

Victoria (Fina) Po

Tel: 0427 436 272

Web: www.finapo.net

Email: finaenv@gmail.com

Bio

Fina Po is a Melbourne/Alice Springs based artist whose practice addresses ecological, cultural and social themes. Fina's arts practice has focussed on development of, and involvement in, performance projects which are site-specific, outdoors and/or in non-traditional theater spaces. Fina Po has an interest and background in developing performances in and for the places that have most influenced her: the suburbs, the desert and the city.

Fina's work is interdisciplinary, developing performances and installations that are often interactive, combining dance, sculpture and food. Her arts and performance practice draws upon: her Chinese-Indonesian heritage; physical theatre and butoh training, with dancers Yumi Umiumare and Tony Yap; as well as her experience in environmental education and community engagement work.

Education

Postgraduate Diploma in Arts (Research) (2012-2013)

Ecological performance research included performance project and thesis (First Class Honours)
Monash University, Melbourne

Bachelor of Social Science (Environment) (2001-2005)

Areas of study include environmental policy and sustainable development
RMIT University, Melbourne

Selected Performances

- 2018 *DJ Wrong Banana and the Yellow Rangers* dance theatre show for Wide Open Space Festival, NT
There's a fine line between fact and fiction but I think I snorted it in 2009, interactive performance for the Melbourne International Comedy Festival, VIC
Bubble Lady Interactive performance for *Alone: An Existential Haunting* VIC
- 2017 *Hadopelagic Unit* interactive performance installation for *The Living Theatre* program NT
White and Blanc interactive performance installation for The Village Festival, VIC
- 2016 *Perfect Match* renegade fine dining poetry game show for the Village Festival, VIC
'EEL' for Watch This Space ARI interactive installation '*Labyrinth*', NT
Bedroom Eyes performance installation for Red Dirt Poetry Festival, NT
Rewilding Studio for Watch This Space collaborative artist residency outcome, NT
- 2015 *Hadopelagic Unit* performance installation and *Penny Candy* for the Village Festival, VIC
SDT does XMAS collaborative work with the Secretive Dance Team, VIC
Unbroken Land host for Incite Youth Arts at the Alice Springs Desert Festival, NT
- 2014 *Distal Fragments* outdoor performance with the Environmental Performance Authority, VIC
Mapping & 'GAIP' outdoor dance performance for the Melaka Art and Performance Festival, VIC and Malaysia
The Eeling Studio immersive performance installation for the Village Festival, VIC
grass-land sun-moth human (director, producer) for the Melbourne Fringe Festival, VIC
Out Hear in Alice Springs sound sculpture and dance show for the Alice Springs Desert Festival, NT
Treasured Altar directed by Yumi Umiumare for The Light in Winter Festival, VIC
The Country Inside Me directed by Dani Powell as part of the Punctum Inc. 'Seedpod' residency, VIC
Arcadia for Brimbank City Council M.A.D.E Festival with band 'The Legless Lizards', VIC
Monster Between (film) with Lovecraft Theatre, VIC
- 2013 *Grass Sun-Moth Human*, ecological performance for Monash University arts research project, VIC
Shelly Shiver's Pronounced L-O-V-E of the Man *D* with Psychoknot Theatrics for Melbourne Fringe Festival
Square of Light with Tony Yap Company for Light in Winter Festival, VIC
Shelly Shiver meet Sheila Shatter with the Secretive Dance Team, VIC
- 2012 *under today: traces of eastside* site-specific, oral history, multimedia show directed by Dani Powell for red shoes performance makers, Alice Springs, NT
Walking through Words choreographed by Tony Yap and Yumi Umiumare for Light in Winter Festival, VIC
- 2011 *Lady Haha Goes to Rehab*. Comedy Cabaret for the Melbourne Fringe Festival, VIC
Heart Beat Happening. Interventionist performance piece for the Alice Springs Desert Festival, NT
Winter Filament. Choreographed by Tony Yap for Light in Winter Festival, VIC
Dance Relation II. Performance directed by Kan Katsura at Urban Guild, Kyoto (Japan)

Exhibitions & Installations

- 2012 *under today: traces of eastside*. Illustrations and installations provided for outdoor performance, NT
2011 *Choose Your Own Central Australian Experience* interactive installation for *Souvenir* at Watch This Space ARI, NT
2011 *Manufactured Landspace*. 3 artists locked into a room for 90 hours as an intensive installation making experiment for the Alice Springs Desert Festival, NT
2011 *The Red Vacuum*. Embroidery installation for group show at Olive Pink Botanic Garden, Alice Springs, NT
2011 *Art in the Cube*. Miniature origami pieces for the Alice Springs Desert Festival, NT
2010 *Bush Kaleidoscope*. Kinetic Sculpture for Wide Open Space Festival, Alice Springs, NT

Performance Training

Butoh

2008 – 2017 : Ongoing Butoh dance and physical performance training with Yumi Umiumare and Tony Yap Company through weekly studio based, as well as outdoor residential workshops

2011 – 2016: Participant in studio based workshops with teachers including: Helen Smith, Frances Barbe, Seisaku and Yuri Nagaoka, Kan Katsura, Natsu Nakajima and Yoshito Ohno.

Body Weather

2012 – 2017 : Participant in studio based and outdoor residential workshops with teachers including: Frank Van De Ven, Gretel Taylor and Tess De Quincey,

Site Specific Performance

2014: *Traversing Landscape* weekend workshop with Ilan Abrahams

2013: Site-specific performance masterclass with Jill Orr

Other

2018 – 2019: Artistic roller skating and ice skating

2006 – 2015: Oki- Do yoga and healing with Izumi Inadera | classes and residential workshops

2011 – 2012: Body Electric Electric Dance Studios | Jazz based dance performance classes

2010 – 2011 : Zen Zen Zo Stomping Ground and weekly physical theatre classes

Artist Residencies

2016 Watch This Space ARI (NT): Studio Residency Collaboration with artist Trevor Flinn

2014 Punctum Inc (VIC): Seedpod Residency participant with director Danielle Powell

Grants and Commissions

2014 MORELAND CITY COUNCIL: Individual Development Grant for travel to Melaka Art and Performance Festival (Malaysia)

2014 BRIMBANK CITY COUNCIL: Seeding Arts Grant for production of 'grass-land sun-moth human'

2013 MONASH ACADEMY OF PERFORMING ARTS: Grant for development and showing of *Grass Sun-Moth Human*

2010 WATCH THIS SPACE ARI: Commission to build an environmental installation for Wide Open Space Music and Arts Festival, NT Seeding Arts Grant

Professional Appointments

2017-2019 Lead and Support Artist for Arts Access Victoria's *Nimbus* and *Way Out West* visual art and performing arts programs

2015-2017 Environmental Education Teacher for CERES Community Environment Park

2010 Community Engagement Project Officer (Water Conservation) for NT Government

Other

2016: Wardrobe Assistant for Incite Youth Art's production of *Unbroken Land* (NT)
Fashion model for the *Desert Mob Symposium* (NT)

2015: Finalist in the *Melbourne Cup Fashions on the Field Designer's Award* : modelling for Batchelor Institute, Alice Springs

2010 – 2015: Food sculpture (mainly sushi cakes) for special occasions

2010: School's exhibition curator and creative producer for *National Water Week*, NT

2008: *Elder Cleft*. Self published and illustrated artist book

2006: School's exhibition curator for *Melbourne Environmental Arts Festival*

Links

<http://www.realtimearts.net/article/issue110/10761> | Review of 'under today ' (2012)

<http://www.realtimearts.net/article/issue124/11775> | Review of 'Out Hear in Alice Springs' (2014)

<http://www.alicespringsnews.com.au/2014/09/16/the-art-of-walking/> | Review of 'Out Hear in Alice Springs' (2014)