

**UNIIKUP PRODUCTIONS LTD.
DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT 2010 - 2011
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 07/04/12
ROOM B309 QUT KELVIN GROVE**

PROJECT SLATE

(Refer also past Director's Statements)

- **EYE TO EYE - proposal (status unchanged)**

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 (status unchanged)**

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 WEBSITE PROJECT**

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 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** project is proposed and a preliminary approach has been made to Maroochy Barambah for Turrbal with regard to support for the development of the project. A application for Australia Council Interarts funding was made in October 2011 but was unsuccessful. Another application will be submitted in the August 2012 round.

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The website is a large and ambitious media arts project, estimated to require a minimum of \$300,000 to come to fruition. Financing the project requires further extensive research and was to be 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. Due to the size of the project it was decided it was too big for a PhD and is now being developed exclusively as a Uniikup project. Details of the project have been posted to the on-line Uniikup Projects Forum, link available in the Projects Slate tab of www.colourise.com.au.

• **SIGHT \ SITE \ CITE OPTICAL MEDIA COLLECTION Project**

Christine Peacock changed her PhD to *Sight\Site\Cite digitising philosophy : the dynamics of representation*, which allows a comprehensive evaluation of the Uniikup Optical Media Collection and the values inherent in community film-making practices. The study involves researching how to enable a conservation survey of the collection with a view to data storage and development of a system which allows community access; a creative project which is a production of a dvd from the archival footage with new footage linking this material to create an innovative video program which illustrates and promotes community film-making practices. The values of Indigenous community film-making arise from a philosophy of connection between people and with land, in this case as recorded in the Uniikup Optical Media Collection, representing place across time. Details of the project are in the Projects Slate tab at www.colourise.com.au and a link to the confirmation document of the PhD is posted there also for community access to the study which is scheduled to be completed in January 2013 (but which may continue until the end of 2013 due to time lost as a result of the Brisbane Flood in January 2011). The creative project part of the study is a co-production with Uniikup Productions Ltd.; support for the proposal to be approved by the Uniikup Board of Directors, details of which also to be posted on the website.

• **MARGATE TO MARGATE**

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. This part of the site \ sight \ cite project is being led by artist Paul Carter (refer www.colourise.com for details).

• **COLOURISE FESTIVAL 2011-12**

The 2010 – 11 BCC grant was acquitted and funding will be released for 2011-12 when a program of events has been submitted, as per funding contract. It is envisaged that Colourise will collaborate with Black History Month on a program of films in July 2012 at the BCC City Library Theatre (no charges for use of this venue) as well as stage a *TRANSFORMAnATIVE* event with food and post-screening discussion, at Direct Action Woolloongabba (no charges for use of this venue) - to be confirmed. It is still difficult to attract and build audiences, mainly due to limited time spent on planning for and organising Colourise events. This situation is to be addressed in 2012-13 with applications for project officer and organisational funding from ATSIAB and Arts Queensland respectively (refer Grant Funding below).

Refer the projects slate at www.colourise.com.au for more project proposals.

OPERATIONS/ ADMINISTRATION

• ORGANISATION FINANCES

As the organisation does not have income in excess of \$50,000 at present there is no obligation to have an Audit completed. Haywards Chartered Accountants have prepared a financial statement for 2009-10 and 2010-11 to be tabled at the AGM on 7/4/2012 for ratification. There have been no outstanding debtors or creditors. It is proposed Haywards Chartered Accountants will be the accountants employed to prepare financial statements (or audit depending on amount of grant funding received) for the new financial year. Haywards also ensures all documentation required to be presented to the Australian Securities and Investments Commission is kept current.

• GRANT FUNDING

A funding plan is proposed (see attached) for 2012-13 to allow the operations of the organisation to progress. There is an outstanding grant acquittal for Arts Qld of \$5000 which was used to set up a business plan for Colourise Festival but which was not completed. Christine Peacock is responsible for this project and will be liaising with Arts Qld to complete the project in the next few months. Funds for the operating costs of the organisation (including rent for a space in Brisbane), employment of a Projects Officer with a project slate (refer website for details), as well as funding for the website and optical media collection projects will be of great assistance. Any assistance from board members with these applications would be beneficial.

• CULTURAL ORGANISATION AND GIFT DEDUCTIBLE RECIPIENT STATUS

Amber Roberts very kindly prepared a word document of the Uniikup Productions Assoc. and gathered information and documents required to register the company as a cultural organisation, and for 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, in particular philanthropic funds, but applications for this type for funding require particular knowledge and approach. We now need board members to volunteer time to carry the application to become a cultural organisation through to completion.

• PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE

A policy for not-for-profit organisations public and products liability insurance was taken out with AON, Level 6, 175 Eagle St, Brisbane – Tel: 3223 7596, email christine.reith@aon.com.au for 2010-11 and 2012-13 will be taken out in April 2012. 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 in February 2011, 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** website project and with the proposed preservation of the Uniikup Optical Media Collection project (the Uniikup Optical Media Collection document can be found under the Uniikup tab on the website www.colourise.com.au); and Christine Peacock's PhD Creative Project (refer **sight \ site \ cite** optical media project above). The equipment and audio visual collection is available for Uniikup members to access at any time and can be arranged with Christine Peacock. Tamara Whyte will be accessing the equipment for her Coochiemudlo media arts project pending funding from RADF this year.

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

There were no new members to the organisation. There may be some changes of Directors in 2011 – 2012, if resignations are received or Directors are no longer involved in the organisation.

- **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 Net Registry (who took over that company), where the Colourise website domain is hosted.

- **HISTORY LIFE AND TIMES OF ROBERT ANDERSON – PDF VERSION**

Cathy Boyle and Uncle Bob Anderson were successful in obtaining funding to publish an updated pdf version of the above community history produced by Uniikup Productions Ltd. in 2002. This has been posted to the Colourise website for community access and can be downloaded and read (like an ebook) for anyone interested.

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.**

It is important that a media arts organisation with some historic grounding in the community is able to carry on the function of creative arts output which employs a policy of acts-of-sovereignty in its practices. Uniikup (originally Murrimage) has devolved from a community of people who up-held this belief in the establishment of many essential services – legal, health, media, education – despite the wear and tear of insistence, resistance and, in particular, consistence. It is not an ideal but rather a continuation of Indigenous life in this county that creates a spectrum of forms, within a repertoire of realities, from a kaleidoscope of people. The Uniikup Board of Directors is representative of this context, and that there is not as much input into the organisation as desired, is a reflection of the pressures upon us to subsist in both practical and fulfilling ways. Each board member is engaged in the community in the terms described above, and all are outstanding members of our community for this reason. Murrimage and Uniikup were not set up to be show-pony organisations which successfully feed from government programs that also control development and self determination. The work accomplished is integrity focused and meant to endure when dollars for Indigenous inspired interests wane or deplete. Creativity remains the breath and spirit of the Indigenous past, present and future and for this reason is truly existential.

**CHRISTINE PEACOCK
PRESIDENT
UNIIKUP PRODUCTIONS LTD.**