

Zsuzsi Soboslay, BA(Hons), AMusA, LTCL. PhD on Care Ethics (pending), Monash University.

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|<http://www.bodyecology.com.au/>

**Writer, researcher, educator, curator, academic, project manager, curator, performer,
artist/illustrator & community arts facilitator.**

*NB: items marked ** may be delayed or on hold due to effects of COVID19 outbreak.*

EDUCATION/qualifications EXPERIENCE

Doctor of Philosophy

'Hope in Uncertainty: ethical (and other) encounters in participatory arts'.

Monash University
(pending)

Peer assessor, Australia Council
for the Arts, Community Arts and
Cultural Development 4-yr funding
panel 2019

Bachelor of Arts

Honours Class 1
(visual arts, music, English literature,
linguistics & semiotics, theatre studies).
1984

A. Mus.A (AMEB) and LT.C.L. (trinity
college, London) music performance
diplomas
1980, 1981

PUBLICATIONS

***'Care and Fire: reflections on care in
communities under crisis,' in *Care:
feminism, art, ethics in neo-liberal times:
an anthology*
ed. Jacqueline Millner; LaTrobe: Care
Research Network (in preparation)

**'Attunement: intimacy and solidarity
in curatorial and research practices'; in
collaboration with
Dr Jacqueline Millner,
*Unsettling Feminist Curating. Radical
Subjectivities, Caring Alliances, and
Striking Relations.* ArtHist.net
(in preparation)

***'Latent Selves and Broken Weavings;
concerns in working with vulnerable
communities in community practices.'
Australasian Drama Studies Association
(ADSA) publication (pending)

1994-2019: writer, reviewer and editor
for *Real Time*; *Canberra Times*; *Writings
on Dance*; *Art Monthly*; *ABC Radio
National*; *Performance/Research Journal*
(Cardiff); and for Craft ACT--over 200
publications/presentations
<https://www.realtime.org.au/?s=Soboslay>
<http://www.bodyecology.com.au/writing/>

Visual Arts

[http://bodyecology.com.au/writing/visual-
arts/](http://bodyecology.com.au/writing/visual-arts/)

NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY OF AUSTRALIA (NPG)

EDUCATOR & LEARNING FACILITATOR, NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY, ACT. 2017 FF

In this position, I engage in a highly collaborative learning environment:

- working with school and pre-school groups
- developing educational tools that encourage visitors' intellectual, cultural and sensory engagement with the Gallery's collections
- co-creating interdisciplinary visitor experiences (e.g. *Portrait Piper* with Flautist Eliza Shephard, Spring Festival, 2018—an interactive performance collaboration)
- communicating and working cooperatively across Section disciplines (marketing, design, administration)
- developing and writing online and digital interactive resources (live, and pre-recorded) for permanent collections, temporary collections and international exhibitions
- adapting and delivering visitor engagements for touring exhibitions—e.g., 'Tawdry Tales' for *Starstruck @ HOTA* Gold Coast March 2018; *The Look* for Geelong Regional Gallery, February 2020
- liaising with interstate organisations and managing tour programmes
- attending to and creating programmes for visitors with special needs
- devising and delivering guided tours of permanent and special collections

INDEPENDENT, COMMUNITY-ENGAGED ARTIST

ARTIST, PROJECT MANAGER, AND CHIEF FACILITATOR

2019

- Initiator, project manager and chief artist, 'Moon Stories: The Day the World Changed'—collaborative project for the 50th Anniversary of the first Moon Walk broadcast, with Namadgi High School students (Year 6), Heritage ACT, Parks ACT, NASA/Canberra Deep Space Tracking Station, Canberra Dance Theatre 'GOLDS' (mature-age dancers), APositive augmented reality technicians, indigenous elder Tyrone Bell (*Thunderstone*), astrophysicist Brad E Tucker (Mt Stromlo) and media and design students from the Faculty of Art and Design, University of Canberra. **Awarded ACT Heritage grant** of \$38,700 and National Trust Award (Heritage, ACT) 2018. <http://www.bodyecology.com.au/moon-stories-2019/>
- CULTURE HUB—creation of monthly 'safe village' cultural gatherings, in partnership with the north Canberra South Sudanese diaspora, Radford College and Anglicare. Recipient of \$10,000 seed funding from the Office of Multicultural Affairs. <http://www.bodyecology.com.au/the-culture-hub-2018-21/>. Awarded **Outstanding Excellence** in the area of Creative Services and Experiences for the Community through Art, Media or Culture, ACT Multicultural Awards, 2018.

Other collaborations: performance/research/community arts nexus

2020-22

Performance

<http://bodyecology.com.au/writing/theatreperformance/>

Music

<http://bodyecology.com.au/writing/music/>

Dance

<http://bodyecology.com.au/writing/writings-dance/>

On ecology, dance ecology, & inclusion

<http://bodyecology.com.au/writing/>

1997: Invited as writer with RealTime team to review @ London's International Festival of Theatre (LIFT).

Curated EXHIBITIONS

Curator, *Trial Bay Gaol* (northern NSW) permanent exhibition, 2012

Curator, *Olympic Cities* Old Parliament House, Canberra, 2007;

Curator, *The Centenary of the Griffin Plan*, New Parliament House, 2006.

Curator & documentary film-maker, *Bonegilla: The Migrant Experience*, Bonegilla Migrant Reception and Training Centre, Albury-Wodonga, 2005

Catalogue editor, *People of the Cedar* N-W Coast Canadian Indigenous Masks, NMA 2005

Other exhibitions: incl. *Beaconsfield*, Albury Regional Library, Sydney Water

TRAINING

**Embodied leadership [*Soul Motion* international training framework, 2020 ff.]

National Capital Authority Educational Tourism skills training workshop, February 2020.

LINKd (via Ausdance ACT): teaching and learning in the disabilities sector 2019.

Ongoing exchange with Entelechy.org in London in participatory practices (2012-19), incl. work with elders in the community, and people of profound and complex disabilities

BodyMind Centering workshop with Bonnie Bainbridge Cohen (2017)

Graduate, Action Learning Facilitator training (Action Learning associates, UK—Australia Council sponsored training of a cohort of CALD and women artists) 2012

Re-training in illustration with Franki Sparke @ ANU, 2009.

- **Cultural mappings: research project investigating intercultural dialogue (work in progress with refugee diaspora in Canberra).
- **Fire stories: setting up a collaborative project between artists and community about survival and resilience in fire-affected areas on the South coast of NSW.
- Women Composers Postgraduate mentorship programme (facilitator and mentor), Sydney Conservatorium of Music (under Professor Liza Lim)
- Chief artist and project manager, 'How rainforests talk' for primary children, Australian National Botanical Gardens for 2021 new Glasshouse opening (projected budget: \$25,000). Including plans for bilingual publications on plant migration, adaptation and resilience with refugee groups & sponsorship from Libraries ACT. <http://www.bodyecology.com.au/how-rainforests-talk-2019-21/>
- **Bundian way—artist participant (2020) and community co-creator (Environment Studio, School of Art, ANU)
- City of Albany WA Vancouver Arts Centre Residency to develop ground-up, long-term refugee arts project (currently under negotiation.)
- The Welcome Project: ArtsXChange, a co-creative, intercultural project in partnership with UnitingCare Kippax, West Belconnen Family & Children's Centre, Belconnen Arts Centre, University of Canberra, a cohort of 12 professional Canberra artists, & members of the Canberra refugee & immigrant communities

2014-17

- Mentor/facilitator with the Parramatta Female Factory Precinct Memory Project -- visual arts and performance; working with members of the Forgotten and Stolen Generations.

2016

- Director/creator, *The Compassion Plays*, an immersive, participatory performance event, created as part of the inaugural Ralph Indie residencies, Gorman Arts Centre, November 2016. The production included members of the Canberra South Sudanese refugee community, five artists and local school children. Production budget: \$28,000. Moneys sourced from crowd funding, private sponsorship, and Monash University. <http://www.bodyecology.com.au/repertoire/anthems-and-angels/>

2013-15

- *L'Optimisme*, solo, self-devised performance, on the life of Jane Avril—businesswoman, dancer at the Moulin Rouge and muse to Toulouse-Lautrec. Avril suffered from a movement disorder (Huntington's Chorea), most probably caused by beatings she suffered as a child. Created for the National Gallery of Australia (NGA) *Enlighten* Festival, March 2013, re-presented @ DANscienCE Week, CSIRO 2013 & Brisbane 2015. <http://bodyecology.com.au/repertoire/optimisme/>

2014

- Facilitator and writer for EPA (the Environmental Performance Authority) *Body of Water*, site-specific ensemble intervention on the banks of the Yarra River; Melbourne Food and Wine Festival, March 2013.

Collaborative work in Galleries, w/visual artists and art ecologists

2018

- *The Portrait Piper*, a performative tour of the Gallery, created in collaboration with flautist Eliza Shephard, Spring Festival, National Portrait Gallery, October
- with visual artist Sally Adair and musician Richard Johnson: *Ventilate @ Contour 556*, East Space Gallery, Commonwealth Place, Lake Burley Griffin (Oct); and *Locus @ ANCA studios* (March)
- finalists, Tom Bass Sculpture Prize, July 2018 @ Juniper Hall, Paddington (with weaver Anne Miron and sounds artist Clive Bourne)—photo-document and installation of co-created performance work

Panels, presentations, exhibition launches

****AMaGA 2020: 'Innovative Practices' (rescheduled to October 2020):**
'Intergenerational, intercultural and interdisciplinary animations: enlivening museum practices'

Feature artist, *New Beginnings*:
Radio Documentary
2XX 98.3 FM Canberra, 2019
<https://curiousheartsau.wixsite.com/newbeginnings/podcast/episode/414a78a7/episode-8-employment-exploitation-and-discovering-the-art-of-new-beginnings-for-canberras-south-sudanese>

Opening speaker, launch of exhibition
The Stand - In Project Louise
Curham/Lynn Loo Photo Access, June
2019

Opening speaker, launch of works by
glass artists Kirstie Rea and
Holly Macdonald @ Sabbia
Galleries,
Sydney 2016

Panelist, 'The Big Flight': ABC RN *Big Ideas* forum, with Paul Barclay
(Street Theatre, Canberra, 2016
<http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/bigideas/artistic-reponses-to-migration-and-the-refugee-crisis/7488082>

Chair, *Segue: Delve Deeper: working between cultures* forum, Street
Theatre Canberra, collaboration with
the Department of European Studies,
ANU and guest speakers from Poland,
Sweden and Portugal. May 2015.

Speaker, *Gudgenby: Traces*, featuring the works of textile
artist Paull McKee and glass artist
Kirstie Rea, commissioned by Craft ACT
Craft and Design
Centre, May, 2010

Other presentations

Thinking Bodies/Moving Minds,
Melbourne Sept 2018;
DANscienCE forum Parramatta
Riverside Theatres, May 2018;
Dance Activism panel, Dance Week,
Ainslie and Gorman Arts
Centre, May 2018.
Craft ACT forums: *Venturing Past an Idea* (2009) and *Baselines* (2008).

awards/citations

- Link for each of the above: <http://bodyecology.com.au/category/performance/>

2017

- with Anne Miron @ Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve Gallery-- photo-document and installation
- with Miron and Bourne @ Craft ACT Gallery--live performance on the life cycle of the Ginnini Frog.
- Link for each of the above: <http://bodyecology.com.au/category/performance/>

2014-16

- Writer Residency: working with Kirstie Rea and Paul McKee for Craft ACT @ Gudgenby Ready Cut Cottage, and Craft ACT. <http://bodyecology.com.au/writing/on-ecology/>

2013

- Writer residency, Gudgenby Ready-Cut Cottage, Namadgi National Park (Craft ACT initiative)

2003-5

- Teaching student cohort at the Environment Studio, School of Art, ANU, under course direction of Dr John Reid.

NETWORKS AND MEMBERSHIPS

2019-20

- member, AMaGA (Australian Museums and Galleries association)
- active member (including addressing effects of COVID19 in community), Canberra Artists' Action Group
- member, 'Imperfect Bodies of Research', Australian National University (women researchers') seminar series.
- participant, 'Care' roundtable: forging alternative ethics through art, held at School of Art, ANU October 2018; lead by Associate Professor Jacqueline Millner (Latrobe University-funded Care Project)
- member, Care Ethics Research Consortium (CERC) a worldwide, inter-disciplinary community committed to the robust exploration and advancement of care ethics (<https://care-ethics.org>)
- participant, Platform C: Collaboration for Impact, systemic and organizational change workshops, organized by the DSS Public Sector Innovation Network digital platform for collaborative systems change; Deep Collaboration our practice platform for changing the relationship with First Nations and other Australian communities
- Jerrabomberra Wetlands arts, environment development network
- Member, Canberra PAN Play Activation Network (Chair: Dr Cathy Hope)
- Participant, City Renewal Authority Urban Art Strategy workshops @ Ainslie and Gorman Arts Centres, with FORM consultants (Perth)

Intercultural networks & research residencies

- 2017 Participant, Counterpointsarts refugee arts networks [UK and Europe]; learning lab attendee and blog contributor; collaborative project in planning
- 2013 Selected participant, national Kultour (intercultural arts) Gathering Brisbane
- 2011-12 Artists' Residency, Canberra Dance Theatre—with 7 Canberra and Sydney-based musicians,
- 2011 3-month Scholars and Artists research residency, National Film and Sound Archive

Other collaborative work

- 2019 Editor, *I just want to make a difference*. Workbook for upper high schools by Fr Richard Browning, on cultural exchange and 'service learning' in third-world communities.
- 2018 Specialist work with women composers in the Masters' Degree, NSW Conservatorium of Music University of Sydney.
- 2016 Writer in residence, *Strange Attractor* dance development platform, Canberra
- 2015 Co-director, major concert of works by Xenakis and Pateras with Synergy Percussion at Carriageworks Sydney
- 2011 Co-director, Synergy Percussion at Angel Place, Sydney: **Winner of the ABC Limelight Award for Best Concert**. <http://bodyecology.com.au/repertoire/work-with-musicians/>
- 2009 Recipient of Bundanon artist Residency—initiating BodyEcology process and stagecraft with percussionist Timothy Constable.

Professional Performance & teaching engagements since 2009:

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| <p>National Trust Australia: Heritage Award for Moon Stories: <i>The Day the World Changed:</i> intercultural/inter-generational work created with ten community and artist partnerships & organisations (2019)</p> <p>Outstanding Excellence Award in the area of Creative Services and Experiences for the Community through Art, Media or Culture (for work with the Canberra South Sudanese Community), ACT Multicultural Awards, (2018)</p> <p>Featured as a 'Local Hero' in the Ginninderry 'Belco Buzz' series for the Culture Hub, created with the South Sudanese community https://www.instagram.com/ginninderry</p> <p>Featured on Day 264 of 365 Days: Australian Women Director's Alliance https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=10162094257495262&id=266181040261&comment_id=10162197733975262</p> <p>Finalist, Tom Bass Sculpture Prize @ Juniper Hall, Paddington, with weaver Anne Miron & sound artist Clive Bourne July 2018</p> <p>Australia Council Community Arts and Cultural Development (CACD) grant to attend the <i>Counterpointsarts</i> International Refugee Arts conference, Newcastle upon-Tyne, UK (\$7,800 grant) 2017</p> <p><i>Anthems & Angels</i>, long-listed for: a) Lesley Scalopino Award for Innovative Women Performance Writers (NYC) 2016 b) ADAA/Saroyan Human Rights Playwriting Award, Armenia 2016</p> <p>Australia Council Community Arts and Cultural Development Panel grant: 3-month Secondment with Entelechy participatory arts company, London (\$12,000) 2016</p> <p>Residency, Parramatta Artists' Studios(2015-18) to support work with members of the Forgotten & Stolen Generations, Parramatta Female Factory Precinct Memory Project</p> | <p>2020** Commissioned to prepare Disabilities Inclusion Action Plan, workshops and working group Questionnaires by Street Theatre, Canberra [initiative of Arts Access Australia]</p> <p>2019-20 Women Composers postgraduate mentorship programme (facilitator and mentor), Sydney Conservatorium of Music (under Professor Liza Lim)</p> <p>2014-18 Actor, director and mentor, Hive script development programme, The Street Canberra</p> <p>2017 Movement director, <i>Cold Light</i> by Frank Moorhouse (dir. Caroline Stacey), Street Theatre Canberra.</p> <p>2017 immersion process created with full Year 9 student cohort , Radford College Refugee Week</p> <p>2016 performer, writer and director, <i>The Compassion Plays</i> participatory performance event on the experience of exile. Inaugural Ralph Indie artists residency, Gorman Arts Centre in collaboration with actors, musicians, live video artist; also utilizing archives. Includes intensives with Year 9 students from Marist College Canberra.</p> <p>2015 Actor, <i>The Chain Bridge</i> by Tom Davis, Street Theatre Canberra November (dir. Caroline Stacey) (character played 20s-40s-70 yrs. in age, in two languages and two cultural landscapes). https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=10206469520469051&set=t.1000695470&type=3&theater</p> <p>2014-15 immersive presentation, <i>Anthems and Angels</i>, a scripted theatre work on the refugee experience, supported by the Street Theatre, Canberra, with development funding ArtsACT (\$17,500). Created with actors, musicians and video artist. The performance is bilingual. http://bodyecology.com.au/repertoire/anthems-and-angels/ (scroll to bottom)</p> <p>2012 Actor, <i>Under Milk Wood</i> (dir. Dianna Nixon), Street Theatre, Canberra—multiple roles.</p> <p>2009: Librettist, <i>Capital</i>, an opera composed by Fiona Fraser, on Walter Burley Griffin and Marion Mahoney Griffin, work-in-progress, Street Theatre, Canberra.</p> <p>2009 inaugural Artists-in-Schools (ACT), Early Childhood Residency @O'Connor Co-Operative School: puppetry, storytelling and visual arts with children pre-school—Yr 2</p> <p>1991-5: Movement consultant, Theatre South & various Wollongong University productions</p> <p>1988-2004:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecturer & tutor in theatre and performance-making in over 11 nation-wide tertiary institutions, including: Environment Studio ANU; UNSW, Universities of Sydney & Melbourne; Victoria University Victorian College of the Arts, Central Queensland Conservatorium of Music, (Mackay), Classical to contemporary theatre & theatre-making; extensive and responsive student mentoring. <p>Voluntary work: all forums/panels listed all community development project partnerships—meetings and planning 2018 ff: work with North Canberra South Sudanese community (2000+ voluntary hours) 2017 ff: member, Play Activation Network, ACT 2016 ff: member, Canberra Artists' Action group 2014 Board Member, Playing Field community arts space, Acton, ACT 2012-13 Board member, Turner Primary School 2009: 'Shake it out' sessions with Year 2 students, Turner Primary 2011 ff mentor, mentor/dramaturge <i>with</i> dance and performance artists and musicians (ongoing)</p> <p>Working with vulnerable people card: current</p> <p>Police check: current</p> <p>First Aid certificate: willing to undertake</p> |
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