

**UNIIKUP PRODUCTIONS LTD.  
DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT 2011 - 2012  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 06/04/13  
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 extend to include stories from her children about their lives and relationship with Eva, and family photos. Insight into how our lives unfold is lost due to the nuclear family structure imposed on our communities, and literature in "whisps of narratives" is a way of addressing the loss of information and creating exchange. This project can serve as a prototype for others who may be interested in recording family histories in this way.

- **PROPOSAL (status unchanged)**

This project was originally proposed as part of Colourise Festival 2007 – *you are here*. Restricted time and funds made it impossible to proceed with the project at that time. 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.

In April 2012 Proposal was submitted to the Indigenous Arts Board of the Australia Council for funding support under their Experimental Art Fund program supporting Indigenous-led projects that benefit the development of contemporary Indigenous media, Interdisciplinary and hybrid art practitioners. The submission was not successful in that round (which is very competitive with many submissions). The project will be resubmitted again for the 2013 funding round.

- **SITE/ SIGHT/ CITE WEBSITE and LIVE ART PROJECT**

**Background:**

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.

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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 was made to Maroochy Barambah for Turrbal with regard to support for the development of the project. An application for Australia Council Interarts funding was made in October 2011 but was unsuccessful. It was intended to resubmit the application in the August 2012 round but time and other commitments did not permit this.

The **site\sight\cite 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 original 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](http://www.colourise.com.au).

**Current:**

An offer from Jenny Fraser to fund a modified and simpler version of the **site \ sight \ site** website project will assist it to be produced. It is proposed to enter the finished project into Native Canadian *Imaginative Festival 2013* in the media art category. This may also assist to attract funding necessary for the full production of the project concept. We will be seeking people with the necessary skills to assist the production, preferably Indigenous.

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

**Background:**

Christine Peacock changed her PhD to *Sight\Site\Cite digitising philosophy : the dynamics of representation*, to allow a comprehensive evaluation of the Uniikup Optical Media Collection and the values inherent in community film-making practices. The study involved 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 was proposed to produce a dvd from the archival footage with new footage linking this material to create an innovative video program to illustrate and promote 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 were posted in the Projects Slate tab at [www.colourise.com.au](http://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 was scheduled to be completed in January 2013 but which could continue through to the end of 2013 due to time lost as a result of the Brisbane Flood in January 2011 and further flooding in Wolvi in 2012-13. 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.

**Current:**

However, since this time another decision was made for the creative project part of the PhD to produce only the **live first** live art element of the website project. The unfolding of a PhD often sees changes to the original concept arising as part of the investigation/study, in this case of Christine Peacock's creative practice. Christine became disenchanted with both the induction of audiences to passivity of film-making as well as the control of the art form by both industry regulations and technology both of which control content and aesthetic and collaborative process.

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The current PhD creative project name is **cross <unceded> country** and involves live art performances at places of contemporary significance in relation to Australian Aboriginal concepts of sovereignty. This event will be staged as part of Colourise Festival and Black History Month in NAIDOC week 2013 on three nights; and includes collaboration with Murri Mura for workshops preceding the walk where Australian Aboriginal concepts of ethics and philosophy and principles underpinning the idea of sovereignty. A shared meal after the workshops at the newly renovated Murri Mura will start the cross country event and end at Southbank with coffee. The event holds value for health with an evening walk across Brisbane city in the cool of July, education in the form of workshops, discussion and hand out information concerning concepts of sovereignty and development of local Indigenous live art performance (a modern form of corroboree which includes music and spoken word).

- **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](http://www.colourise.com) for concept and ideas).

There is also afoot an idea forming to merge the concept and ideas with a large media art projection project.

- **COLOURISE FESTIVAL 2012-13**

The 2011 – 12 BCC grant was acquitted and funding will be released for 2012-13 when the event program has been submitted, as per funding contract. It is envisaged that Colourise will collaborate with Black History Month on production of the **cross <unceded> country** project (as detailed above) during NAIDOC gathering season 7-14/7/2013. This project addresses the difficulty to attract and build audiences outside mainstream venues which have the finances to provide necessary staff and publicity and which provide Aboriginal and Torres Strait culture in forms appealing to mainstream audiences (eg Clancestry at QPAC). In 2012-13 applications for project officer and organisational funding from ATSIAB and Arts Queensland respectively are proposed (refer Grant Funding below).

Also refer the projects slate tab at [www.colourise.com.au](http://www.colourise.com.au).

## **OPERATIONS/ ADMINISTRATION**

- **ORGANISATION FINANCES**

As advised in the last Director's report the organisation does not have income in excess of \$50,000 at present so there is no obligation to have an Audit completed. Haywards Chartered Accountants prepared a financial statement for 2009-10 and 2010-11 but a less expensive income and expenditure financial statement from a bookkeeper (referred by Nancy Bamaga) was sought for 2011-12. There have been no outstanding debtors or creditors. It is proposed Haywards Chartered Accountants will be the accountants employed to prepare audit for the new financial year 2012-13 due to Uniikup Productions Ltd. agreeing to auspice Cybertribe funding from Australia Council. Haywards also ensures all documentation required to be presented to the Australian Securities and Investments Commission is kept current. Changes of Directors due to the resignation of two of the current board members and changes of home addresses were required to be submitted to ASIC for 2012-13.

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The signatories to the Uniikup Bank of Queensland accounts need to be changed to accommodate Cybertribe funding and also, a new account will be opened for Cybertribe funding. The signatories were Christine Peacock and Carl Fisher with either to sign and will be changed to Christine Peacock, Tamara Whyte and Jenny Fraser, either to sign with Carl Fisher no longer a signatory. The account is also accessible by on-line banking and signatories will be authorised to access for these transactions to occur. The Bank of Queensland in Gympie will be given details required to process changes.

• **GRANT FUNDING**

A funding plan was 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 has still to liaise with Arts Qld to complete the project. It is intended that this will be done in 2012-13 to allow for further funding to be sought.

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 above and Colourise 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 (status unchanged)**

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; however 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](mailto:christine.reith@aon.com.au) for 2012-13 and 2013-14 will be taken out in April 2013. Funds for the insurance are still difficult to locate due to insufficient operational funding. During the Colourise Festival public liability is also covered by event and organisers or venues. The 2012-13 Colourise Festival event being a street event could involve different cover and more costs.

• **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 and *cross <unceded> country* projects 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](http://www.colourise.com.au)). 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 is using the digital video recording equipment and accessories for her Coochiemudlo media arts project.

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• **NEW MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

There were no new members to the organisation but Ryan Presley (visual artist) and Semah Mokak- Wischki (filmmaker) are invited to become members. Teila Watson and other young people should also be invited to become members.

There are changes of Directors in 2011 – 2012 with Andrea Fisher and Andrew Hill no longer participating Board members.

• **UNIIKUP WEBSITE [WWW.COLOURISE.COM.AU](http://WWW.COLOURISE.COM.AU)**

The organisation website has been kept up-to-date throughout the year. It serves as a means of keeping the community informed on the activities and aspirations of the organisation including reports about its operations to maintain transparency and so that the organisation can attract other members and interested parties. [www.colourise.com.au](http://www.colourise.com.au) has most hits particularly around the Colourise Festival period. The registration of the domain name is with Net Registry where the Colourise website domain is hosted (both *Colourise* and *Colourised Festival* which was the original website name and which is now archived).

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

In 2012 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 is posted on the Colourise website for community access and can be down loaded 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 realise.

It is now necessary and urgent that the details on the operations of the organisation, which have mainly been managed by Christine Peacock, to be provided to Jenny Fraser and Tamara Whyte as proposed new signatories to the financial accounts with Bank of Queensland. This is to ensure that the organisation can continue to operate effectively in Christine's absence. All of the company files are kept at Wolvi, which is the registered address of the organisation, but a more central keeping place is required and an official approach should be made to Murri Mura in Cordelia St South Brisbane for a table and cupboard space in their organisation when the building has been renovated mid 2013.

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

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 Murriimage) 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 the continuum 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

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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. Murriimage 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.**