

SITE BASED PRACTICES 26

An OSCA Project

SITE BASED PRACTICES 26 is a 3day professional initiative exploring ideas and approaches to creating temporary art projects in the public domain. The workshop is open to emerging and established artists working across all artforms. It has been developed in partnership between OSCA, FELTspace and the project facilitators.

The initiative offers a nurturing space for artists to gather in a professional collegial setting, build skills, increase networks, share knowledge and hear from experienced artists, gaining confidence to develop and create innovative works.

Workshop dates: 1 to 3 Dec 26 from 10 to 4pm each day

Location: FELTspace Gallery, 266 Angas St, Adelaide, and surrounding areas

Facilitated by the artists [Emmaline Zanelli](#) (independent), [David Cross](#) (academic / curator) and [Paul Gazzola](#) (OSCA Artistic Director), participants will be invited to research various sites and develop a series of conceptual and physical responses in a collaborative studio-based process.

This initiative will:

- Offer participants a fertile and nurturing space to develop, share, learn, create and exchange ideas, skills and processes
- Open up new ways of thinking, doing and making in a collaborative and collegial gathering
- Support SA artists seeking new approaches to site-based art projects and ways of working with communities
- Present talks from First Nations and internationally recognised artists on how they work with site and community
- Offer practical information on how to go about generating projects

To apply please send a

- Short statement of your practice interests and why you would like to attend (up to 250 words max)
- 1 page bio and include links to socials / website and previous projects

Applications close: 28 October 2026

Participants will be notified by the 3 Nov 2026

Email all applications to office@osca.org.au under heading *SITE BASED PRACTICES application*.

Successful applicants will each be paid an honorarium of \$300 for the full three days to cover meals and travel.

For more information, please contact

Paul Gazzola / OSCA Artistic Director

paulg@osca.org.au or phone 0403959716

SITE BASED PRACTICES 26 has been supported by Create SA, City of Adelaide, FELTspace and OSCA. This workshop is a precursor of TPA - a festival of temporary public art planned by Open Space Contemporary Arts / OSCA in 2028.

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Workshop facilitators

Emmaline Zanelli combines video, photography, sculpture and performance to create works that find humour, strangeness and meaning in everyday experience. Influenced by absurdism and surrealism, her practice often uses playful staging, exaggerated gestures and sculptural forms to explore deeper social tensions. Recently, her work has considered labour, fabrication, memory and youth culture, as well as the ways identity and the self are performed. Her work has been exhibited across Australia, including at Perth Institute of Contemporary Art, Boorloo/Perth; Centre for Contemporary Photography, Naarm/Melbourne; and the Art Gallery of South Australia, Tarndanya/Adelaide. Key projects include *Dynamic Drills* (2019-2021), *Nutritional Index* (2021-2022), *I take care of what's mine* (2023-2024), *Magic Cave* (2024) and *Pocket Money*. In 2022, *Dynamic Drills* won The Churchie Emerging Art Prize. In 2025, Zanelli presented work in *Primavera 2025* at the Museum of Contemporary Art Australia, Tallawoladah/Sydney. In 2026, she developed *Pocket Money* for the Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art, *Yield Strength*.
<https://emmalinezanelli.com/>

David Cross is a Melbourne-based artist, curator and writer. His practice extends across performance, installation, sculpture, public art and video. Known for his examination of risk, pleasure and participation, Cross, often utilises inflatable structures to negotiate inter-personal exchange. He has performed in international live art festivals in Poland and Croatia and was selected as a representative at the 2011 and 2015 Prague Quadrennials. Cross was commissioned by National Institute of Experimental Art to develop *Drift*, a public art commission for Taylors Square in Sydney (2011). His work *Hold* was selected for inclusion in Liveworks at Performance Space, Sydney in 2010 and at Arts House for the Melbourne International Festival in October 2012. More recently he has examined the connection between sport, performance and community in public art projects for Scape 7 in Christchurch (2013), Temporary Democracies: A Project for Campbelltown Arts Centre (2014) and Hidden (2026). As a curator of public art, he developed with Claire Doherty the *OneDay Sculpture* project across New Zealand in 2008/9, *Iteration:Again: 13 Public Art Projects Across Tasmania* (2011) *Treatment: 6 Public Artworks at Western Treatment Plant* (2015) and *Venetian Blind, Venice Biennale*, (2019). He is Professor of Visual Arts at Deakin University. <https://www.davidcrossartist.com/>

Paul Gazzola is an artist, curator, performer and writer working across participatory art practice, visual arts, sculpture and performance. For more than 30 years, he has created and curated projects for galleries, museums, stages, public spaces, site-specific settings, print and projection, with commissions across Australia, Canada, Japan, South Africa, South America, the UK and Europe. Originally trained as a carpenter, Gazzola holds a BA in Performance, is a qualified Feldenkrais practitioner and has undertaken formative studies in architecture. These fields inform a practice concerned with the spatial and performative relationships between the body, site, place and the built environment. As Artistic Director of OSCA - Open Space Community Arts in South Australia, he has developed site-based projects that connect artistic practice with community and place. Projects including, *We Can Be Heroes*, *Say My Name* and *Front Yard Slide Shows* reflect his commitment to collaborative, socially engaged practice, creating encounters that activate local stories, shared spaces and public participation.
<https://paulgazzola.org/>