

# VIC MCEWAN

Artist, Artistic Director, PhD Candidate USYD

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I am an Australian contemporary artist who's multi-artform, socially engaged practice aims to contribute to and enrich broader conversations about a new vision for the arts.

I co-founded the Cad Factory in 2004. As Artistic Director, I have led our strategic growth and development from a loose collective of artists into a celebrated, regionally-based, artist-led charity. We deliver an international program of new, immersive and experimental work guided by authentic exchange, ethical principles, people and place.

Since becoming a not for profit in 2014, we have reached an in-person audience of over 150,000 people through delivering more than 75 artistic outcomes, over 160 workshops and generating income of \$2 million through grants, commissions, artist fees and creative services.

## RECENT INVITED SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

**April 2022:** *Expanding Health Humanities*, Panel Presentation, University of Canberra, ACT

**April 2022:** *International Facial Nerve Symposium*, Presentation of two papers, Seoul, South Korea

**March 2022:** *Cultural Leadership Exchange*, Panel Presentation, Goldsmiths University of London, UK

**March 2022:** *Socially Engaged Arts Practice*, Post Graduate Lecture, NIDA, NSW

**February 2022:** *Enhancing Medical Practices Conference*, Keynote Presentation, Wollongong, NSW

**January 2022:** *Tension[s] 2020*, Curators Talk, Wangaratta Art Gallery, Vic

**November 2021:** *Cultural Determinates of Health*, Undergraduate Lecture, University of Sydney

**October 2021:** *Textiles and Place*, Keynote Presentation, Manchester Metropolitan University, UK

**June 2021:** *Culture, Health and Wellbeing International Conference*, Keynote Presentation, Bristol, UK

**May 2021:** *Caring for Artists, Caring for Communities*, Forum Presenter, Shoalhaven Health and Arts, Nowra, NSW

**March 2021:** *Tension[s] 2020*, Curators Talk, Tweed Regional Art Gallery, NSW

**March 2021:** *Haunting*, Artist Talk, Ten Days on the Island, Burnie, Tas

**March 2021:** *Creative Life in the City of Makers*, Panel Convenor, Ten Days on the Island, Burnie, Tas

**March 2021:** *The Social Imagination*, Panel Member, Ten Days on the Island, Burnie, Tas

## SELECTED DIGITAL ARTICLES

**2022:** [Face to Face: Socially Engaged Arts Practice in the Clinic](#), Claire Hooker, NSW/ACT Arts Health Network

**2020:** [See How This Artist Turned Research into Art](#), Jennifer Kite-Powell, Forbes



## CONTACT

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## AWARDS

**2018:** CHASS Prize for Distinctive Australian Work in the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences

**2018:** Executive Deans Award for Academic Excellence, Charles Sturt University

**2018:** University Medal, Charles Sturt University

**2014-16:** Create NSW Regional Fellowship Award

## BOARDS

**2016 – Ongoing:** MusicNSW Board Member

**2015 – Ongoing:** NSW/ACT Arts Health Leadership Group Board Member

**2014 – Ongoing:** The Cad Factory Public Officer

## RECENT PROJECTS

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### 2022

8 Feb – 19 May  
Wagga Wagga  
Art Gallery

**Face to Face: The New Normal** is a major exhibition developed during three years of creative research exploring medical science and contemporary arts practice. While being in residence at the Sydney Facial Nerve Service, I worked on the front lines of clinical treatment with patients experiencing facial nerve paralysis, examining what impact a contemporary artist might have within the clinical environment. The artworks created were developed during residencies at Tate Liverpool and the Rex Cramphorn Theatre.

### 2021 – 2023

Various locations  
in NSW  
Artistic Director

**The Contemporary Art Socially Engaged (CASE) Incubator** is a professional development, knowledge sharing and mentorship program aimed at socially engaged artists who are seeking to develop their practice, engage with their peers, create networking opportunities with diverse partners, and contribute back to the sector. It will support eight NSW based, mid-career artists.

### 2019 – 2023

National Tour  
Artist

**Haunting** is a photographic and video exhibition animating museum objects with smoke, fog, mist and water. Created in 2015 during a 12-month residency at the National Museum of Australia in collaboration with Senior Curator George Main.

**The work has been exhibited at:** Griffith Regional Art Gallery NSW; Warrnambool Art Gallery, Vic; Burnie Regional Art Gallery, Tas; Tamworth Regional Gallery, NSW; and Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery, Vic.

**Upcoming locations:** Blue Mountains Cultural Centre NSW; National Museum of Australia, ACT; Burra Regional Art Gallery, SA.

### 2022

March – June  
Creative Producer  
NSW Health  
Infrastructure

**Griffith Hospital Redevelopment** is a major \$250 million hospital redevelopment in Griffith NSW. The Cad Factory has been engaged as the Creative Producer to create the curatorial strategy through community and stakeholder consultation.

### 2019 – 2022

National Tour  
Curator

**Tension(s) 2020, Tamworth Textiles Triennial**, a survey of current Australian textiles practices. It was presented at: Tamworth Regional Art Gallery, NSW; Mosman Art Gallery, NSW; Tweed Regional Gallery, NSW; Manning Regional Art Gallery NSW; Artisan Gallery, Qld; Artspace Mackay, Qld; Wangaratta Art Gallery, Vic; Craft ACT.

### 2021

24 April  
Koori's Beach,  
Narrandera  
Artistic Director

**Wirramarri: Long Way from Home** was a large, immersive, performative installation presented on the banks of the Murrumbidgee River that brought together art, science and ancient knowledges in partnership with the Department of Primary Industries, Clontarf Academy at Narrandera High, Narrandera Public School and Wiradjuri and Barkandji community members. This event featured 50 local Wiradjuri dancers and explored the connection between the Menindee fish kills and Narrandera, where the remaining fish were brought to heal and breed.

### 2020 and 2021

Artstate Wagga Wagga  
and Interesting Festival  
Performative  
Lecture/Director

**One for Sorrow, Two for Joy** was a performative lecture exploring two years of community engagement around the subject of grief and suicide. This delicate presentation and performance event explored the ethics and process of using the arts to engage with complex issues. Alongside me, it featured the artists Aunty Lorraine Tye, Sue Clancy, Clive Parkinson and the Marie-Cecile Choir.

### 2021

2 Apr – 11 Jul  
Tamworth Regional  
Art Gallery  
Group Exhibition

**Collections Conversion** was a group exhibition exploring the various collections in the Tamworth region. I responded to the Tamworth textiles collection with video, photography and sound made in collaboration with dancer Rosalind Crisp in Mt Dulsion, Victoria that explored the illegal logging of forests in the area and the environmental destruction left on sites after these events.

### 2021

12 Feb – 20 Mar  
Ten Days on the Island  
Artist

As part of **Ten Days on the Island** I presented two exhibitions, 'Haunting' at Burnie Regional Art Gallery and 'Hospital Rubble' at Willow Court Barracks, New Norfolk. To support the festival I was part of three public program speaking events.