



# TC

2022 Documentary  
Talent Camp

AFTRS

The next generation  
of documentary makers

# Acknowledgement of Country

The Australian Film, Television and Radio School acknowledges the Traditional Custodians, the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nations, on whose unceded lands we meet for Documentary Talent Camp. We pay our respects to Elders and Knowledge Holders past and present and extend our respect to all Aboriginal and Zenadth Kes (Torres Strait) Nations, who continue to occupy unceded ancestral, traditional, living lands that are now collectively known as Australia.

# What is Talent Camp?

Talent Camp is a skills development program for creatives from diverse backgrounds, designed to provide opportunities for emerging storytellers to create new content and be employment ready for the screen sector.

The inaugural Documentary Talent Camp 2022 will take place across August 8-12 at the Music Market in Collingwood Yards (Naarm).

The week-long state workshops will focus on story development, producing and directing considerations and career pathways for Documentary, culminating in a networking event with industry professionals.

Ten participants from around the country have been selected for Documentary Talent Camp

through a competitive application process. Two creatives will join us from each state across: New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania.

Documentary Talent Camp is a multi-partner screen industry initiative, made possible with the support of AFTRS, Screen Australia, Screen NSW, Screen Queensland, VicScreen, South Australian Film Corporation and Screen Tasmania; and in association with MIFF Accelerator Lab.



# Workshop Tutors



## Philippa Bateman

Philippa Bateman's career spans scripted features, documentaries, long form journalism, photography, and screen-based media arts. Recently, she directed and produced *WASH MY SOUL IN THE RIVER'S FLOW*, a critically acclaimed feature documentary about Archie Roach and Ruby Hunter. The film was released in cinemas in 2022 and acquired by STAN and the ABC. Embedded at Alex Gibney's Jigsaw Productions in New York while a recipient of a She-Doc Fellowship (2019), she wrote two US-based documentaries. Philippa is also the producer and script editor of *THE BEEHIVE* (2018), a non-linear documentary and digital art installation (ACMI) about murdered activist, publisher, and heiress Juanita Nielsen. A senior development and production executive with 25+ years' experience in specialty feature films—in Australia, the US and UK, as a creative producer Philippa Bateman has also had deals with US studios United Artists and Universal. She headed up April Films, a privately financed production company that produced *JINDABYNE* starring Laura Linney and Gabriel Byrne and premiered at Director's Fortnight in Cannes (2006) and sold to Sony Classics in the US.



## Santilla Chingaipe

Santilla Chingaipe is a journalist, filmmaker and author, whose work explores colonialism, slavery, and post-colonial migration in Australia. Chingaipe's first book of non-fiction detailing the untold stories of African convicts, is forthcoming, and the critically acclaimed documentary inspired by the book *OUR AFRICAN ROOTS*, is streaming on SBS On Demand. The recipient of several awards, she was recognised at the United Nations as one of the most influential people of African descent in the world in 2019. She is a regular contributor to *The Saturday Paper*, and serves as a member of the Federal Government's Advisory Group on Australia-Africa Relations. Chingaipe is the founder of *Behind The Screens*, an annual program supported by Film Victoria and Footscray Community Arts Centre, aimed at increasing the representation of people historically excluded from the Australian film industry. She is based in Melbourne.



## Hollie Fifer

Hollie is currently the Director of Australian Programs at Doc Society and Director of the arts not-for-profit Schoolhouse Studios in Melbourne, Australia. As a documentary filmmaker, Hollie's films have screened at festivals and broadcasted within Australia and internationally. *THE OPPOSITION* is Hollie's debut feature documentary produced by Media Stockade that world premiered at Hot Docs and IDFA in 2016 before winning the Grand Prize at FIFO, screening at the UN Human Rights Council, winning Best Documentary Feature at the Oz Flix Independent Film Awards and screening in over 35 countries. Hollie's latest short film *UNBALANCED* recently premiered on Australian newspapers *The Age*/*Sydney Morning Herald*'s Vox Dox series. Hollie serves on the Board of the Australian International Documentary Conference (AIDC) and the Castlemaine Documentary Festival (CDoc).

# Workshop Facilitators



**Ellen Hodgson**

Ellen is an Anishinaabe/Apsaalooke filmmaker who grew up on Ngunnawal Country and currently resides on Gadigal Land. She is the Community Outreach Engagement Manager within the First Nations and Outreach team at AFTRS; a role that co-designs initiatives and strategy with the screen industry and communities to support access and pathways for underrepresented film practitioners. Prior to her time at AFTRS, Ellen has been working within the industry as a producer, casting director and production coordinator in advertising, factual, narrative and long-form for companies such as Marvel, Netflix, HBO and Lingo Pictures.



**Marissa Ciampi**

Within her role as Outreach Project Manager at AFTRS, Marissa supports Australia's diverse and emerging talent through initiatives like Talent Camp, Media Lab and nationwide community partnerships. Marissa has over 10 years' experience in creative management, copywriting, editing and marketing. Since 2019, she has worked within the First Nations & Outreach division at AFTRS to foster inclusion and belonging in the Australian screen industry. This is the second year she has delivered the Talent Camp workshops.

# Guest Speakers



## Sari Braithwaite

Sari's documentary films have played at MIFF, SFF, Adelaide Film Festival, New Zealand International Film Festival, DocPoint and BFI London. Her 2016 film 'Paper Trails' earned her a Directors Guild Award. She was a recipient of the 2015 AFTRS Creative Fellowship to create her first feature length experimental work [CENSORED], which was awarded Best Documentary at the Chicago International Film Festival. Sari's most recent film BECAUSE WE HAVE EACH OTHER will be having its world premiere at the MIFF 2022.



## Rufus Richardson

As Documentary Executive, Rufus is responsible for the management of Madman's wholly-owned documentary VOD platform DocPlay and for the acquisition of Madman's documentary slate. Rufus has worked in the film industry for over 15 years as a journalist, critic, producer, story consultant, script editor, location scout and assistant director. He worked in various roles for film agencies in the Netherlands and New Zealand, and he was previously a programmer for Doc Edge International Documentary Film Festival in Auckland, New Zealand. He is a passionate advocate for documentary as a vehicle for social change. Rufus is a graduate of the Australian National University and AFTRS.

# Participants

Bianca Farmakis (NSW)



✉ [BIANKA.FARMAKIS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:BIANKA.FARMAKIS@GMAIL.COM)

Writer/journalist with a focus on story sharing, not telling, for voices that deserve the spotlight to spark change.

**Biography** → Bianca Farmakis is a journalist and writer, with work published on a national and international scale. As an advocate for platforming underrepresented voices and subjects in the press, she has sought to adapt her storytelling skills across multiple mediums, moving between print, film and audio. Her work covering Australia's sexual consent reform earned her a nomination for Mumbrella's Young Australian writer of the year in 2021. She also doesn't mind a beer and a chat, from time to time.



Bunny Yan (NSW)



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I'm actually pretty good at storytelling :)

**Biography** → Working in the fashion & marketing industries for 20+ years, I was quite annoyed by how 'guilt-tripping' & 'exploiting our need to fit in' are the main sales tactics. This inspired me to combine my expertise with my eccentric personality to create feel good video content that celebrates our differences. Doing so, I also discovered this form of expression lets me tap into all kinds of skills as well as learning cool new ones! And that's just Sooo exciting! Oh! Also! I Love hot sauces, wearing onesies & sharing memes.

Danielle Tinker (SA)



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I love being in the zone when researching, writing, producing and editing, I am a filmmaker at heart.

**Biography** → Navigating both narrative and documentary, Danielle tells stories that entertain, inspire and incite conversation. After working in advertising and becoming a mother, Danielle is excited to return to her true passion for writing films. Her credits with Cinemache include documentary POINT FORWARD (in-production, Writer/Producer) and documentary LAST MEAL (2020, Producer) which was selected for over 20 festivals including the 2021 Tribeca Film Festival and which sold to VICE in the US. Other films of note are CLOSE IN HEART (2014, Writer/Producer) funded through Screen Australia and PARDESI (2010, Writer/Producer/Director) winner of the Oz Asia film festival.



Dylan Nicholls (QLD)



✉ WANDARRAMEDIA@GMAIL.COM

Yuwaalaaray filmmaker who strives to create engaging stories that start important conversations.

**Biography** → In my teenage years, I developed an interest in filmmaking, making music videos and animations with friends. I then became obsessed with watching films, to learn more about the craft. Watching so many different films, from all over the world, that it sparked my curiosity to learn more about myself and others, and the human condition, which led me to studying psychology in my early twenties. Through my work as a psychologist, my passion for filmmaking re-emerged, as I became interested in making short documentary films, that touch on themes relating to mental health and social issues.

Grace Akosua Williams (TAS)



✉ DIRECTOR@CITIZENTAS.ORG.AU

Gentle Social Provocateur

**Biography** → Grace Akosua Williams is a documentary filmmaker, writer and broadcaster who wants audiences to become comfortable in the uncomfortable. A gentle social provocateur, Grace guides people through the hard conversations that are needed to break down prejudices and create solutions to systemic social issues. She creates films that allow audiences to sit with the tension in the murkier sides of their social, cultural and political history. Her legal background has positioned her to hold multiple viewpoints in mind to tell stories that question hidden cultural assumptions, unlocking empathy.

Jason Christou (VIC)



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Inspiring empathy, one story at a time.

**Biography** → Jason Christou is a writer, director and teacher of Greek-Cypriot and Austrian/Slovenian descent. He studied screenwriting at RMIT and directing at VCA. He’s thrice been a finalist or shortlisted for the Sundance Screenwriters Lab, a finalist in the Francis Ford Coppola judged American Zoetrope Screenplay Contest, and selected to Warner Bros and The Blacklist’s “Aussie List”. His short films have played at Academy-accredited film festivals worldwide including Palm Springs. Jason was writer and script editor on ABC/Matchbox Pictures’ NOWHERE BOYS, and a director’s apprentice on Sony/AMC’s PREACHER. He is currently writer/director of feature FEUD and doco SKINNY.

Kristina Kraskov (VIC)



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I like to make films about weird people and things.

**Biography** → Kristina Kraskov is a documentarian who grew up in regional Victoria, her family predominantly Russian refugees coming to Australia from China. Now based in Naarm with a keen interest in unusual, subversive imagery and stories. Her short films include HEAVY HAULAGE GIRLS (2016) (SKFF, MWFF), THE KING OF FRANKSTON (2019) (MDFF, MWFF) and the VICE original PARTY IN THE BACK. Kristina's photographic work has been commissioned by the MRT Creative Program and has been shown in the National Photographic Portrait Prize, IRIS awards and Australian Photography Awards, amongst others. Kristina also shoots both video and stills on a freelance basis.

Poppy Fitzpatrick (SA)



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I’ve started 99 things and haven’t finished one.

**Biography** → Poppy is an SA born and bred country kid, now living it large in the throbbing metropolis of Adelaide. Poppy dabbles in writing, journalism, photography and filmmaking – all of which intersect at her deep fascination for people. A regular feature writer for Fleurieu Living Magazine, Poppy has also published pieces with ABC Everyday, Crikey and Global Hobo. Poppy loves a chat, especially when it unveils the deepest, darkest, most inspiring or (preferably) most embarrassing things that make us human. She hopes to normalize humanity’s weirdness on screen by sharing stories usually reserved for 3am D&M’s – as long as you go first.

Sara Glaoua (TAS)



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“I have learned silence from the talkative, toleration from the intolerant, and kindness from the unkind; yet strange, I am ungrateful to these teachers.”  
- Kahlil Gibran

**Biography** → Sara Glaoua is a Tasmanian based filmmaker who lives in Hobart. She grew up between France and Morocco. She relocated to Australia in 2012 and graduated from Sydney Film School in 2013. Sara has been involved with all aspects of filmmaking (shooting, directing, producing) and is currently working as full-time editor. She has an interest in impactful filmmaking for social change. Her work is a mixture of magical realism and social drama and manages to walk the delicate line between joyous innocent celebrations of life and hard to swallow social truths. Her work has a strong focus on the poetic and aesthetic. Sara has made numerous films to date, including SI (2013) and THE GIFT (2019), which combined have screened at several film festivals worldwide including the International Film Awards in Berlin, The IGTV Film Festival as part of The Sydney Film Festival, and won few awards along the way. Sara’s current works aim to bring a voice to the migrant communities and tell impactful stories of women in Tasmania and wider Australia.

Sunita Jariwala (QLD)



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I'm drawn to characters asking questions about the world we live in, but through a narrow, humanscale story.

**Biography** → Sunita Jariwala is a director and editor of character driven documentaries and interactive media and an emerging producer. Her feature Valley Kicks was nominated for New Documentary Talent Awards in Australia and Asia Pacific for first time filmmaker at DocWeek, AIDC 2014. Her doco The Journalist and the Monk was selected at Docedge Kolkata Asian Forum in March 2022, a Danish story development workshop in Nov 2021 and for State of Play at AIDC 2021, bringing doco videogame prototype Slipshape to life. As a first gen filmmaker in Australia, from India she is committed to raising women’s voices in media.

