



CARA-ANN SIMPSON

curator | arts management | cultural heritage | strategy | artist

cara.ann.simpson@gmail.com

<https://www.caraansimpson.com>

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/caraansimpson>

Instagram: @caraansimpson

+61 4 1718 4278

Haden QLD 4353

I acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the Land on which I live and work, the Jarowair people of the Wakka Wakka nation. I also acknowledge all Traditional Custodians and Elders on whose Lands I journey. I pay my respects to Elders past, present, emerging and future.

Biography

Cara-Ann Simpson is an artist, curator, educator, and consultant, with a background across arts, heritage, tourism, conservation, arts, and festival sectors. She is a multidisciplinary artist exploring sensory perception, deep listening, memory, and identity. Simpson's lived experience of disability informs her practice, which is reflective in recent work (since 2018). As an arts and cultural heritage worker, she has led organisations, provided leadership, and curatorial expertise in Queensland and Victoria. Simpson is committed to regional Australia, and supporting regional artists through professional development and mentoring. She has received numerous grants for her creative projects, as well as recognitions for her artwork and contribution to the arts and culture sector. Simpson has exhibited broadly in Australia and internationally, including complex interactive installation developed with technical collaborators. Simpson's work is held in public and private collections in Australia and internationally including Hahndorf Academy, Darebin City Council, Toowoomba Regional Council, Albury City Council, and Alroe Solicitors.

Executive Summary

I have a diverse background as an artist, curator, executive director, regional manager and arts facilitator within heritage, tourism, conservation land management, arts, and festival sectors. Strengths include:

- Lead, retain, build & mentor strong teams within staff and volunteer structures;
- Develop & deliver innovative and ambitious complex projects across art, technology & science, and in collaboration with cross-industry experts;
- Develop & implement innovative annual public programs with a focus on community engagement, collaborative partnerships & fundraising under cohesive branding & marketing frameworks;
- Build & expand audiences and visitation through programming, marketing & partnerships;
- Manage, deliver, and develop budgets, inclusive of grant opportunities (& acquittals);
- Produce & implement business & organisational strategic plans, + governance & operational documents;
- Conservation, interpretation, curatorial and research skills within the fields of installation, digital/electronic art, experimental art, contemporary art, cultural heritage, nature reserves, and estates; and
- Manage, program & develop arts and cultural venues and estates.

Education

Current Juris Doctor (ETA 2026), University of Southern Queensland

2016 Urban & Landscape Cultural Heritage: post-graduate subject specialisation, University of Melbourne

2005-08 Bachelor of Visual Arts First Class Honours, University of Southern Queensland

Selected Grants, Awards & Recognitions

2023	Regional Arts Fund Grant, Flying Arts Alliance
2022	Winner, Heysen Prize for Landscape 2022, Hahndorf Academy SA Finalist: Burrinja Climate Change Biennale Award, Ravenswood Women's Art Prize, Mullins Conceptual Photography Prize, Du Rietz Art Awards, Bluethumb Art Prize Semi-finalist: Head On Photo Awards (Landscape)
2021	Finalist: Queensland Regional Art Awards, Sunshine Coast Art Award, Stanthorpe Photography Award, Clayton Utz Art Award Toowoomba Arts Footprint Artist Residency
2020	Finalist, Queensland Regional Art Awards, Flying Arts Alliance Highly Commended, Queensland Outsider Art Awards, Art From The Margins (Brisbane)
2019	Winner, Digital/Photography, Multiple Sclerosis Art Awards, MS Limited (Melbourne)
2017	Young Alumnus of the Year, University of Southern Queensland
2012	Winner, 30under30, Australian Anthill's Entrepreneur Awards University of Ballarat Emerging Artist Award, Flanagan Art Exhibition (Ballarat)
2011	New Work (Media Art) Grant, Australia Council for the Arts International Program: Cultural Exchange Grant, Arts Victoria
2010	Young Artists' Grant, City of Melbourne ArtStart Grant, Australia Council for the Arts
2009	Janet Holmes a Court Artists' Grant, National Association of Visual Arts
2008	Asia-Pacific Visual & Performing Arts Sculpture Scholarship, Golden Key International Honours Society
2007	University Medal, Faculty of Arts, University of Southern Queensland Hobday and Hingston Bursary, Queensland Art Gallery

Selected Solo Exhibitions & Installations

2012	<i>Resonations #1: cyclic glass</i> , Noxious Sector Projects, Seattle USA
2011	<i>Geo Sound Helmets</i> (technical team: E Cheng, J Laird & B Landau), Kings ARI (AU), Blue Oyster Art Project Space (NZ) & Subtle Technologies Symposium (CA)
2010	<i>Bundoora Homestead: a sonic landscape</i> , Bundoora Homestead Art Centre, Melbourne
2009	<i>Sound Project: Cara-Ann Simpson</i> , SNO Contemporary Art Projects, Sydney <i>Noise Cancellation: disrupting audio perception</i> (engineer: E Cheng), Conical Inc, Melbourne
2008	<i>Deconstructed Matter</i> , Australasian Computer Music Conference, Sydney
2007	<i>sound:white</i> , Rosalie Gallery, Goombungee

Selected Group Exhibitions

2022	<i>Wildflowering by Design II</i> (curator: Dr Sue Davis OAM), Hervey Bay Regional Gallery, Hervey Bay <i>Bluethumb Art Prize Exhibition</i> , Bluethumb Art Gallery, Melbourne <i>Queensland Artists' Showcase</i> (curator: Henri van Noordenburg), private residence, Brisbane
21-22	<i>Paint the Town</i> , Queensland Regional Art Awards 2021 touring exhibition, Flying Arts Alliance
2020-21	<i>Wildflowering by Design I</i> (curator: Dr Sue Davis OAM), Bundaberg Regional Art Gallery, Bundaberg
2020-22	<i>Decadence</i> , Queensland Regional Art Awards touring exhibition, Flying Arts Alliance
2018-19	<i>Collins Place Gallery Summer Salon</i> (curator: Marguerite Brown), Collins Place Gallery, Melbourne
2014	<i>EMIT contemporary art that glows</i> (curator: Cash Brown), GLOW Winter Arts Festival, Melbourne
2013	<i>CCP Salon</i> , Centre for Contemporary Photography, Melbourne
2012	<i>Cloudy Sensoria</i> (co-curators: Malte Wagenfeld & C Simpson), Bundoora Homestead Art Centre
2011	<i>The River</i> (curator: Dr Jacqueline Healy), Bundoora Homestead Art Centre, Melbourne <i>Interscapes</i> (curator: Ashleigh Campbell), Jugglers Art Space, Brisbane

2009	<i>A New Internationale</i> (curator: Dr Kyle Jenkins), SNO Contemporary Art Projects, Sydney <i>Archi: 4 phases</i> (with Dr Kyle Jenkins), Canaan Downs Festival, NZ
2008	<i>Sound of Failure 08</i> (curator: Greg Shapley), Chrissie Cotter Gallery, Sydney <i>A strong sense of the fabrication of things</i> (curator: Colin Reaney), Rewak Art Gallery, Sharjah University (UAE)

Selected Commissions

2022	<i>SUPERCUT project 4 // simulation</i> , Outer Space, Brisbane
2021-22	<i>Herston Quarter Temporary Public Art Project</i> , Cultural Capital (Hutchinson Builders & Australian Unity)
2013	<i>New ICONS</i> , Murray Art Museum Albury (MAMA), Albury-Wodonga :: commission of artworks for opening of MAMA
2011	<i>Transitioning</i> , Seventh Gallery, FELT Space & inbetweenspaces :: sound composition for Jasmin Coleman's <i>Stabilisers</i>
2008	Printmaking commission, Alroe Solicitors, Toowoomba
2006	<i>Flash Trash</i> , Toowoomba Regional Art Gallery, Toowoomba :: commission, exhibition & acquisition of artworks

Selected Publications

2022	<i>Hervey Bay Regional Gallery Strategic Plan 2022-2026</i> , Fraser Coast Regional Council
2016	Simpson CA, <i>Mulberry Hill</i> , National Trust of Australia (Victoria)
2015	Simpson, CA, <i>Return to Hanging Rock</i> , National Trust of Australia (Victoria)
2013	Simpson CA & Cheng E, <i>Noise Cancellation: disrupting audio perception</i> , International Journal of Arts and Technology Simpson CA, <i>Northern Lights</i> , Bundoora Homestead Art Centre Simpson CA, <i>Senior + Cross</i> , Bundoora Homestead Art Centre
2012	Simpson CA & Wagenfeld M, <i>Cloudy Sensoria</i> , Bundoora Homestead Art Centre
2011	Simpson CA et al, <i>Geo Sound Helmets</i> , ISEA2011, Istanbul Simpson CA, <i>Electrofringe in Townsville</i> , eMerge Media Space, James Cook University Simpson CA & Cheng E, <i>Noise Cancellation: disrupting audio perception</i> , IEEE International Conference on Multimedia & Expo, Singapore
2008	Simpson CA, <i>Aurality / Visuality: tensions within sound art</i> , University of Southern Queensland

Selected Curatorial, Management & Educator Experience

2011-	Freelance consultancy & professional development provider (arts & culture)
2022	By Request Program Facilitator (contract), Flying Arts Alliance
2019-21	Curator/Director – Hervey Bay Regional Gallery, Fraser Coast Regional Council
2016-18	Director – Cruden Farm, Keith & Elisabeth Murdoch Trust
2014-16	Mornington Peninsula Regional Manager, National Trust of Australia (Victoria)
2011-14	Curator – Bundoora Homestead Art Centre, Darebin City Council
2011-13	Executive Co-Director & Co-Producer, Electrofringe Ltd

Selected Boards & Advisory Committees

2019-21	Council Representative, Hervey Bay Regional Gallery Consultative Groups
2019	Board Member, Living Learning Pakenham Inc
2013-17	Committee Member, Frankston Tourism Inc Committee (and Marketing & Communications Subcommittee)
2014-16	Committee Member, Mornington Peninsula Local History Networks Committee
2013-16	Committee Member, Frankston Tourism Key Stakeholders Committee
2011-13	Executive Director, Electrofringe Ltd Board of Directors
2011-14	Council Representative, Bundoora Homestead Board of Management; Darebin City Council Arts Advisory Committee; and Darebin City Council Public Art Committee