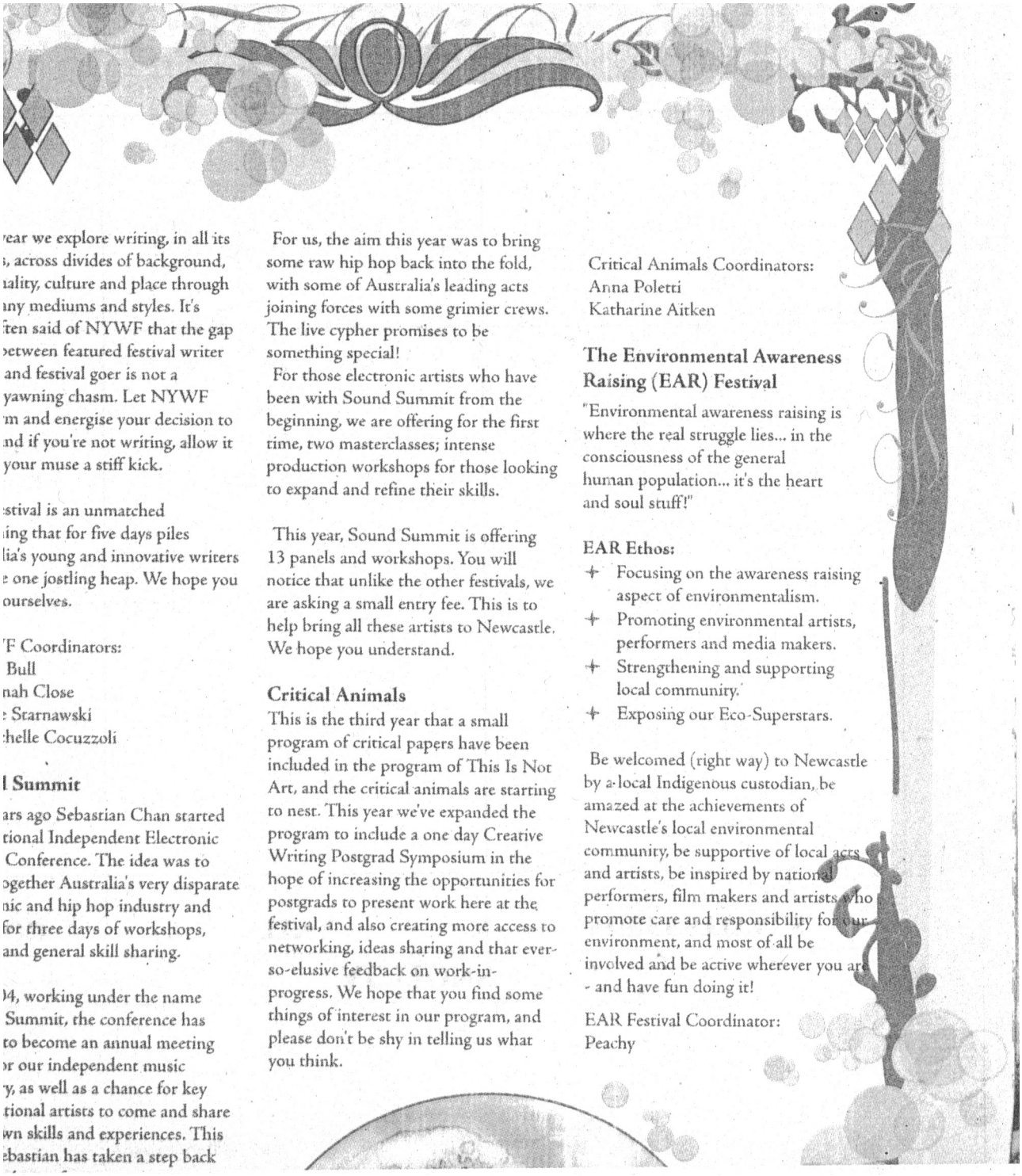
Critical Animals Program Blurbs

Critical Animals started in 2002 at This Is Not Art festival, under the name 'The New Media: Critical Approaches'. Some things have changed and a lot have stayed the same, but we are committed to providing a voice to emerging voices in the fields surrounding arts and media.

In this document, you will find some of the blurbs we've used in the TiNA program in our earlier years. Many of our print programs no longer exist in electronic form, so below you will find scanned images of the TiNA program.

If you do happen to come across anything that might be useful for our archives, please get in touch with us at criticalanimals@gmail.com!



'ear we explore writing, in all its
, across divides of background,
ıality, culture and place through
ıny mediums and styles. It's
ften said of NYWF that the gap
›etween featured festival writer
and festival goer is not a
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'm and energise your decision to
nd if you're not writing, allow it
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:stival is an unmatched
ing that for five days piles
lia's young and innovative writers
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ourselves.

'F Coordinators:
Bull
nah Close
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l Summit

ars ago Sebastian Chan started
tional Independent Electronic
Conference. The idea was to
›gether Australia's very disparate
nic and hip hop industry and
for three days of workshops,
and general skill sharing.

)4, working under the name
Summit, the conference has
to become an annual meeting
›r our independent music
'y, as well as a chance for key
tional artists to come and share
wn skills and experiences. This
ebastian has taken a step back

For us, the aim this year was to bring some raw hip hop back into the fold, with some of Australia's leading acts joining forces with some grimier crews. The live cypher promises to be something special!

For those electronic artists who have been with Sound Summit from the beginning, we are offering for the first time, two masterclasses; intense production workshops for those looking to expand and refine their skills.

This year, Sound Summit is offering 13 panels and workshops. You will notice that unlike the other festivals, we are asking a small entry fee. This is to help bring all these artists to Newcastle. We hope you understand.

Critical Animals

This is the third year that a small program of critical papers have been included in the program of This Is Not Art, and the critical animals are starting to nest. This year we've expanded the program to include a one day Creative Writing Postgrad Symposium in the hope of increasing the opportunities for postgrads to present work here at the festival, and also creating more access to networking, ideas sharing and that ever-so-elusive feedback on work-in-progress. We hope that you find some things of interest in our program, and please don't be shy in telling us what you think.

Critical Animals Coordinators:
Anna Poletti
Katharine Aitken

The Environmental Awareness Raising (EAR) Festival

"Environmental awareness raising is where the real struggle lies... in the consciousness of the general human population... it's the heart and soul stuff!"

EAR Ethos:

- Focusing on the awareness raising aspect of environmentalism.
- Promoting environmental artists, performers and media makers.
- Strengthening and supporting local community.
- Exposing our Eco-Superstars.

Be welcomed (right way) to Newcastle by a local Indigenous custodian, be amazed at the achievements of Newcastle's local environmental community, be supportive of local acts and artists, be inspired by national performers, film makers and artists who promote care and responsibility for our environment, and most of all be involved and be active wherever you are - and have fun doing it!

EAR Festival Coordinator:
Peachy

2004

SOUND SUMMIT

Founded in 2000, Sound Summit is an annual conference for independent artists, labels and people interested in working and playing in electronica and hip-hop.
It exists to explore and support brilliant, independent electronic music and hip-hop in Australia and abroad. This year's conference explores the question – Can we be intellectual about the music we dance to? You might not find an answer, but you can be assured of two things: some healthy debate and in-depth discussion paired with long nights featuring some of the most innovative dance, hip hop and electronic music makers in the world today!
All Sound Summit workshops and panels are free with key industry players imparting invaluable gems of wisdom, veterans of the scene sharing their experiences and upstarts engaging in healthy debate about future directions.
This years' Summit features an eclectic array of International and local artists from a huge range of exciting modern music genres, with everything from Baile Funk, to Baltimore Club, to Crunk in the mix. Not sure what any of these genres mean? You will after the festival!
When they're not performing live sets, these artists will feature alongside industry for a number of the panels and workshops, including: Exploitation (Music and the Internet /Music Vs the Internet), Sub Genre 101, Australian Hip Hop (where to now?), Music Blogging (Beyond The Personal And Into The Professional), The Cultural Significance in Modern Music, Sedition / Censorship/Defamation, Touring Australia and Music and The Media!
Enjoy! *Mille & Levins*
www.soundsummit.org

NATIONAL STUDENT & EMERGING MEDIA CONFERENCE

Welcome to the 2006 National Student and Emerging Media Conference. The NSEMC brings together student media producers, emerging media makers, editors, designers, artists, journalists and writers for five days of learning, collaborating, skill sharing and networking. However, anyone is welcome to attend the conference - the more the merrier! This year's program covers a diverse range of topics, from hands-on skills development and tutorials, through to critical discourse and analysis of the current trends and issues surrounding the media in Australia. Our panelists hail from all corners of the media universe – indy media, mainstream broadcast and print, student media, niche publications, and academia. Thanks to our sponsors, speakers, volunteers and TINA for all their support this year.

CRITICAL ANIMALS

'Animals think… they're pretty smart.
Shit on the ground… see in the dark.'
Talking Heads
Critical Animals is building an ark for the cool kids of academia, who are as au fait with weblogs and wikkis as they are with the library stacks. Critical critters run amok over the Thursday and Friday of the TINA program, when creative practice and critique collides in a series of discussion panels from tertiary research students.
Keri Glastonbury - www.criticalanimals.org

EARTHLING

Earthling is a terra firma gathering for environmental activists, who too rarely get together to talk about "why" and "how" and "if." Sessions will explore broad ideas about the way we activate, and the tools we use, the way we organise and the biggest challenges facing us all.

Earthling will include panel discussions on climate change, biodiversity conservation, media and image culture, and green-indigenous alliances as well as practical workshops, a wind-down Environmentalism

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National Young Writers' Festival

Welcome to the 2007 National Young Writers' Festival.

Over the past twelve months we've tried our hardest to organise something so damn appealing, so jaw-droppingly wonderful, that if you find out about the fest three days before it starts, you'll quit your job on the spot, throw in the dishtowel and hitch-hike from Adelaide to Newcastle with a bunch of zines under your arm, hoping that someone will let you sleep on their hostel floor. Because they will.

And then, if you're passionate about words, you'll wake up in some kind of demented paradise – surrounded by panels and workshops and performances, caught up in a great tide of hundreds upon hundreds of spunky young things, all there for the same reason ...

For five spectacular days you will eat, drink and inhale writing. You'll get inspired, confronted, surprised, amused, drunk, lost and exhausted – then get up, and do it all over again. By Monday you'll be a twitching, ecstatic wreck, with 37 new best friends, 73 brilliant new ideas, and too many burgers in your belly. As you can probably tell, we're excited for you.

Are you excited? Read the program – you will be.

Sound Summit

For seven years now Sound Summit has given electronic and hip-hop musicians, producers, composers, labels, promoters and fans a chance to perform, discuss, learn, teach, interact and argue in front of an audience of like-minded peers.

Sound Summit exists to explore and support electronic music and hip-hop from Australia and abroad, extending its branches to any other genre of music that wishes to collaborate – which this year includes electro, crunk, dancehall, indie-rock, Baltimore club, r&b and any other genre that accidentally gets created when all our creative minds are dancing together at one of the huge parties or sharing wisdom at one of our discussions.

A few years ago everybody was a DJ. This year it seems everybody is a producer too! A series of production workshops will teach you how to produce using nothing more than a laptop, explore the ins and outs of sampling and take a look at the importance of remixes and beat making in the club scene.

This year we're combining a wide, eclectic line-up of talented folk from all over the globe with some of the most ambitious and unique parties we've ever been part of and adding some truly in-depth and inspiring discussion panels to make what we think is the best Sound Summit ever! Enjoy!!

Critical Animals

Welcome to Critical Animals, TINA's creative research symposium. Critical Animals musters together honours and postgraduate students (as well as those recently graduated and still at a loose end), early-career academics, quasi-intellectuals and anyone else interested in devouring critical contexts for the kinds of experimental and emerging arts and media practices in the TINA program.

The majority of our panels run on Thursday and Friday in the City Hall, so come along early for furry friends and poindextrous posturings. Our special events include an op shop tea party, a performance research showcase, and the cross festy panel "Is TINA a Critical Animal?"

This year we're right into obscurity and obsession and the kinds of 'Mickey Mouse' research areas that bug the hell out of Miranda Devine and her ilk.

There's been a huge increase in the number of artists undertaking postgraduate study in Universities and Critical Animals provides a national community forum somewhat outside the usual tertiary stricture.

Keri | Sass

2007

NATIONAL YOUNG WRITERS' FESTIVAL

By the way, did we mention we're turning ten? & that we're in full-blown celebratory mode as only a bunch of overexcited creative anarconauts & ratbag thinkers can be? A decade on, the four-dole-cheques-and-a-damn-good-idea approach that began the NYWF has bloomed into Australia's most fertile, over-stimulating & best-loved writers' festival. So join us to celebrate the past — favourite guests, a kick-arse NYWF anthology, hot discussion panels on a decade of alternative Australian culture — & to initiate the new — an experimental theatre & performance mini-fest, ground-breaking modes of publishing & distribution, topical debates & a host of new writers & performers for your pleasure. As always, the NYWF is about collaboration & participation, so bring your words, your ideas & your excitement & prepare for a five-day explosion of the finest creative culture this country has to offer.

NICOLAS LOW, AMY INGRAM & DAN EVANS

SOUND SUMMIT

Founded in 2000, Sound Summit is an annual conference for independent artists, labels & people that work & create in the fields of innovative, independent hip hop & electronic music — & any sounds lost between the two.

For eight years Sound Summit has been core to exploring the depths & reach of these sounds, giving musicians, producers, composers, promoters & fans the opportunity to interact, reflect & collaborate, building communities around what they do & exploring how they do it. It's a nice M.O. to inherit.

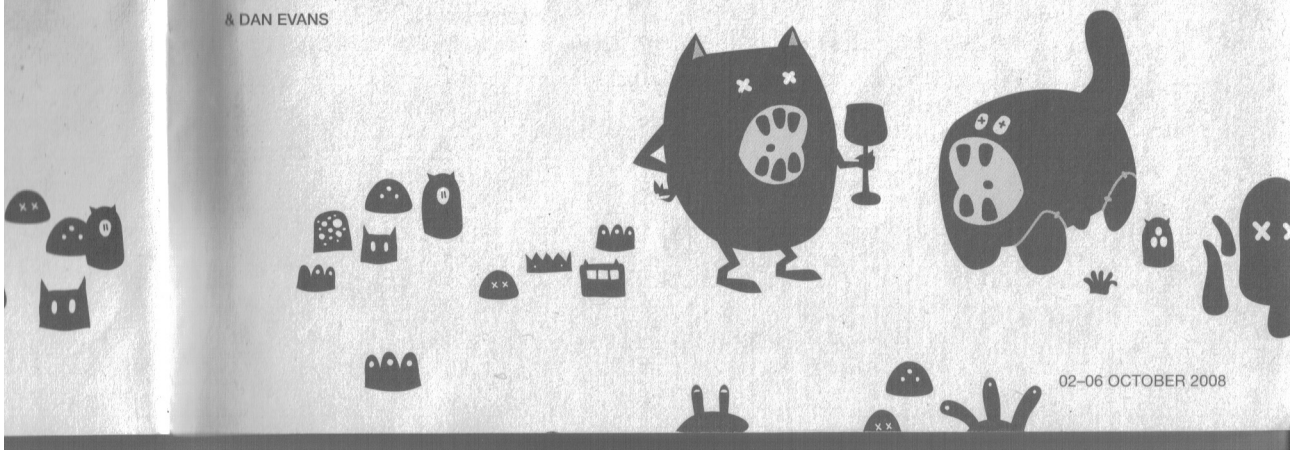
This year we're focussing on those communities & the virtues of the collaborative mind. Through parties & panels we'll be looking at what it means to be making music as an independent artist, in independent communities, in Australia today. With so much self-reflexivity over one weekend who knows what'll happen?

ELIZA SARLOS & MILLIE MILLGATE

CRITICAL ANIMALS

This year, Critical Animals has grown from a two-day festival to a three-day festival, which means we are lucky enough to be programming over forty writers, artists, poets, performers, teachers, academics, students & thinkers. The composition of the festival has been an organic process, with similarities & shared preoccupations emerging in a few key areas: poetics, sustainability, experimentation, radical performance, psychogeography & sex. There will be papers, panels, discussions, collective performances, readings, a late-night ghost-poetry jaunt, a book club, installations, an e-zine launch & a book launch. We thank all our artists for their involvement & invite everyone to join in this wonderful, growing festival.

BRITTANY GUY & ASTRID LORANGE



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