

FARMING CLIMATE

Researching the responses to climate change by the agriculture sector in regional Victoria

WHAT

The Warracknabeal Court House has been adapted to accommodate an Artist in Residence Program that enables selected artists to immerse within the local community and create enduring artworks that respond to the distinctive environment and landscapes of Victoria's Wimmera-Mallee country.

This is the first step in my new climate art project focussed on regional Australia and I am looking forward to making connections with the local community and exploring the region.

As climate change is having a strong influence on farming practices, I am interested in the actions being taken such as adaptation and use of technology. I wish to connect with locals who have both an interest in the impacts and responses to climate change and a willingness to share their thoughts and knowledge through a phone call, meeting or site visit.

My intended outcomes would be to commence to release a series of new artworks from the second half of 2025.

WHO

I am Neville Cichon, an Adelaide based photographic visual artist specialising in climate, environmental and social issues.

Previous individual series of artworks I created focussed on bushfires, coastal erosion and ocean health. Now I am turning my attention towards to farmers and associated organisations to see how they are responding to the challenges of climate change.

This first phase of the project has been made possible by Working Heritage, that manages this and other heritage places on Crown land in Victoria.

WHEN

I will be in Warracknabeal from Tuesday 30 April to Wednesday 15 May inclusive. This marks the formal commencement of this project I anticipate will run through to late 2025/early 2026.

WHERE

With my base at the Warracknabeal Court House I am looking to connect with people in the region, predominantly in the Hindmarsh and Yarriambiack Shires. I have listed a number of towns in the area that form a boundary of the preferred range to travel. If you are located out of this range please still express your interest and we may be able to find a solution.



HOW DOES IT WORK?

Mostly it will be a case of you talking and me listening. This is a research phase and I may not even unpack the camera. However if practical I would be happy to meet you at your workplace.

After our first point of contact you can choose to stay in touch and arrange any follow-up calls, emails or site visits at a time that suits you.

Apart from the accommodation provided by Working Heritage this project is self-funded.

REGISTRATION OF INTEREST

Because I intend to cover a large area in a short time it would be ideal if I could collate information and locations of people interested in assisting me with my research. This will then allow me to create a touring schedule and set-up some times to meet with individuals and groups.

There is an online form to complete by 11pm Wednesday 3 April and I intend to respond with meeting dates approximately three weeks prior.

KEY DATES

Wednesday 3 April

Registrations of Interest close at 11pm.

Wednesday 10 April

Individual and group meeting dates proposed

Tuesday 30 April to Wednesday 15 May

Artist in Residence at Warracknabeal Court House



ARTIST BIOGRAPHY SNAPSHOT

Neville's emerging visual arts practice is focused on demystifying the complexities of climate change within an Australian context using photography, moving image, installations and public art. A sense of intrigue, ambiguity, surprise or humour is often present within his work alongside art as activism that may stimulate hopeful discussion.

His photography spans studio, location, documentary, underwater and abstract approaches on a variety of subjects including portraits, landscapes, street protests and objects.

Neville's fine art prints have been finalist in multiple Climate Change specific exhibitions, including the 2018 and 2019 *Creative Climate Awards* in New York and the 2017 and 2022 *Burrinja Climate Change Biennales* in Melbourne. His climate change themed work has also been exhibited in SA, NSW, QLD, New Zealand and Canada.

The first of three key bodies of work is *'Unleashing Hell'* (2017), that targeted an Australian connection to climate change via the relationship between carbon emissions and rising bushfire risks.

Developed during a 3-month Climate Arts xChange Artist Residency at Sauerbier House with access to local government data and expertise, *'Filter'* (2018) trialed a brighter approach on the issues of rising sea levels and coastal erosion.

Inspired by global climate protests and developed while Artist in Residence at Tanks Arts Centre Cairns, *'Uprising'* (2021) projected an unusual approach to ocean health and activism.

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To register your interest in participating in this project please visit my website below to learn more and to complete the online registration form. Thank you.

www.neville.cichon.id.au