

Jessica Laraine Williams

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ABOUT

Jessica Laraine Williams is a transdisciplinary researcher, visual artist, writer and part time PhD candidate at the Faculty of Fine Arts and Music, The University of Melbourne. Jess holds first class Honours degrees in both the Bachelor of Physiotherapy (Monash University) and the Bachelor of Fine Art (The Faculty of Fine Arts and Music VCA, The University of Melbourne). As a senior physiotherapist, Jess been working for over a decade in her physiotherapist profession, including hospital, rehabilitation and management roles. She is now the national Telehealth Operations Project consultant at Vivir Healthcare, specialising in digital health service implementation and management with a continuing clinical practice in this space. Jess is undertaking her doctoral research on situating the posthuman through transdisciplinary work with art. Her research is focused on applied transdisciplinary projects that bridge art and beyond with an emphasis on digital delivery, such as virtual reality nature art towards wellbeing, and creative data visualisation in arts education. Jess' parallel art practice relates to interests in performative identity, collective cartography and institutional critique.

EDUCATION

2016- ongoing, expected completion date September 2022: PhD Candidate at the Faculty of Fine Arts and Music, The University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia. (Part Time)

Thesis: *Across the lineaments of figuration: posthuman imaginaries through boundary work with art*

Supervisors: Dr. [Danny Butt](#); Dr. [Alex Martinis Roe](#); Dr [Kathryn Coleman](#); Dr. Kate Daw

2015- Completed Honours Degree in Fine Arts (Visual Arts) (H1)

Thesis: [A software condition for art practices](#)

The Victorian College of the Arts, The University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia.

2014- Completed Bachelor of Fine Arts (Visual Arts)

Monash University, Melbourne, Australia.

2013- Fine Art Semester in Prato, Italy

Monash University, Prato Centre, Tuscany, Italy.

2009- Completed Bachelor of Physiotherapy with concurrent Honours (H1)

Thesis: 'The Relationship between Strength and Balance, and Self-Reported Disability, in pre-clinically disabled older people.'

Monash University, Melbourne, Australia.

PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

July 2021-March 2022: Artist in residence position (\$10,000 AUD, funded through the Melbourne Graduate School of Education, University of Melbourne, Researcher Development Scheme) on project: ['An Arts Education imperative, new directions for sustainability.'](#)

Collaboratively developed digital artefacts and a data exhibition to promote dialogue and understanding about co-investigators' lived experience of arts education research, including alternative/creative forms of impact beyond journal metrics. **Navigate digital artefacts (Mozilla Hubs data exhibition and multiple data repositories/presentations) via the interactive [Metaverse Map](#)**

Outputs included conference presentation [Placemaking and digital data sites for a sustainable arts education\(s\)](#) at Creative Convergence 2021, The Canadian Network for Arts & Learning; exhibition [artist showcase](#) at 'Small Data is Beautiful: Analytics, Art and Narrative' symposium, February 2022.

November 2021- ongoing: National Telehealth Operations Project Consultant, [Vivir Healthcare](#)

- National operations allied health management duties: leadership and delivery of training, inductions, co-ordination and collaboration across multiple teams of clinical and professional staff.
- Upstream business development portfolio: costing and evaluation of digital health programmes in liaison with commercial teams, aligned to organizational-level targets; engagement and marketing with existing stakeholders and prospective new clients
- Health service project management portfolio: policy development via state and federal digital health knowledge translation and advice; internal information systems management and communication across leadership teams and multiple software packages; resource building and professional development relating to digital health programmes; new health service design and implementation in telehealth.
- Continuing clinical fieldwork and practice as a telehealth physiotherapist, delivering digital healthcare interventions into the community

2010 ongoing: AHPRA registered practicing Clinical Senior Physiotherapist (permanent part time)

- Diverse experience in clinical assessment and therapeutic management of neurological, cardiorespiratory, musculoskeletal and gerontological clients in both public and private healthcare settings. These include acute care/post-operative, rehabilitation, community and aged care. **Currently specializing in digital health and Telehealth Physiotherapy in a community setting with Vivir Healthcare.**
- Advanced communication and engagement duties, such as delivering professional development workshops, working with broad consumer groups, health care teams, and individual clients.
- Clinical leadership and management experience in roles as site manager and team leader, which has involved mentoring, appraisal and education of junior clinical staff and undergraduate physiotherapy students. Supporting of colleagues in site administration, reporting, rostering and efficient caseload management.
- Contributing to clinical governance, research and reporting projects focused on outcome measurement and impact metrics, including postgraduate research. Detailed auditing and maintenance of health information reporting systems across multiple settings/software platforms.

2019-2020: Academic associate/sessional tutor role (casual) in Visual Arts, the Faculty of Fine Arts and Music, The University of Melbourne. Funded through the Academic Assistantship Program award, \$13,581 AUD (2019) and \$13,576 AUD (2020).

- Sessional teaching (live seminars held on Zoom) for the Critical and Theoretical Studies Department, VCA School of Art during 2020. This included supporting the first rapid transition to online teaching in March 2020, at the onset of COVID-19 impacts to the University sector; subjects included a three-part seminar series *Concepts in the Critical Posthumanities* for subject 'Where is Art?', taught into Critical and Theoretical Studies 5/ Perspectives in Art and Cultural Theory 4; teaching into Critical and Theoretical Studies 2 (*Modernity in Art and Culture*).
- Assistance to Breadth Studies coordination team for miscellaneous administration of subject deliveries, including timely planning and implementation of curriculum via the Learning Management System and communication with students.

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

Williams, Jessica Laraine, Langley, Susannah and Borda, Ann (2021), 'Virtual nature, inner forest: Prospects for immersive virtual nature art and well-being', *Virtual Creativity*, 11:1, pp. 125–46, https://doi.org/10.1386/vcr_00046_1
<https://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/intellect/vc/2021/00000011/00000001>

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS, WORKSHOPS AND PRESENTATIONS

Jessica Laraine Williams, Dr. Kathryn Coleman, Amanda Belton, Nedasadat Sajadi. [Metaverse Galleries Walkthrough \(2022\)](#), from the 'An Arts Education imperative: New directions for sustainability' project. Symposium artist showcase, shown at 'Small Data is Beautiful: Analytics, Art and Narrative' symposium, February 2022, The University of Melbourne.

Dr. Kathryn Coleman, Amanda Belton, Nedasadat Sajadi, Jessica Laraine Williams. **Conference presentation** [Placemaking and digital data sites for a sustainable arts education\(s\)](#) at Creative Convergence 2021, The Canadian Network for Arts & Learning.

Let's Object HDR Salon (workshop). CoVA Graduate Academy conference 'Memory', 2nd September 2021. Facilitated by Susanne Pratt, Jessica Laraine Williams, Corinna Berndt, Gianni Tien, Zoë Sadokierski, Eloise Florence.
<https://sites.research.unimelb.edu.au/cova/about/latest/memory-conference-2021>

Williams, J.L., Last, A., Alsop, R., and Berg, M.L. 'Unseeing Elegy of the Tetrachromats'. **Conference presentation and collaborative transdisciplinary artwork exhibitions (2D browser based and 3D interactive metaverse)**, *Birds and Language* conference, University of Sydney, 19-20 August 2021. <https://slam-events.sydney.edu.au/calendar/birds-and-language-conference/>

Williams, J.L., Langley, S., and Borda, A. 'Virtual Nature: Inner Forest'. **Peer reviewed extended abstract, paper presentation and artwork demonstration**. Published online in *Spatialised Audio and Performance* online session proceedings, Australasian Computer Music Conference, 3-10 July 2020. https://acmc2020.com/poster_103.html.

Williams, J., Berg, M., van Overveld, T., Alsop, R.
'Nonhuman Agents in Cultural Production: Birds, Environments and their Speculations.' *Quite Frankly: It's a Monster Conference*, October 17-19 2018, SymbioticA: The University of Western

Australia, Perth, Australia. <http://www.symbiotica.uwa.edu.au/activities/symposiums/quite-frankly-2018>

Alsop, R., Borda, A., Williams, J. (2016, December). '**Sound Shadow and Light: Generating the experience of a natural environment.**' In *Proceedings of GA2016, the 19th Generative Art Conference*. Presented at GA2016, the 19th Generative Art Conference, Florence, Italy, 15, 16, 17 December 2016 <https://minerva-access.unimelb.edu.au/handle/11343/123346>

ART PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS:

Williams, J.L. '**Anti-hotel: A Folly in Five Tropes.**' Commissioned article for Art + Australia: Issue Six (56.1): *Outside*. December 2019. <https://www.artandaustralia.com/issue-six>

Williams, J. L. '**An utterance of sugar and plastics.**' Commissioned article in conjunction with *RIFTS: Particulate Matter*, co-curated by Kat Kohler & Dr. Rachel Marsden, Testing Grounds, Melbourne, 4–14 July 2018. First published by Art+ Australia Online, September 2018. Commissioned by Dr. Rachel Marsden of ACP Projects & Art+Australia Online. <http://www.artandaustralia.com/online/discursions/utterance-sugar-and-plastics>

Williams, J. L. '**An interference: red and blue.**' Commissioned article in conjunction with Youjia Lu, *Super(im)position (2018)*, 12th May- 2nd June 2018. Published by Kings Artist-Run Gallery. Commissioned by the artist. <https://jlogos.net/portfolio/an-interference-red-and-blue/>

Williams, J.L. '**Apocope in the Suture Zone.**' Commissioned article for Art + Australia: Issue Two (54.1): *The Plague* November 2017 <http://www.artandaustralia.com/online>

Williams, Jessica, and Mathew Berg. '**The World's Best Wildlife Photography Reveals a Fragile, Beautiful Realm**'. *The Conversation*. Accessed 24 January 2017. <http://theconversation.com/the-worlds-best-wildlife-photography-reveals-a-fragile-beautiful-realm-71329>.

Williams, J. '**Reshaping Spectatorship, Clearing the Cloud: Theory, Meet Artist.**' Furtherfield.org. <http://archive.furtherfield.org/features/articles/reshaping-spectatorship-clearing-cloud-theory-meet-artist> (Published 15/11/16).

GRANTS, AWARDS AND FUNDING:

2021

PhD Completion Scholarship, Faculty of Fine Arts and Music, The University of Melbourne, October 2021, \$15,900 (AUD)

2020

Experimental Collaborations Grant, August 2020, \$2,200 (AUD) towards completion of collaborative online performance artwork *glitch.mirror* (2020) with performance artist Chelsea Coon. <https://jlogos.net/portfolio/glitch-mirror-2020/>

Creativity and Wellbeing Hallmark Research Initiative (CAWRI) PhD Top-up Grant, July 2020, towards completion of *Inner Forest XR* artwork- **\$720 AUD.**

<https://research.unimelb.edu.au/research-at-melbourne/multidisciplinary-research/hallmark-research-initiatives/creativity-and-wellbeing/news/creativity-and-wellbeing-phd-top-up-grants-awarded>

Faculty of Fine Arts and Music, The University of Melbourne: Academic Assistantship Program award (\$13,576 AUD). <https://finearts-music.unimelb.edu.au/current-students/current-research-students/Scholarships-and-Studentships>

2019

Faculty of Fine Arts and Music, The University of Melbourne: Academic Assistantship Program award (\$13,581 AUD) “The Academic Assistantship Program (AAP) is a prestigious one-year career development and mentoring program offered through a competitive process to PhD graduate researchers within the Faculty of Fine Arts and Music. The development program provides a range of teaching, tutoring and other academic experiences across the Faculty to develop additional academic skills over the period of the successful applicant's candidature. It is also an opportunity for the student to develop relationships with academic mentors, in addition to their research supervisors, and be a part of the academic workforce.” (From <https://finearts-music.unimelb.edu.au/current-students/current-research-students/Scholarships-and-Studentships>)

2018

Faculty of Fine Arts and Music, The University of Melbourne: Faculty Small Grant Scheme (FSGS) awarded (\$1013 AUD) to support conference presentation at *Quite Frankly: It's a Monster Conference*, October 17-19 2018, SymbioticA: The University of Western Australia, Perth, Australia.

PROFESSIONAL/SCHOLARLY ENGAGEMENT, ADVISORY AND SERVICE:

Committees:

Centre of Visual Art (CoVA) Graduate Academy 2021:

<https://sites.research.unimelb.edu.au/cova/people/graduate-academy/graduate/jessica-williams>

Contributed to organising the 2021 CoVA Memory conference, liaising with scholarly network to co-ordinate facilitation of workshop with cross-institutional contacts (RMIT, UTS)

Speaking Engagements

Introductory speaker for film screening of 'Ex Machina', part of National Science Week, hosted by Science Gallery Melbourne. August 2018. <https://melbourne.sciencegallery.com/sci-film-ex-machina>

Panel speaker with Art+Australia collaborators at NGV International, speaking about 'The Plague' journal issue. March 2018 <https://www.ngv.vic.gov.au/program/the-plague-contemporary-art-through-social-and-political-uncertainty/#date0>

Scholarly and Peer Reviewing

Peer reviewer for *Virtual Creativity* journal, January 2021.

Conferences

CoVA Graduate Academy conference 'Memory.' Assistance with organising conference committee and organising 2 hr online workshop 'Let's Object' with visiting team from the University of Technology, Sydney. 2-3 September 2021, Australian Centre of Contemporary Arts/ The Faculty of Fine Arts and Music, Southbank, Melbourne, Australia.

'Art Anywhere? Art at The Outermost Limits of Location-Specificity' Symposium
Research assistance, editorial work on submitted abstracts. Friday March 20, 2020, Buxton Contemporary, Southbank, Melbourne, Australia.

Professional mentoring

Mentor and direct line manager, Dara Lee, whilst Site Manager at Transform Physiotherapy 2017.

EXHIBITIONS

Williams, J.L., Last, A., Alsop, R., and Berg, M.L. 'Unseeing Elegy of the Tetrachromats'. In *Birds and Language Conference* Pop- Up Exhibition (**2D browser based** and **3D interactive metaverse**), online.

Williams, J.L. 'Hands-on, after the distance' in *Draw a line through it*, recent work by PhD candidates at the Victorian College of the Arts. 13-16 July 2021, Artspace Gallery, Southbank, Melbourne/Naarm, Australia.

Williams, J.L. 'Speculation on a Nullified performance,' in *Unseen*, Creative Occupation Group, curated by Marita Batna, 2-3 July 2021, Deakin Geelong Waterfront Gallery, Geelong/Djilang, Australia. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DijsgBvTBB8>

Williams, J.L. 'Hands-on, after the distance' in *NightLight Art Activation 2021*, Creative Occupation Group. June 11 2021, on Little Malop St. with partner businesses. Geelong/Djilang, Australia. <https://jlogos.net/portfolio/nightlight/>

Williams, J.L. with performance artist Chelsea Coon. *glitch.mirror* (2020) commissioned and exhibited online 2020-21. <https://jlogos.net/portfolio/glitch-mirror-2020/>

Williams, J.L. 'White, Passing,' in *On Kindness and Care, Centre for Visual Art (CoVA)/Assembly Point*, online. Curated by Vikki McInnes, launched 30th July 2020, Melbourne/Naarm, Australia. <https://sites.research.unimelb.edu.au/cova/research/feminism-and-intersectionality/assembly-point/on-kindness-and-care/artist-pages/jessica-williams>

Williams, J.L. 'Speculation on a Nullified performance,' in *Dark Night July 2020, Dog Rocks Screenings/ Live streamed events (Dark Night Movie Sessions Sat 25 and Sun 26 July). Creative Occupation Group*, curated by Marita Batna, July 2020, Batesford, Australia. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DijsgBvTBB8>

In the shadow, I see myself: an improvised performance of Laine Hogarty's *Defence Mechanisms – Projection* (performer, artistic contributor), in 'Creative Occupation PART II- ROAMING', curated by Marita Batna, The Project Space, Deakin University, Geelong Waterfront, Australia. 10-31 January 2019. Part 1: https://youtu.be/cXEFEgpO_QQ
Part 2: https://youtu.be/cXEFEgpO_QQ

; [semicolon], Student Gallery, Victorian College of the Arts, Melbourne, 2015.

An Afterthought, Artmeet ARI, Goodtime Studios Melbourne, 2015.

Recreational Aesthetics, Artmeet ARI, Melbourne, 2014.

Melbourne Now, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne (in collaboration with Emily Floyd), 2013.

Direct Democracy, MUMA International Gallery, Melbourne, 2013.

Collected video works, MADA Faculty Gallery, Monash University, Melbourne, 2013.

12 by 12, Artis... Geelong Gallery, Geelong, 2012.

RESIDENCIES

July 2021-March 2022: Artist in residence position (\$10,000 AUD, funded through the MGSE Researcher Development Scheme) on project: [‘An Arts Education imperative, new directions for sustainability.’](#)

AFFILIATIONS/MEMBERSHIPS/ ACCREDITATIONS

Level 3 Cultural Responsiveness training, delivered by IAHA (Indigenous Allied Health Australia): March 2022 <https://iaha.com.au/iaha-consulting/cultural-responsiveness-training/>

June 2019: Mental Health First Aid accreditation valid for 3 years. mhfa@mhfa.com.au

Member of Toastmasters International, Geelong Branch in February 2018 through to December 2019 with fortnightly public speaking commitments.

Full Australian AHPRA registration as a clinical physiotherapist

Recreational Pilot’s License earned in 2010- Civil Aviation Authority, Australia