

Schizy Incorporated Annual Report 2020-2021



Angela, Steph and Chrissy at Collingwood Farm

Schizy Inc acknowledges **Wurundjeri Country** on which many of our activities are held.

Chairperson's Report

The past year has brought Schizy Inc huge progress in the way we operate and our presence in the arts. We have successfully adapted to challenges that covid19 forced upon us, demonstrating our creative skills and courage for innovation. It's been an extraordinary twelve months of meaningful progress, cherished community and artistic achievements.



Our program between July 2020 and June 2021 included a wide sweep of arts forms enabling diverse creatives with lived experience plenty of opportunity to explore and express themselves within the Victorian arts sector. These programs included:



Mojo Festival of Film, held in honour of World Schizophrenia Day in May 21 at ACMI (Australian Centre for Moving Image). The gala red-carpet event featured a fantastic line up of paid performance artists with lived experience in comedy, music, poetry, spoken word and clowning, as well as 15 brand new short films made by local and wider filmmakers with lived experience, on the theme 'A Day in My Life'.

During April-May 21, six filmmaking workshops were held at Writers Victoria and Kathleen Symes Library Carlton, facilitated by the good folk at *Cinespace*, Dan and Edwin, who teach Smartphone filmmaking to diverse communities around Victoria. The gala event and workshops were funded through a much-appreciated City of Melbourne arts grant and crowdfunding.

The gala event at ACMI was a full house and fortunately happened to occur between lockdowns. Our thanks go to ACMI, especially Diamantino for supporting Schizy Inc to host a professional event with lots of care and consideration for our community. We thank Rohan for captioning the 15 films, and Raphael for ensuring access points were attended to. Thankyou to all the filmmakers who contributed films to the festival, and also the performing artists who worked their magic.



The festival also included the online **Mojo Media** platform. This media portal gave people a platform to document this life we're having under the reality of covid through photographs, writing and music and was generously hosted by Rohan throughout the first half of 2021.



Animo at Melbourne City Library (May 2021). Schizy Inc was proud to present an exhibition of 30 new illustrative artworks exploring the beautiful relationship people have with their companion animals. This event was supported through the City of Melbourne library gallery scheme which funded both the venue and hanging logistics. Like Mojo, the exhibition coincided with World Schizophrenia Day and the opening event featured 6 artists speaking about their works and beloved animals, some of whom were there. Catering was

supplied by a local bakery. We thank Jac Gelbart for curating the artworks as well as communicating with the artists and library. Thankyou also goes to Steph and Fiona for helping with the project. Schizy Inc expresses gratitude to City Library, especially Bronwyn and Ashley, and all the artists.

In April 2021, we held a six-week long **studio residency** at the new Ivanhoe Library and Cultural Hub art studio. We thank Banyule Council Arts particularly Hiroki for enabling us this valuable space for eight diverse artists. This studio is an important step in our efforts to secure a more permanent art maker space and demonstrates our capacity to manage a studio and produce excellent new work.

Sanctuary outdoors art retreat in October 2020 was held during lockdown. Instead of focusing an event in the outdoors, we brought people's experiences of the outdoors to the event. We built an afternoon of Zoom workshops in birdwatching with Birds Australia, nature journaling with Felicity Gordon, haiku with Sandy Jeffs, handcream making with Helen, pesto making with Tom, online pet adoration and an open performance stage.

Schizy Speaks contributed to our advocacy activities. Through a winning grant from The Awesome Foundation, we were able to pay a series of guest speakers throughout October-November 2021. The premise featured national and international guests with schizophrenia who work in the arts or other professional industries. We acknowledge Greg Ralls from Perth and Andrew Dugmore from Wales who were kind and generous interview guests. Thankyou to Sandy Jeffs for skilfully hosting a number of these interviews.



Channel 7 filming Sandy and Duncan

Channel 7 fulfilled a promise made by a producer at Schizy Inc's *One Love Jam* eight years ago. Marcus Doherty interviewed Mitchell, Sandy, Duncan and myself (Heidi) for a *House of Wellness* story for World Schizophrenia Day. It's an excellent story and is now a great resource for our media portfolio. Schizy Inc thanks Marcus for appreciated diligence and genuine care.

The draft document on the **Healing Farm** feasibility study was produced this year. Dr Catherine Brasier and a small working group have pulled together a convincing draft document of around 70 pages, full of evidence that a healing farm would be viable. We hope the second half of 2021 and lifting of covid restrictions means we can forge ahead to find funders and partners to work with on this long-held dream.

Speaking of such, we express deep gratitude to the Yulgilbar Foundation for having the faith in us to provide almost \$20,000 in funds to support our capacity building and feasibility. We are pleased that a donor granted us \$50,000 to support our efforts on establishing the farm. The Ducas Paul Foundation granted us \$25,000 to develop and deliver a young women's dance program, as well as supporting our farm project.



Louise Marson



Heidi, Sam, Raphael, Steph



Felicity

For the past year, we've stepped up our capacity building through committee training and strategy development. In February 2021, the committee attended a weekend of governance training with Non-Profit Training Inc at **Jumbuk Park** in Gippsland. Graeme Baxter took us through the fundamentals of running a board, governance principals and legal responsibilities as a registered charity. With thanks to our wonderful hosts, Laura and Dave, we rewarded our hard-working committee members with some nature-based R and R. This weekend heartens us to continue striving towards our healing farm.



Raphael, Tom and Graeme Baxter



Graeme then conducted our first **Strategy workshop** at a full day training session at Collingwood Yards in June 2021. This was attended by the committee and supportive advisors and produced a document to point us in future directions. We thank Music Victoria for enabling us the space and all who attended. A special mention goes to Chrissy who conducted a skills audit with our membership in the lead up, the results surprised us by revealing the breadth of experience and talent in our collective.

Schizy Inc recognises the extra social barriers in lockdowns so we've made extra special effort over the past year to support each other as best we can. *Tom's Tours* to art galleries such as NGV provide much needed hope, and Schizy Socials over Zoom include games and activities. We did get to enjoy an IRL fun Christmas gathering at Melbourne Botanic Gardens.



Heidi, Nikki (Music Vic), Tom, Steph, Sandy, Mitchell, Joel, Hannah

In the coming year, Schizy Inc looks forward to trialling a tenure at **Ross House** in Melbourne. This will allow members and guests a home base in a social impact precinct, and enable paid staff to use. We also look forward with optimism to more art projects at Collingwood Yards and collaborations with arts organisations. Schizy Inc acknowledges gratitude to Auspicious Arts Projects and Writers Victoria for their continuing wonderful backing for our organisation and people.

Final message of appreciation goes to the Schizy Inc committee. None of this work would be possible without each person's steadfast contribution and welcome belief in the bigger picture. Schizy Inc continues to be a pioneering model of lived experience led agency in the arts and in contemporary understandings of mental health, and this is because of the genuine people at the heart of the vision who drive it. Thankyou to Secretary Steph, Treasurer Tom, Vice-Chair Mitchell and returning officer/mentor Helen, for your enthusiasm and creative courage throughout the last amazing year, and all Schizy Inc friends and supporters.

Heidi Everett, Chair 2021.





Schizy Incorporated
Incorporations registration: A0095514D
ABN 96 821 466 378

**STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE PERIOD
1 JULY 2020 - 30 JUNE 2021**

	2021	2020
INCOME		
Grants - Philanthropic	30,000	18,680
Grants – Government	0	4,160
Donations	73,221	2,725
Fee for service	483	303
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$103,704</u>	<u>\$25,868</u>
EXPENSES		
Artists workshop	0	856
Board workshop	2,205	0
Consultants	17,341	0
Mojo Project	0	2,845
Sanctuary gate and fees	0	600
Steph’s Pick project	0	500
Venue hire	4,623	0
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$24,169</u>	<u>\$ 4,801</u>
PROFIT/(LOSS)	\$79,535	\$21,067

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT
30 JUNE 2021**

	JUNE 2021	JUNE 2020
ASSETS		
Bank	\$101,662	\$22,126
TOTAL ASSETS	\$101,662	\$22,126
EQUITY		
Retained earnings	\$ 22,126	\$ 1,059
Current year earnings	\$ 79,535	\$ 21,067
MEMBERS EQUITY	\$101,662	\$22,126

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Committee of Management 2020-2021

Chair: Heidi Everett
Vice-Chair: Mitchell Fairbank
Secretary: Steph Yianakelis
Treasurer: Tom Polachek
Returning Officer: Helen Morris



Schizy Inc is registered with Australian Charities and Non-Profit Commission, donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.



Raphael 'The Beurologist' and Marnie at Melbourne Botanic Gardens.

