Panellist Information

Lachlan Philpott  
Playwright

Lachlan is a Sydney-based writer, dramaturgo, teacher and director. As a recipient of an Australia Council Literature Residency he has been spending much of 2012 working with theatre companies in The USA. Lachlan writes for theatre television and film. Lachlan is currently developing the screenplay of Silent Disco funded by Screen Australia while also employed as a dramaturg and assessor of scripts by PlayWriting Australia, Australian Theatre for Young People and Hothouse Theatre, Albury. In 2012 Lachlan is working with students and staff at Brisbane Girls Grammar School on a play commission which will be produced as the School Senior Production in 2013.

Dr Ruth Bridgstock  
Tertiary educator Creative Industries - Griffith University

Ruth is Vice Chancellor’s Research Fellow. She researches lifelong individual creative career development in the 21st century, and how higher and further education can contribute to creative career success. Ruth’s fellowship project “Creating Innovators” is concerned with building and testing theory relating to effective university education for careers in the innovation sectors. She also co-ordinates the core units of the Bachelor of Creative Industries program.

Professor Pat Hoffie  
Visual artist & lecturer - (Queensland College of Art) Griffith University

Pat Hoffie exhibits nationally and internationally. Her work is represented in leading public and private collections. She has received numerous national awards. Pat is a regular contributor to national arts journals and to contemporary art debate and development. She has delivered keynote speeches at leading art forums, such as the Biennale of Sydney, Perspecta and the Asia-Pacific Triennial, for which she has participated as a curator. Pat has adjudicated in a number of important national and international competitions, including the Moet et Chandon Prize for Contemporary Art, and the ASEANArt Awards.
Dr Robert Davidson  
Composer, performer & lecturer - University of Queensland

Dr Robert Davidson is a composer, bassist, lecturer and founder and artistic director of Topology, ensemble-in-residence at the Brisbane Powerhouse and a Key Organisation in the Australia Council’s funding structure. Davidson studied composition with Terry Riley in California before completing a composition PhD at the University of Queensland, included on the Dean’s list of outstanding PhDs in 2003.

Dr James Cuskelly  
Head of Creative Arts - St Aidan’s Anglican Girls School

Dr James Cuskelly is Head of Faculty: Creative Arts at St Aidan’s Anglican Girls School, Brisbane, Vice-President of the International Kodály Society, Director of the Cuskelly College of Music. He has extensive experience in music education (from pre-school to tertiary) and is a passionate advocate for the arts in our community.