriented events and publications.

Saltbush Review

The Saltbush Review is a digital journal founded in 2021 by JMCCCP student members Lyn Dickens and Gemma Parker and is based on Kaurna land/Adelaide. The journal publishes literary fiction, poetry, and creative non-fiction. *The Saltbush Review* recently launched its second issue under the theme of LAND. This issue builds on the success of Issue 1 and again showcases a wonderful selection of work from talented local, national, and international writers. Managing Editors Lyn Dickens and Gemma Parker recently applied to Arts SA for a grant that will allow the journal to pay contributors and editors for their work, as well as funding to develop *The Saltbush Review* so that it can continue to provide opportunities for local and emerging writers and editors.

Raining Poetry in Adelaide

The annual winter poetry festival run under the auspices of the JMCCCP is going ahead again this year. The poems have been selected, the paint has arrived from the US, and the stencils have all been cut locally. The tagging is set to commence shortly. As in previous years, the launch event will feature selected poets reading their work as part of *No Wave's* monthly poetry reading series. This will take place on Wednesday 4 August at the Wheatsheaf Hotel. The festival is managed by volunteer postgraduate students at the University of Adelaide and is funded with a grant from the City of Adelaide Council. The online maps from previous years have reached tens of thousands of people, and RPIA's social media pages are followed by nearly 2 000 people. This extraordinary community engagement is a legacy of the festival's five previous iterations and the dedication of the student volunteers to not only run the event but to support new students in taking part and carrying it on.

blooming poetry

An offshoot of RPIA, this is a pilot project run by JMCCCP student members Clare Charlesworth and Ben Nicholls alongside Jacob Sunter. The team has developed a method for planting words, and are in negotiations to deploy this system at scale so that entire poems

can be planted. The project recently won the University Student category of the Adelaide Park Lands Association's Poster Design Competition, Unpaving Paradise. Current plans for this cooperative, public, and fundamentally green medium include collaborative poetic works on climate anxiety.

recomposed

recomposed is a new free improvisation group bootstrapping instruments from items otherwise kicked to the kerb. The ensemble moves beyond canned music (although cans will be used) and champions music's non-economic value, especially its social capital and creative vistas. This pilot project is about forging new sounds and sound-makers within a collaborative community. Fundamental to *recomposed* is the idea that all musical activity encodes modes of organisation. In the group's free improvisation sessions, the fluctuation between collaborative musicking and its opposite charts a continuum of possible relations between the individual and the group. Looking forward, the group plans to help establish similar ensembles elsewhere in the city and state, as well as to run programs during school holidays. In addition, very rudimentary recordings of the sessions have been made, to be published online as repository of these musical and organisational experiments.

Student Salon

Co-curated by JMCCCP student members Dylan Henderson and Benjamin Nicholls, this is a monthly meeting where ideas can constructively interfere to create new patterns of thought. The Student Salon has held three sessions, and is currently running a series on reference texts within various epistemological frameworks. The direction of the Salon has emerged organically from the monthly discussions, beginning with J.M. Coetzee's *Disgrace*. The Salon embraces a sort of wide-eyed intellectual openness, and relishes ideas from across academic and artistic domains. Above all, the Salon works as a motivation to move beyond niche interests, and to promote/provoke that fundamental element of intellectual community: conversation.

FINANCIAL REPORT

JMCCCP July 2021 – June 2022			
Event	Item Description	Revenue	Expenditure
Provocations #3 <i>N.B.: Provocations #3 supported by the Hackett Foundation.</i>	Ticket sales	1215.55	
	Hackett Foundation	5000.00*	
	Event hosting		1667.28
	Venue hire		1488.00
	Speaker fee		1000.00
	Meals		243.00
	Total		6,215.55
Southern Waters Symposium	Security		188.56
	Catering		1488.50
	Total		1,677.06
Aesthetics in Education Symposium	Catering		928.75
	Total		928.75
Provocations #4 <i>N.B.: Provocations #4 supported by the Hackett Foundation. *direct payment (\$2,000); speaker fees paid directly to venue, which was invoiced by speakers (\$3,000)</i>	Ticket sales	1118.18	
	Hackett Foundation	5000.00*	
	Faculty contribution	2000.00	
	Venue hire		2000.00
	Marketing		39.10
	Accommodation		326.28
	Travel		608.49
	Speaker fees		3000.00
	Other		14.00
	Total		8,118.18
Raining Poetry in Adelaide 2022	ACC Grant	2000.00	
	Supplies		1934.47
	Permit (2021)		231.38
	Total	2,000.00	2,165.85
Bedtime Stories	Travel		294.94
	Accommodation		259.09

JMCCCP July 2021 – June 2022			
Event	Item Description	Revenue	Expenditure
	Total		554.03
Perfect Cadence podcast			
	Production services		1500.00
	Honorarium		600.00
	Total		2,100.00
Operating Costs & Other Expenditures			
<i>N.B.: Casual contract salaries supported by Faculty *not included in total for this section</i>	Casual contracts*		<i>18,151.08*</i>
	Academic Prof Dev		1500.00
	Calendar of Events		2030.00
	Farewell & welcome		191.41
	Other fees & charges		230.32
	Donations	25,300.00	
	Total	25,300.00	
Grand Total July 2021 – June 2022		41,633.73	21,763.85