



## **Guidelines for preparing a 250 word research statement for Creative Works**

In preparing the research statement it is important to understand it is a statement which explains how and why the creative work fits into a program of research undertaken by you as a researcher and artist/writer/curator/performer/designer.

It is the critical document for your research to be explained and understood by internal and external reviewers for research assessment, in which the quality of your research is being assessed; therefore it is imperative that the statement communicate the research contribution, impact and significance clearly.

These guidelines apply to research-related creative works, not those that are undertaken as professional practice.

The four sections you are asked to address in a research statement are:

### **1 What? Who? Where?**

Give a description of your creative work – what is it?

How did you contribute to the work? What role did you play?

Where was the output published/exhibited?

### **2 Research Background**

Field

Context

Research Question

Provide an overview of the field/context in which the work sits. The research question should be identified – whether about the world, or about practice – that other people will recognise as cogent, and that you will answer, address or even just amplify, through the production of a creative work.

It may be that the creative work you are preparing the statement for forms one component or stage of a larger research endeavour. Therefore, the statement should make clear the unique contribution this output makes to the larger research program, the field of research in which it is located, and also reference to the research question. You will need to make clear what differentiates this output from any previously claimed as part of the larger research program.

### **3 Research Contribution**

New knowledge

Innovation

Describe how the output contributes to, or creates new knowledge. Here you need to outline how the work has allowed previously unknown concepts, information or understandings to be revealed. How is this work innovative in its generation of new ideas, new practice, or new methods?

### **4 Research Significance**

Provide an explanation of how excellence in your work has been recognised. This is an external measure – determined by peers, critics, industry and not by you. Potential measures may include:

Whether the work was commissioned, selected or curated into an exhibition/performance/festival/prize?

What pre- and/or post-peer review process was your work subjected to?

Was the work acquired/commissioned for a significant public/private collection?

Was the work broadcast/performed and to how many people?

Did it have a world premiere or was it toured to a number of national or international venues?

Has the work been reproduced or cited in a publication?

Was the work part of a larger research exhibition, symposium, mentioned in conference proceedings?

Has the work been publicly reviewed?

Were you invited to collaborate with other artists/writers/directors/performers to produce the work?

Was the work produced as a result of a residency that you were selected for?

Is there evidence in public comment that provides external measures of the value and impact of your work?

*These guidelines were produced by Margaret Woodward after a Faculty of Arts Compact funded workshop presented by Barbara Bolt and Estelle Barrett in the School of Communication and Creative Industries in November 2013. Revised by the Creative Works Assessment Panel, November 2018.*