

Dear Panel,

I am writing to offer my support for the application of Danielle Freakley.

I first came across Danielle while selecting a winner for the national SOYA Awards. The standard of entries was the highest yet and the approaches of the artists very diverse. There were over a thousand applicants from across the country. All three commended artists shed new light on traditional media but Danielle's work stood out as the most boundary pushing. She is also an example of an artist choosing to pursue a unique, difficult and challenging path.

Her performances are a witty but serious attempt to compel the audience to consider various relationships, language and communication in another light. Danielle's work demonstrates an impressive conceptual process, challenging herself in every day life to deliver a remarkable feat. It has also demonstrated an astonishing adaptability and improvisation that will no doubt help in new challenges through further projects.

Since Danielle has won the SOYA award at the Sydney Museum of Contemporary Art, I have been captivated with her ideas and growing performances. In a very short space of time she has made an impressive impact.

I have no doubt that Danielle will pursue further projects with the same tenacity she has demonstrated before.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if I can be of any further assistance in supporting Danielle's application.

Yours sincerely



Elizabeth Ann Macgregor
Director

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To Whom It May Concern,

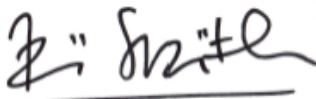
I am writing to you in support of Danielle Freakley; to vouch for her as a talented artist, unique and enquiring mind and an all-round outstanding human being. I first met Danielle in 2003 at the Victorian College of the Arts in Melbourne, Australia, where she studied drawing but only ever truly practiced performance. She was known to all. She spoke to few. She made work that people talked about for years after she had left. She was and still is, an enigma.

As a big fan of Danielle's work, I followed her practice with keen interest after art school. I presented her videos as part of my first Australia council travel scholarship to Edinburgh and then went on to work with Danielle during the Next Wave Festival as her producer for 'Dear Art Please Touch Me'- an ambitious and challenging interactive and collaborative performance/sound work at the National Gallery of Victoria. During her Quote Generator years I followed that project with awe and utter respect and admiration. I still can't believe a sane human being can survive only talking in referenced quotes for those years. She is made of passion, endurance and commitment.

Danielle is one of the most dedicated performance artists alive today. Her unusual combination of sheer determination and focus, punk contempt and artisan-level skill make her one of Australia's most interesting mid career performance artists. As a fellow female performance artist who dabbles in many mediums and pursues lofty ideas, she has lead the way with a flaming torch, inspiring me and many others like me.

Her current project "The Imaginary Friend" is ambitious to say the least. She's at a time in her life, taking her work to the next level with a dedicated team, huge international platform and inspiring collaborations. I have no doubt that Danielle will not only represent Australia well and create exciting new works, but will faithfully export her new-found knowledge of the contemporary performance art back to Australia, where many other young aspiring performance artists and the cultural landscape will greatly benefit from her work.

Sincerely,



Tai Snaithe
Artist, writer and independent curator