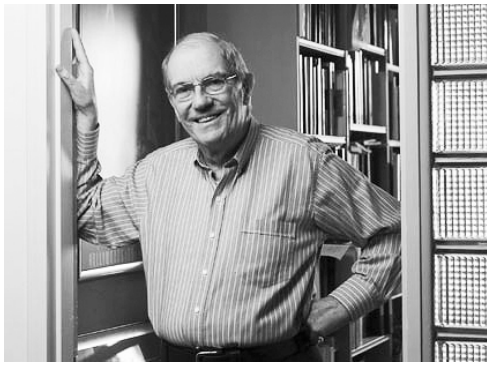




AUSTRALIAN PERFORMING ARTS COLLECTION

Frank Van Straten Fellowship
July 2022 – June 2023

Guidelines for Applicants

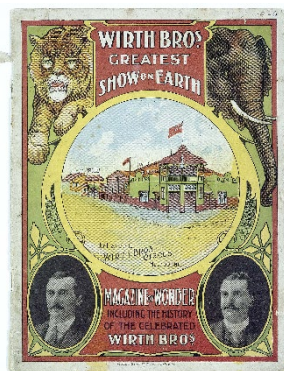


THE FRANK VAN STRATEN AUSTRALIAN PERFORMING ARTS COLLECTION (APAC) FELLOWSHIP

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Frank Van Straten AM played a pivotal role in the establishment of the Australian Performing Arts Collection (APAC). Frank was the first archivist at what was then the Performing Arts Museum, and its founding director, holding the role for almost a decade until 1993. He has done more than any other individual to seed this rich collection and secure its longevity. The Frank Van Straten AM and Adrian Turley Foundation are generously funding this Fellowship opportunity.

Today APAC is the nation's leading collection of performing arts materials, documenting Australia's circus, dance, music, opera and theatre heritage. It consists of **737,000+** items including costumes, designs, programs, photographs, posters, props, personal memorabilia and archival material. From Dame Nellie Melba's stage costumes to Kylie Minogue's famous gold hotpants, Wirth's Circus posters dating from the nineteenth century to Angus Young's iconic schoolboy uniform, APAC chronicles the rich history of the performing arts in Australia. In many cases, however, the key players in the performing arts are less well known performers and artists with amazing untold stories.





THE FRANK VAN STRATEN APAC RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- The key objective of the Frank Van Straten APAC Fellowship program is to bring untold stories held within the [Australian Performing Arts Collection](#) (APAC) to diverse audiences.
- The Fellow will be given time and support to undertake research aligned to APAC's key subject areas: circus, dance, music, opera and theatre (which includes comedy, vaudeville and magic).

FAVOURED OUTCOMES

- Podcasts, articles, web pages, online exhibitions, displays, talks, performances and/or other creative outcomes arising from the Fellow's research.
- Projects that reveal stories from the collection by embracing our values of Leadership, Community, Creativity, Care More, and Equity.
- Expanding discoverability of APAC collections for distinct new audiences.
- Projects that might collaborating with or bring the collection to diverse community groups.
- Creating outcome projects that build in equity of access as well as subject matter.
- Creating new connections with other collections and/or organisations through inter-disciplinary research.
- Where appropriate, mainstream and industry-specific media coverage.
- Improving APAC catalogue and conservation data (through the Fellow's research) in conjunction with ACM collections staff.
- Where possible ACM may digitise collections which the successful Fellow uses for their research and make them available online at a later date (where permissible under copyright law).

Fellows will be required to:

- Grant ACM the first right of publication in any format of the results of their research.
- Deposit a copy of any work produced with the ACM Research Centre with a nonexclusive license for use, in perpetuity.
- Potentially provide relevant website content (e.g. up to three blog posts and content for up to five social media posts).
- Be available for publicity purposes, including interviews with the media, to promote the results of the fellowship.
- Acknowledge the support of ACM and Frank Van Straten, and use the branding of ACM in any/all publication or promotion.
- Ensure that their Fellowship aligns with ACM's [values](#) of Leadership, Community, Creativity, Care More, and Equity.
- Give a presentation of the outcomes of their Fellowship to ACM staff and volunteers.
- Provide a written progress report halfway through their Fellowship and prior to their second progress payment to relevant ACM staff.
- Submit a short written report, noting all the collection materials utilised as part of the Fellowship, at the conclusion of the Fellowship detailing the benefits and outcomes and prior to their final progress payment.

WHAT THE FELLOWSHIP OFFERS

- A grant of up to **\$15,000** will be offered to assist the Fellow with travel, research and living expenses.
- Access to collections and staff expertise.
- Complimentary [membership](#) of ACM for one year from the commencement of the Fellowship.
- ACM cannot grant copyright licences to third parties (i.e. Fellows) for collection material where it is not the copyright owner, or is authorised to exercise intellectual property rights in the material.
- Due to COVID-19 restrictions and the APAC Reveal Project, the fellowship for 2022 will only commence when access to the collection can be guaranteed, currently anticipated as July 2022.

WHO CAN APPLY

- Applications are open to people over the age of 18 years with interest or expertise in any performing arts discipline or form of expression.
- Digital media artists, visual artists, musicians, composers and writers in all disciplines and subjects including historians, independent scholars and creators working either in collaboration or independently are eligible to apply.
- Previous recipients of a funded ACM Fellowship and ACM staff are not eligible to apply for this Fellowship.

HOW APPLICATIONS ARE MADE

Applicants will be asked to submit their:

- CV
- names of two referees including their contact details
- 400-word project proposal explaining the focus, anticipated outcomes of their project and how it meets the objectives of the Fellowship. Fellows should ensure that their proposal supports ACM's cultural values, as outlined in [The Role you Play](#).

Following a shortlisting process, successful applicants will be asked to submit a detailed 1000 word proposal outlining the project, and specific outcomes and benefits to APAC. At this point, they will also be asked to submit a budget outlining how they will use the funds.

Applications are to be submitted online via the ACM website from **Monday 10 January 2021**: <http://careers.artscentremelbourne.com.au/cw/en/listing/>

THE SELECTION PROCESS

Applications will be shortlisted according to the following criteria:

- The proposed project – its significance, originality, outcomes and relevance to the aims and objectives of the Frank Van Straten APAC Fellowship and ACM Values.
- Direct outcomes are outlined that clearly tell stories from the APAC
- The potential of the proposed project to reach an online audience.
- The calibre of the applicant as demonstrated by their publications, track record, portfolio, experience, ability to complete projects on time and references.

It is highly recommended that you contact the Research Coordinator to discuss your proposal prior to applying.

Applications will NOT be considered where:

- Clear and specific outcomes are not outlined.
- Specific themes and stories proposed are already addressed internally.
- The proposal is not concerned with story telling (for instance projects concerning conservation studies, exhibition development, digitisation, or other collection management practices).
- Direct identification of APAC items proposed for the project does not occur.

Selection panel:

- The selection panel will consist of ACM staff and independent professionals with relevant industry experience.
- Following the shortlisting process and review of the detailed proposals, the chairperson of the selection panel will contact referees and applicants may be requested to attend an interview.

- The selection panel's recommendation and a report are prepared for approval by the relevant ACM executive(s) for a final decision.
- Following the acceptance of the offer of the Fellowship, unsuccessful applicants will be advised by email. Unsuccessful applicants may request feedback on their proposal.
- The selection panel will be working throughout, in strict accordance with COVID 19 restrictions. The 2022 Fellowship will only go ahead when access to the collection can be assured, after the rebuilding of the Hamer Hall store, APAC Reveal project.

TIMEFRAME

- Applications for the 2021 Fellowship open on **Monday 10 January 2022**.
- Applications for the 2021 Fellowship will close at 5pm on **Friday 11 March 2022**.
- Applications will be assessed by the panel in March and short-listed applicants will be asked to submit a 1000-word proposal by **Thursday 29 April 2022**.
- The successful applicant(s) will be notified in the first week of **May 2022**.
- Successful Fellow(s) will be asked to attend an induction day at ACM in Melbourne in early July, after which their Fellowship will commence on an agreed date (provided there are no access restrictions due to COVID-19 or APAC Reveal) and they will receive their first payment upon commencement.
- The successful fellow will liaise with the Research Coordinator, Collections, regarding onsite access.
- The Fellowship must be completed by **30 June 2023** after which they will receive their final payment.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY CONSIDERATIONS

- All copyright in the works created by Fellows during the course of the Fellowship continues to remain property of the creator.
- Fellows grant ACM the first right of publication in any format of the results of their research.
- After completion of the Fellowship and submission of the final report, Fellows grant ACM a non-exclusive licence to reproduce and use the material created during the course of their Fellowship. This will be done in ways designed to promote the Fellowship and ACM. The Fellow will be credited in all reproductions of their work.

COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND APAC REVEAL CONSIDERATIONS

- In accordance with Victorian State Government Policy Arts Centre Melbourne has strict COVID-19 procedures and stringently adheres to the changing guidelines and circumstances of the pandemic as directed by the Victorian State Government, including vaccination recommendations. Whilst lockdowns are not anticipated throughout 2022, these considerations still apply.
- The health and safety of our patrons, researchers and staff is at the centre of all our COVID-19 response planning.

- Whilst we are optimistic, if access to the collection cannot be guaranteed due to COVID-19 constraints or the APAC Reveal Project, the Fellowship will be postponed, or time shifted as arranged with the Fellow.
- The APAC Reveal Project constitutes a re-build and extension of the Collections Store at Hamer Hall during which we do not have access to the Collections. The construction commences in December 2021 and is due to finish in June 2022.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Claudia Funder
Research Coordinator, Collections (Mon-Wed)
Arts Centre Melbourne
Email: claudia.funder@artscentremelbourne.com.au
Mobile: 0418 550 993

All images provided by the Australian Performing Arts Collection, Arts Centre Melbourne.

Page 1

1. Inside the Australian Performing Arts Collection store
Photograph by Mark Gambino
2. Notebook compiled by Nick Cave, 1984-1985
Gift of Nick Cave, 2006
Photography by Dan Magree Photography
3. Costume design for Juliet's wedding dress, *Romeo and Juliet* 2011
Designed by Akira Isogawa
Gift of The Australian Ballet, 2012

Page 2

1. Skull cap worn by members of Circus Oz, 1980
Designed by Trina Parker
Gift of Circus Oz, 1986
2. Programme, *Wirth Bros Greatest Show On Earth*, 1926
Gift of Robert Mitchell, 1998
3. Gown worn by Jill Perryman as Dolly Levi in the Gordon Frost Organisation production of *Hello, Dolly!*
Designed by Tim Goodchild
Gift of John Frost, The Gordon Frost Organisation, Cultural Gifts Program, 2001
Photograph by Jeremy Dillon
4. Costume worn by Angus Young of AC/DC, c.1973
Gift of Angus Young, 1988
Photograph by Mark Ashkanasy

Page 3

1. Collections staff with the Carte de Visite Album, c.1860s-1870s
Purchased, 1992
Casamento Photography 2010
2. Albert David, *Rites* in rehearsal, The Australian Ballet and Bangarra Dance Theatre, October 1997
Photography by Tim Webster
3. *Reg Livermore - Take A Bow* exhibition, Gallery 1, Arts Centre Melbourne, 2012
Presented by Australian Performing Arts Collection, Arts Centre Melbourne
4. Piano Accordion used by Will Mahoney, c. 1920s – 1950s
Gift of Evie Hayes, 1985