

**UNIIKUP PRODUCTIONS LTD.  
DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT 2009 - 2010  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 26/03/11**

*This meeting did not eventuate due to effects of Brisbane flood, January 2011, on membership. As the business of the organisation was consequently minimal, the next Annual General Meeting was organised to cover 2009 - 2010 and 2010 - 2011. The Director's Report subsequently reflects the inactivity.*

**PROJECT SLATE**

**(Refer also past Director's Statements)**

- **EYE TO EYE - proposal**

Ongoing recording of family history of Eva Salam. The idea of an ebook project, from a link provided by Jenny Fraser: <http://www.dawnatmyback.com/>, is the proposed development. (This idea supercedes the idea of the project being produced on video.) It will extended to include statements from her children about their lives and relationship with Eva, for family posterity. A lot of insight into how our lives unfold is lost due to the nuclear family structure imposed on our communities and literature is a way of addressing the loss of information and exchange.

- **PROPOSAL**

This project was originally proposed as part of Colourise Festival 2007 – *you are here*. Restricted time and funds make it impossible to proceed with the project. However, with board member Tamara Whyte's successful production "Red Sanctuary" in Nov 2009 (staged at Metro Arts) *Proposal* could be further developed as a Colourise event. Inspired by the classic play by Russian playwright, Anton Chekhov, this is a proposal for the Australia of the future, firmly grounded in the culture of the present and the past. It is intended that the performance features video documentation in the Brisbane Indigenous community dating back to 1986, live art performers, visual artists and musicians. A unique media arts event, "Proposal" will have you laughing at relationships and rethinking positions on land and boundaries.

- **SITE/ SIGHT/ CITE**

In November 2004, \$20,000 was received from the Australia Council for the Arts, New Media Board (before disbanding), to create a feasibility study - write and plan the production of a new media installation involving artists, boxers and new media and video producers. Meetings began with Keith Armstrong, Laurence English, Archie Moore, Andrew Hill, Carl Fisher and Christine Peacock in 2005 and carried on with involvement from Jenny Fraser and with Mary Graham as Cultural Advisor. Keith Armstrong, Andrew Hill and Christine Peacock worked on a test installation as part of the "Boxing Art" (now Contested Space) project feasibility study, details of which were contained in the acquittal report to the Australia Council submitted 11/9/09 and acquitted 1/10/09 .

More focus upon it and support, was allowed by making the project part of Christine Peacock's Masters by Practice Lead Research at Creative Industries Faculty of QUT. A preliminary website housing the concept development, including example work and/or information about 16 participating artists, was constructed with Andrew Hill on the Colourise website domain. The Masters degree was awarded in September 2009. Access to the preliminary website is via a tab, *site\_sight\_cite*, on the menu of the Colourise website [www.colourise.com.au](http://www.colourise.com.au) BUT is not available for public viewing. Please seek username and password details from Christine Peacock or Andrew Hill for access.

The project involves information and creation of ideas about land in the Jagera and Turrbul boundaries. These custodians have made representations in court for a decision on the legal registration as traditional owners of the land where the **site\sight\cite**

**UNIIKUP PRODUCTIONS LTD. DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT 2009 – 2010 continued**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 26/03/2011 (Refer opening statement)**

project is proposed, and it is estimated that the court case will not be finalised until early 2010. Further extensive research is required for the project which is described on the

website at the **site\sight\cite** tab. It is a large and ambitious media arts project, estimated to require a minimum of \$300,000 to come to fruition. Financing the project is part of the further extensive research required and which will commence in May 2010 as part of Christine Peacock's PhD by practice led research and involving some if not all of the artists who participated in the concept development. A stage two proposal for the

PhD has been produced which outlines in detail the scope and intention of the project. This is available upon request in PDF format. It is currently awaiting presentation to the QUT Research Review Committee.

In December 2009 Christine Peacock met with ATSIAB, Interarts and Creative Communities Partnerships at the Australian Arts Council offices in Surry Hills, Sydney to discuss funding possibilities.

- **MARGATE TO MARGATE PROPOSAL**

**Background:**

During a symposium "Of The South" organised by Christine Morris at Griffith University in July 2006, Paul Carter of University of Melbourne was approached to see if he was interested in the development of a project which opened up a dialogue through a series of projects – visual arts, new media installation, internet, performance, music - involving community organisations, people and artists in Britain and Indigenous counterparts in Australia. The idea is to focus upon perspectives on relationship to land and the history and outcomes, which link Margate in Britain and Margate in Redcliffe, Queensland. Paul was interested in this project. We also contacted John Phillips at the London Print Studio to see if they would be interested in collaborating on such a project.

This project has been rolled into the site\sight\cite project, with a focus on patterns of migration in relation to effects on populations of catastrophic events like colonisation, tsunamis, civil war and so forth, as part of the international conversation arising from these political and environmental conditions.

- **COLOURISE FESTIVAL 2010-11**

**COMPLETED 9 JULY 2011**

This was a full program of events for Colourise as follows:

- 1) Colourise Black History Month: BCC City Library Theatrette, 7 - 28/8/2010;
- 2) Colourise on the Fringe: Screening event, Jagera Arts Centre, South Brisbane, 31/10/10;
- 3) Country - Life Portraits: Filmmakers and Artists Seminar, BCC City Library Theatrette, 13/11/10;
- 4) NAIDOC Screening Event, Direct Action, 8 Gillingham St. Woolloongabba 9/7/2011.

Refer [www.colourise.com.au](http://www.colourise.com.au) for event details and attached Festival Report. BCC grant was acquitted and funding will be released for 2011-12 when a program of events has been submitted, as per funding contract.

**UNIIKUP PRODUCTIONS LTD. DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT 2009 – 2010 continued  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 26/03/2011 (Refer opening statement)**

- **ColouriseBIFF**

BIFF changed from a winter, August, to a summer, November, event to coincide with and link to the film festival held on the Gold Coast. Anne Demi-Gereo who was a founder of BIFF resigned from the Festival Director position and was replaced by Melbourne Film Festival Director Richard Moore who was not interested in a proposal submitted for 2010, or in continuing the ColouriseBIFF relationship. This coincided with changes in Screen Queensland with the appointment of Maureen Barron as CEO. These changes indicate an even more commercial and conservative period of film-making in Queensland.

**OPERATIONS/ ADMINISTRATION**

- **CULTURAL ORGANISATION AND GIFT DEDUCTIBLE RECIPIENT STATUS**

Amber Roberts very kindly took over the job of preparing a word document of the Uniikup Productions Assoc. and gathering information and documents required to register the company as a cultural organisation, and tax deductible gift recipient status. All this has now been done in preparation for changes to the constitution to be submitted to a special general meeting of Uniikup; in line with the requirements to register the company as a cultural organisation, for tax deductible gift recipient status. Successfully gaining tax deductible gift recipient status will allow us to apply for a wider range of funding for projects. We now need board members to volunteer time to carry this through to completion.

- **PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE**

A policy for not-for-profit organisations public & products liability insurance was taken out with AON, Level 6, 175 Eagle St, Brisbane – Tel: 3223 7596, email [christine.reith@aon.com.au](mailto:christine.reith@aon.com.au) for 2009 and 2010 and 2010 – 2011. Funds for the insurance are still difficult to locate due to insufficient operational funding. During the Colourise Festival public liability is covered by event and organisers or venues.

- **UNIIKUP PRODUCTIONS LTD. DIGITAL EDITING SUITE; RECORDING & SCREENING EQUIPMENT**

Equipment was moved as a result of the flood from QUT Brisbane to 888 Kin Kin Road Wolvi where there is a dedicated office and editing room. This facility is being used for the **site\sight\cite** project and will be used with the proposed preservation of the Uniikup Optical Media Collection project. The equipment and audio visual collection is available for Uniikup members to access at any time and can be arranged with Christine Peacock. The Uniikup Optical Media Collection document can be found under the Uniikup tab on the website [www.colourise.com.au](http://www.colourise.com.au).

- **NEW MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

There were no new members to the organisation. The same Directors will be nominated for appointment in 2010 – 2011, if there are no resignations received.

- **WWW.COLOURISE.COM.AU**

The organisation website has been kept up-to-date throughout the year. It has many hits particularly around the Colourise Festival period. The registration of the domain name was changed from MDWebhosting to NetRegistry, where the Colourise website domain is hosted.

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**OTHER MATTERS**

• **SUCCESSION**

This is an ongoing problem faced by Uniikup management but with new young members it can be addressed. As people identify themselves Uniikup will continue to be managed by community people wanting to produce media arts in Brisbane. It is hoped the Board will be more able to be active in the planning and projects of the organisation and that they will engage with the organisation to benefit their own endeavours as well. Directors Tamara Whyte and Jenny Fraser are active in this regard and some members seek references for projects from time to time. The current financial situation for many of us makes these ideals difficult to achieve.

• **GENERAL DISCUSSION – provided in each Director's Report as information and food for thought.**

The focus on excellence of design in Australian arts, rather than context and content makes it difficult for development of Uniikup Productions to progress. Funding is a little like a lucky dip unless artists have the ability to stay abreast of technological proficiency and strategic diplomacy assisting funding success and establishment of a body of work. It is an elitist situation which in effect both denies and constricts the creative energy of communities of people and place. The demise of the community arts funding board in the Australia Council saw much of the work that was being developed from this support, favour more work of individuals who work with various communities on one off "creative" projects for cosmetic and temporary social cohesion outcomes. Work has developed in Uniikup (since inception in 1985 with Murriimage) with a seasonal nature with operations seeking to maintain a consistent presence of creative output in the community which is not controlled or directed by arts institutions' performance indicators, marketing strategies and head counts.

**CHRISTINE PEACOCK  
PRESIDENT  
UNIIKUP PRODUCTIONS LTD.**