

AMY TSILEMANIS BA(Hons) MA

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Passionate, innovative, engaged and dedicated, I am an experienced cross-artform artist, curator, producer and researcher.

Education

Federation University (Collaborative Research Centre in Australia History (CRCAH) and Arts Academy)

2016-2020. PhD *Creative Activation of the Past: Mechanics' Institutes, GLAM, heritage and creativity in the twenty-first century.* This was a practice-led research project as curator at the Ballarat Mechanics' Institute. Supervised by Prof Keir Reeves and Dr Angela Campbell

La Trobe University

2010-2012. Masters by Research *Sensing Spaces: Assembling and Experiencing Site-Related Performance 2008-2011* with a focus on audio-led theatre, producing the performance project *Ballarat Railway Station Theatrical Audio Tours*. Supervised by Prof Peta Tait and Dr Meredith Rogers

2003-2006. Bachelor of Arts, Double Major English and Drama with 1st Class Honours with thesis *Translating Spaces: How May the World of a Book Be Staged and Experienced Theatrically?* and performance project adaptation of Italo Calvino's *Invisible Cities*

Employment

2020. January-March: Federation University Library Frontline services (casual staff discontinued due to Covid-19)

July: Self-published the poetry collection *Word Banquet* and hosted live streamed launch event

(watchable here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?reload=9&v=olFj89keVxs>)

August-December: Minerva's Books & Ideas- co-owner since 2016. Transitioned retail shop to online store, and launched the bookish podcast GATHER with the episode 'Booksellers & Storytellers' supported by Regional Arts Victoria: <https://gather.buzzsprout.com/>

2016-2019. Curator/Researcher at Ballarat Mechanics' Institute (BMI) in conjunction with PhD study. This involved producing multiple programs and events, attracting funding, and developing partnerships and collaborations, including with Victorian Collections (part of Creative Victoria) for digital cataloguing.

Nominated for Ballarat Heritage and Design Excellence Awards 2019 as BMI curator for the inaugural Mayoral Award for Emerging Heritage and Design Practitioners, and in the 'Communicating, promoting and celebrating heritage' category for exhibition *Talking Shop* (See digital exhibition on Victorian Collections here: <https://victoriancollections.net.au/stories/talking-shop-ballarat-in-business-city-life-at-ballaarat-mec>)

2015. Art Gallery of Ballarat: Visitor services role across front of house, events, and gallery shop duties.

2014

Big Space Artist Studio: co-founder of CBD artist space, and creator/curator of Box Space window gallery with programmed interview events with artists and writers.

<https://vimeo.com/100899072>

Museum of Australian Democracy at Eureka (M.A.D.E): Visitor services role across front of house, events and education.

2011– 2016

City of Ballarat Events: Ballarat Heritage Weekend Programming

- Researching and creating audio-visual content

- Project management, curation, and volunteer coordination
- Example projects: *Living Heritage: Trades & Traditions* history and performance story trail in collaboration with Federation University Arts Academy 2014, and co-production of digital history trail *Ballarat Revealed*. <https://ballaratrevealed.com/>

2012/13

Central Highlands Arts Atlas: Content Producer. Commissioned films, reviews, and articles on arts and culture

ABC Open Ballarat: Assistant Producer. creating online stories in collaboration with local communities and facilitating online storytelling workshops

Ballarat Arts Alive: Coordinator and curator of Art Sparks arts events, showcasing different artforms and venues and facilitating networks (supported by City of Ballarat Arts & Culture)
See <https://michelledunn.com.au/2012/06/art-sparks-4-ballarat-arts-alive/>

The Space Between: Solo cross-artform exhibition exploring books and reading. Sponsored by Federation University Centre of eResearch and Digital Innovation

2012

LEAP (Localities Enhancing Arts Participation) with City of Ballarat: Project evaluator, and research and creation of 'How to Guides' for the Small Halls Big Ideas Project

2010- 2014

Tinderbox Radio: producer and presenter of weekly music and arts program on Ballarat's community radio station Voice FM, including an annual broadcast event from the station balcony featuring local musicians, in partnership with University of Ballarat live production students. <https://youtu.be/Cdp4XNC5ufI>

2009– 2015

Weave Length Productions: Creative Director of cross-artform creations and collaborations, working across the fields of theatre, film, literature, installation, research, visual art, & radio.

2007-2010

Readings Books Music & Film: sales, event assistance, book and music reviews and content creation for Readings website. Short story published in *Readings & Writings 40 years in books*
Member of the Readings Foundation Committee

Awards and Grants

- 2020 Regional Arts Victoria funding for GATHER podcast
- 2018 Honouree, Zonta's Ballarat's Great Women honour roll
- Scholarships awarded for Masters and PhD studies
- Ballarat Arts Foundation grants awarded for radio (2010) theatre (2011) and the 2014 Rotary Club South Award for project documenter of international arts project 37 degrees 48S: artists navigate Melbourne, travel to New York.
- 2013 City of Ballarat Arts Leadership Graduate

Referees:

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Angela Campbell, Senior Lecturer at Federation University Australia Arts Academy/PhD supervisor: 0411347961 a.campbell@federation.edu.au