

# Dr Alex Davies

Media Artist · Sound Designer · Researcher

Sydney, Australia · schizoponia.com

## PROFILE

Award-winning Australian media artist whose practice experiments with interaction, technology, perception, mixed reality and illusion. Scientia Fellow and Senior Lecturer in Media Arts at UNSW Art & Design. Doctoral research examined how the techniques of stage magic inform the creation of illusion in media arts. Exhibited widely in Australia and internationally, and a sought-after collaborator in spatial sound design, immersive/VR media and custom interactive systems.

**Areas of expertise:** Mixed reality and illusion · Interactive installation · Spatial and surround sound design · VR / AR and 360° immersive media · Custom hardware and control systems

## POSITION & EDUCATION

**Current** Scientia Fellow and Senior Lecturer in Media Arts, UNSW Art & Design, Sydney

**2006–11** PhD, Media Arts, College of Fine Arts, University of New South Wales. Thesis: *Magic, mixed realities & misdirection* (awarded 2012)

**1995–01** Bachelor of Fine Arts (Honours), Media Arts, College of Fine Arts, University of New South Wales

## GRANTS & AWARDS

**Australia Council for the Arts** Career Development Grant (2018); Creative Australia Fellowship (2014); Creative Australia Production Grant (2012); Creative Australia Development Grant (2011); Music Board New Work Grant (2012, 2005); Visual Arts Board New Work Grant (2011); Inter-Arts Office New Work Grant (2008); Inter-Arts Office Research and Development Grant (2007); Visual Arts and Crafts Board New Work Grant (2005); New Media Arts Board New Work Grant (2004); New Media Arts Board Presentation and Promotion Grant (2003); New Media Arts Board Research and Development Grant (2002, 2001)

**Awards** Qantas Foundation Contemporary Australian Art Award (2008)

**University of New South Wales** Scientia Fellowship (2017); University Postgraduate Award (2006–10)

**University of Technology Sydney** Academic Career Development Grant (2010); Vice-Chancellor's Conference Fund (2004)

**National Association for the Visual Arts** NSW Artist Grant (2011); Marketing Grant (2005)

**Commissions** European Capital of Culture, Linz (2009); Sendai Mediatheque, Japan (2006); Experimenta Media Arts 'New Visions' (2004); Kunstraum, Linz (2002)

**Other funding** Create NSW, ARAP Soundlab (2022); Australian Network for Art and Technology, Conference Fund (2006); Time's Up Laboratories, Linz, Research Residency (2002); Australian Film Commission, New Media Development Grant (1998)

## SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

**2025** *The Very Near Future – Part 4*, OpenField Festival, Berry, Australia

**2023** *Edge of the Present* VR/AR, Youturn, Queensland, Australia

**2022** *Edge of the Present*, Warburton Arts Centre, Victoria; Warwick Art Gallery, Queensland; HOTA, Queensland

**2019** *Edge of the Present*, The Big Anxiety, UNSW Galleries, Sydney

- 2018 *Slipstream*, International Symposium on Electronic Art (ISEA), Durban, South Africa
- 2018 *Parragirls Past, Present, South By Southwest (SXSW)*, Austin, USA
- 2017 *The Night Odditorium and Other Tales of Wonder*, 55 Sydenham Rd Gallery, Sydney
- 2015 *The Very Near Future – Part 3*, Cosmic Love Wonderlust, Campbelltown Arts Centre
- 2015 *Swarm*, Cosmic Love Wonderlust, SCA Galleries, Sydney
- 2014 *The Very Near Future*, Sydney Festival, Artspace, Sydney
- 2013 *The Very Near Future*, ISEA, Carriageworks, Sydney
- 2012 *Phantasm #3*, Performance Space, Sydney
- 2012 *Flutter*, Canberra Contemporary Art Space, Canberra
- 2012 *Dislocation*, Wonderland, Museum of Contemporary Art, Taipei, Taiwan
- 2011 *The Black Box Sessions*, UTS Gallery, Sydney
- 2009 *Häusliches Glück*, European Capital of Culture, Linz, Austria
- 2008 *The Black Box Sessions*, HAIP Festival, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- 2008 *Dislocation*, Trace Elements, Tokyo Opera City Art Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
- 2006 *Swarm & Conversations*, Re:search – Art Collaboration of Australia and Japan, Sendai Mediatheque, Japan
- 2006 *Pugilist Series 449*, Platform, The Art Center, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand
- 2006 *Dislocation*, Under the Radar, FACT, Liverpool, United Kingdom
- 2004 *Drift*, International Symposium on Electronic Art (ISEA), Helsinki / Tallinn
- 2004 *Swarm*, 2004: Australian Culture Now, ACMI / NGV, Melbourne
- 2003 *Filter Feeder*, Primavera, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney
- 2003 *Filter Feeder*, FILE Hypersonica, Paço das Artes, São Paulo, Brazil
- 2002 Radiotopia Network Event, Ars Electronica Festival, Linz, Austria
- 2002 *BodySPIN (Time's Up)*, Exit Festival, Paris; VIA Festival, Maubeuge, France

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

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- 2022 Davies, A. 'The Present Edge of a Very Near Future', *Futures Brought to Life: From Immersion via Agency to Engagement*, Angewandte Innovation Lab, Vienna.
- 2017 Davies, A. and Koh, J. 'Häusliches Glück: A Case Study on Deception in a Mixed Reality Environment', *Handbook of Digital Games and Entertainment Technologies*, p. 693.
- 2015 Davies, A. and Crosby, A. 'Compressorhead: the robot band and its transmedia storyworld', *International Workshop in Cultural Robotics*, pp. 175–189. Springer.
- 2012 Davies, A. *Magic, mixed realities & misdirection*. Doctoral thesis, College of Fine Arts, UNSW Australia.
- 2010 Davies, A. 'Adrift in the virtuality continuum', *Computers in Entertainment (CIE)*, vol. 8, no. 1, pp. 1–14. ACM, New York.

## RESIDENCIES

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- 2022 ARAP Soundlab Residency
- 2015 Tokyo Wondersite, Tokyo, Japan
- 2011 UTS Gallery, Sydney
- 2009 FoAM vzw, Brussels, Belgium
- 2009 Nadine Laboratory for Contemporary Arts, Brussels, Belgium
- 2006 Asialink, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand
- 2005 Sendai Mediatheque, Sendai, Japan
- 2004 Recombinant Media Labs, San Francisco, USA
- 2002 Time's Up, Linz, Austria