

## Co-Director Call Out – Critical Animals 2017-2018

The Critical Animals Creative Research Symposium is looking for a new Co-Director for 2017-2018. The successful applicant will work alongside the ongoing Co-Directors in the facilitation of the next two Critical Animals festivals.

**DEADLINE:                    21 December**

To apply, send your cover letter and CV to [Justine@criticalanimals.com](mailto:Justine@criticalanimals.com)

### **About the Critical Animals Creative Research Symposium**

Critical Animals is a creative research symposium held annually as a part of This Is Not Art (TiNA) over the October long weekend in Newcastle, Australia. This is Not Art (TiNA) celebrates Newcastle as a first rate creative city.

This is Not Art has become an integral part of Newcastle's arts calendar as young people from around the country converge on the city over the October long weekend to share ideas, meet like-minded creative and potential collaborators, and test work in a safe and supportive environment with our longstanding co-presenters National Young Writers' Festival (NYWF) and Crack Theatre Festival.

It's a forum for students, researchers, writers, artists, thinkers and curious individuals who are critically engaged with creative and experimental art practices. It provides a curated program of ongoing research, and provides participants an opportunity to challenge their creative practices and work collaboratively with others exploring their field.

The presentation of these ideas can take diverse forms from exhibition, artist workshops, discussion groups, screenings, readings, curatoriums and panel presentations. In 2015 we presented 17 events over the four-day festival. The Co-Directors are responsible for crafting a festival program, lead by an open call submission process. Critical Animals prides itself on being an interdisciplinary environment that encourages innovative approaches in both form and content and recognises the symbiotic relationship between practice and research.

For more information:

[criticalanimals.org](http://criticalanimals.org)

[www.thisisnotart.org](http://www.thisisnotart.org)

## **Position Description**

Position Title:	Co-Director
Period:	2 years
Commencement:	January 2017
Working hours:	Approx 1 day per week in lead up; increasingly more hours as the festival nears; full time for the week of the festival. 450 hours per year.
Key relationships:	This position works closely with other Co-Directors, Curator and Marketing Coordinator. The Co-Directors are members of TiNA Org, the organisational team comprising the TiNA Coordinator and Directors from all TiNA festivals. The Co-Directors meet monthly with the TiNA organisers and the Directors from the other participating festivals (Crack, NYWF etc.) throughout the year. Critical Animals also has a small team volunteers that contribute to the process in the lead up to and during the festival.
Fee:	All Critical Animals roles are volunteer positions. Co-Directors will be offered an honourarium for their contribution to the running of the Symposium.
Location:	Critical Animals is a national festival, currently directors are based in Sydney and Melbourne. You do not need to be based in Newcastle to apply, however we strongly encourage applicants based in Newcastle or the Hunter region. The successful candidate will be required to attend monthly TiNA org meetings in alternating cities (Sydney and Newcastle) and attend regular Critical Animals meetings either in person or via phone/skype, and be in Newcastle for approximately one week at the time of the festival.

## **Responsibilities of the Co-Director**

### Program

- Select artists through applications
- Create the festival program through the conception and organisation of panels, presentations, paper sessions, readings, performances, exhibitions, installations, workshops and special events
- Facilitate sessions and appoint facilitators for events
- Manage events through artist liaison prior to and during the festival, mindful of overall festival logistics

### Fundraising and Sponsorship

- Actively seek sponsorship opportunities for the festival
- Maintain and develop relationships with funding bodies and partners

- Acquit funding and sponsorship for the festival

#### Strategically

- Plan for the long-term viability and vitality of Critical Animals
- Network with artists, partnering organisations and universities to build and sustain solid relationships for the delivery and sustainability of the festival

#### Publicity and Communications

- Act as a media spokesperson and public face of the festival
- Publicise the festival, festival initiatives and call for proposals
- Liaise with the TiNA Media Coordinator to publicise the festival and its artists
- Maintain [criticalanimals.org](http://criticalanimals.org)
- Phone and email communications with artists during the application and selection process, festival lead-up, the festival itself and festival post-production

#### Logistics

- Liaise with TiNA organisers and other festival Directors to ensure that Critical Animals is integrated with other aspects of the TiNA program
- Arrange venues; create and work to running sheets for venues to ensure that events run on time, and that bump in and bump out occur smoothly
- Liaise with artists and TiNA Production Manager to organise the tech requirements for events and ensure that these are delivered during the festival
- Work with Program Coordinators and volunteers to ensure that the program is supported by appropriate human resources
- Ensure the festival and its operations are delivered on time and within budget

#### **Who we're looking for**

For the role of Co-Director, we're looking for someone passionate about the intersection of arts and research, about the development of creative research and multidisciplinary artforms. You might be an artist, an academic, an organiser, you might be engaged in postgraduate study, you might be some combination of these.

You will have existing artistic networks, and an understanding of the issues facing artists in traditional, contemporary and emergent forms. You'll have the ability to research and oversee the creation of a diverse and comprehensive festival program, by working collaboratively over distance, predominantly through email correspondence.

This is an opportunity to help shape an exciting and emerging festival, to broaden your artistic networks on a national level, and to gain experience and professional development in festival management.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Midnight 21 December

To apply, send a cover letter outlining your relevant experience, suitability for the role and why you'd like to work with Critical Animals, along with a CV to: [justine@criticalanimals.com](mailto:justine@criticalanimals.com)

For further information or for any queries, please email [justine@criticalanimals](mailto:justine@criticalanimals) or call Justine Holt on 0416 031 043.

We look forward to hearing from you!  
Critical Animals Team Julia, Justine & Nanda