

2021/2022 Artist in Residence Statements

Cadance Bell is an author, writer, producer and director.

Her dark comedy bush memoir will be released in 2022 through Penguin Random House publishing. She is now working on a fiction manuscript, about a robot and a kitten making their way through the Blue Mountains.

www.cadance.net

Brad Gill is a musician and composer.

Over the past five years I have been developing a body of work and creative approach taking meditation, connection with nature and 'deep listening'.

My creative process is embodied and situated, meaning it very much grows out of my physical and spiritual engagement with the particular environment I have the opportunity to work and spend time in.

Current focusses are projects incorporating collective exploratory improvisation and intersections with non-Western music traditions and building and developing creative collaborations with like-minded artists. His personal composition and vibraphone approaches are grounded in and extensions of Chan practice.

I try to write rich, intense, rewarding, expressive music reflecting my various music theory and performance interests as well as love of nature, literature and my explorations in aesthetics and East Asian culture and spirituality.

Ariella Van Luyn

I work as a lecturer in writing at the University of New England (UNE), Sydney campus. This residency gives me much needed time and space to work on the second half of a novel. The novel is an archaeological thriller, set in the near future and ancient past, titled *Submerged*. Sometime in the 2040s, cyborg marine archaeologist Petra is diving on an ancient Minoan shipwreck discovered off the coast of the Greek island Crete. On the dive, Petra discovers the remains of an unknown woman and a Goddess figurine. Petra sets out to discover all she can about the woman, learning more about herself and the impact of intergenerational trauma.

The Ancient Minoan civilisation is mysterious and mythical. Between 1900 and 1905, archaeologist Arthur Evans excavated the Bronze Age palace and city of Knossos on the Greek island of Crete; Evans named the people who lived in Knossos 'Minoans', believing he had uncovered the source of the myth of the labyrinth that imprisoned the half-bull, half-human Minotaur. Minoan civilisation is also said to be matriarchal because of the extensive evidence of Goddess worship. Minoan civilisation has also been linked to the mythical Atlantis. The novel will explore these differing representations.

Natasha Dubler is a multidisciplinary artist working across sound installation, music performance and small sculpture.

Her recent work explores the transformative capacity of resonance to shape geological structures, probing subtle surface changes as well as potentially destructive events such as landslides and earthquakes. During

the Mt Wilson residency, she will undertake research and experimentation for a multi-channel sound work responding specifically to the unique geological features of the Mt Wilson area. Natasha is trained in cello performance and media arts, and she is currently undertaking PhD research at UNSW Art & Design.

Anna Glynn artist & Peter Dalmazzo biologist

30 days Art & Science at the Old School Mt Wilson Art and science are both ways of looking at and describing the world. Through differing perspectives an artist and scientist will see and describe the world differently but both work to draw attention to the distinct elements of the natural world. In an interdisciplinary collaboration exploring the Blue Mountains Basalt Forest endangered ecological community we will create artwork to focus attention and highlight a stunning and complex environment. Our aim is to create works, mainly using digital media, that address nature, ecology, history and the environment, embracing art as a way to pursue meaningful conversations and exchanges.

Jennifer Keeler-Milne visual artist.

For over a decade my principal subject has been nature, with an underlying concern to reflect its beauty and mystery in a manner that is evocative and atmospheric. During this time my practice has had a strong emphasis on drawing in charcoal, however recently I have returned to painting in oils to work in colour. Creating artworks with an emphasis on the natural world not only documents and celebrates it, but inherently brings awareness to its fragility and vulnerability in a time of threat and change. I resonate closely with the words of the late American artist Georgia O'Keefe when she said: 'I have used these things to say what is to me the wideness and wonder of the world as I live in it'.