

John Gillies

Born Beaudesert on Yugambah land 1960

Lives and works in Sydney on Wangal land

Education

Sydney College of the Arts, Sydney University 1981

NSW Conservatorium of Music 1980

University of South-East Queensland 1978-1980

Selected solo exhibitions, solo performances & solo screenings

- 2025 *ScentDia*, Museo Nazionale Scienza e Tecnologia Leonardo da Vinci, Milan
- 2024 *John Gillies: Circle of Deceit*, forumprojects, Sydney
- 2023 *John Gillies*, Scala Gallery, Sydney
- 2021 *Urodziny Stasia: 136. rocznica urodzin S. I. Witkiewicza*, Stupsk Cultural Centre
- 2020 *John Gillies: proposal for a performance space*, Articulate, Sydney
[Grawiz Witkacym](#), Tatra Museum, Zakopane
- 2018 People's Cultural Palace, Sydney (with the Loop Orchestra)
- 2017 *John Gillies*, Articulate, Sydney
- 2016 *John Gillies*, Sydney Non-Objective, Sydney
- 2011 *John Gillies: Parramatta Road Project*, Articulate, Sydney
- 2008 *Conversation* (with Clare Grant), Performance Space, Sydney
- 2006 *John Gillies: Videowork*, Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane
- 2005 *John Gillies: Video Work*, Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts, Australia
- 2004 *John Gillies Video Works 1982-2001*, Performance Space, Sydney
- 1998 *John Gillies: Armada*, FIM!, Museu de Arte Moderno da Bahia, Salvador da Bahia
Mary Stuart, Performance Space, Sydney
- 1997 *The Nineties*, Australian Centre for Photography, Sydney
John Gillies, Fundacio Itaú, Belo Horizonte
Mary Stuart, Sidetrack Theatre, Sydney
- 1994 *John Gillies: Armada*, Queensland College of Art Gallery, Brisbane
- 1987 *John Gillies: Video*, Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery, Sydney
John Gillies: Vision, Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane
John Gillies: She Says the Grooves Speak, Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery, Sydney
- 1986 *John Gillies*, Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery, Sydney
- 1984 *John Gillies*, Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery, Sydney
- 1983 *John Gillies*, Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane
John Gillies, Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery, Sydney
Jon Rose: Music / John Gillies: Films, Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery, Sydney
- 1981 *John Gillies: Liveworks*, Watters Gallery, Sydney
Live Art May, Art/Empire/Industry, Sydney

Selected group exhibitions & screenings

- 2024 The 68th Blake Prize, Casula Powerhouse, Sydney
- 2023 *Witkacy i inspiracje*, Katowice History Museum, Katowice
- 2022 *per doc*, Articulate, Sydney
- 2020 *In Kepler's Garden* Ars Electronica, Linz

- 2019 *Brisbane International Film Festival*, Qld Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane
Flux: Art + Cinema, Sydney Film Festival, Sydney
Place and Image, Articulate, Sydney
- 2018 *Immortality*, Murray Art Museum Albury
In Motion Festival, AIRspace Projects, Sydney
- 2017 *Wir geben Ihrer Zukunft ein Zuhause*, Werkleitz Festival, Halle (Saale)
Emu Island: Modernism in Place, Penrith Regional Gallery & Lewers Bequest, Penrith
Mining Pyrite, Armory Gallery, Sydney Olympic Park, Sydney
Red, Green, Blue: A History of Australian Video Art, Griffith University Art Museum, Brisbane
Podwodny Wrocław, Wrocław
Polish International Film Awards, Warsaw
Bucharest Film Awards, Bucharest (runner-up best featurette)
- 2015 *Stanisław Ignacy Witkiewicz: konteksty filozoficzne, teatralne i filmowe*
Grotowski Institute, Wrocław
Witkacy Pod Strzechy, Słupsk
Sydney Six, Newcastle Art Gallery, Australia
- 2014 *Perspektiva 2*, Gramophone, Plovdiv
Striking Contrasts, Hazelhurst Regional Art Gallery, Gympie; Bathurst Regional Art Gallery, Bathurst; Grafton Regional Gallery, Grafton; Burrinja Cultural Centre, Victoria; Toowoomba Regional Art Gallery; New England Regional Art Museum, Armidale, Australia
In Motion Festival, AIRspace Projects, Sydney
- 2013 *Monitoring*, Kasseler Kunstverein, Museum Fridericianum, Kassel
Perenials, Toowoomba Regional Art Gallery, Toowoomba
Sydney Underground Film Festival, The Factory, Sydney
- 2012 *Return to Sender*, University of Queensland Art Museum, Brisbane
The Armory Exhibition 2012, Armory Gallery, Olympic Park, Sydney
Five Bells, Damien Minton Gallery, Sydney
Time Machine: Festival of Experimental Time Based Art, Serial Space, Sydney
- 2011 *Ten Years of Contemporary Art: The James C Sourris AM Collection*, Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane
Buffer Zone, Armory Gallery, Sydney Olympic Park, Sydney
Inheritance, MILS Gallery, Sydney
28. Kasseler Dokumentarfilm und Videofest, Kassel
Salon, Eastern Block, Sydney
Sydney Underground Film Festival, The Factory, Sydney
- 2010 *VideoVoid*, Australian Experimental Art Foundation, Adelaide; Centre for Contemporary Photography, Melbourne; Qld University of Technology, Brisbane
Video: Art from the Archives, Monash University Faculty Gallery, Melbourne (with Sadie Benning, Bruce Nauman, Woody Vasulka, et al)
Queensland Art: Art from Queensland, Pestorius Art Projects, Brisbane
Sydney Underground Film Festival, The Factory, Sydney (Audience Award)
- 2009 *Figuring Landscapes*, Tate Modern, London (and 15 venues in the UK, Ireland and Australia)
Figures in a Landscape, ACC Galerie, Weimar
Sydney Underground Film Festival, The Factory, Sydney
- 2008 *Video Logic*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney

- Honey I Rearranged the Image...!*, Video Art Lounge, Art Basel Miami Beach, Botanical Gardens, Miami (with Rosemary Trockel, Yael Bartana, Harun Farocki, Omar Fast, Deimantas Narkevicius et al)
- Performing Video*, Brut, Künstlerhaus Wien, Vienna
- Shifting Ground*, Film Studies Centre, University of Chicago & Bangkok Experimental Film Festival.
- Instituto de Artes, Unicamp, Campinas
- 2007 *Workin' Down Under*, Wood Street Galleries, Pittsburgh
- Face Value: video portraiture from the pacific*, New Zealand Portrait Gallery Te Pukenga Whakaata, Wellington
- 16th Videobrasil Festival of Electronic Art, SESC Paulista, São Paulo
- 5 x 5, Ivan Dougherty Gallery, Sydney
- Artist Makes Video*, Griffith University Art Museum, Brisbane
- 2006 *2006 Contemporary Commonwealth*, National Gallery of Victoria & Australian Centre for the Moving Image, Melbourne
- Face Value: video portraiture from the pacific*, Brisbane Museum, Brisbane
- Breathing Space Australia*, Tramway Glasgow & Greenroom, Manchester
- In Between Time*, Arnolfini, Bristol
- 2003 *Afterlife*, Sarah Cottier Gallery, Sydney
- 2002 *Vídeo em Debate: Produção, Pesquisa, Circuitos*, Museu Victor Meirelles, Florianópolis
- 2000 *Spectroscope*, Performance Space, Biennale of Sydney, Sydney
- International Short Film Awards*, Melbourne International Film Festival
- Sick & Dizzy: floating adrift in a sea of Media*, Microwave Video Festival, Hong Kong & Asia Pacific Triennial, QAGOMA, Brisbane
- Sydney Film Festival
- 1999 *Exit: Art and Cinema at the End of the Century*, Chisenhale Gallery, London
- The Liquid Medium*, Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane
- Contemporary Southern Hemisphere Videoart*, Ayloul Festival, Beirut
- Carte Blanche*, Videoformes Festival, Clairmont-Ferrand
- 1996 *Reference Points IV*, Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane
- RE COLLECTION*, Brisbane City Gallery, Brisbane
- Berlin Video Festival, Berlin
- 1995 *Sound in Space*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney
- 1994 *An Eccentric Orbit: Video Art in Australia*, Museum of Modern Art, New York [also Scene Nationale Les Plateaux, Angoulême, France Espace Lyonnais d'art Contemporain, Lyon, France Dalhousie Art Gallery, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada; Cornell Cinema, Ithaca, New York; Identities: Art from Australia, Taipei Museum; Ludwig Forum for International Art, Aachen, Germany (1995); University of North Texas, Denton, USA (1995); Cyberria, Museo das Bellas Artes, Bilbao, Spain (1995); *Erlibnis Australien*, Neuer Berliner Kunstverein, Berlin (1995); Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid, Spain (1995); Canary Island International Video Festival, Las Palmas, Spain (1996); National Gallery of Australia, Canberra (1999); Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Melbourne (1999); Salamanca Arts Centre, Hobart (1999) Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney (1999); *Image Cannibals*, Substation, Singapore; Montpellier Arcana Gallery, Montpellier]
- Göteborg Festival, Göteborg
- College Marcel Duchamp, Chateauroux
- Muestra de Video de Pamplona, Pamplona
- Impakt Festival voor Experimentele Kunst, Utrecht
- 1993 World Wide Video Festival, Den Haag
- New York Video Festival, New York (Special Award)

- 1992 *Strangers in Paradise: Contemporary Australian Art to Korea*, National Museum of Contemporary Art, Seoul & Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
Festival Internacional Videobrasil, São Paulo (First Prize)
Experimenta, Victorian Centre for Photography, Melbourne
 Television & Video Festival '92, Spiral Hall, Tokyo
- 1991 *Australian Perspecta 1991*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
Video in Australia: Electric Images, Video Positive, Tate Gallery, Liverpool
 London Film Festival
 Video Medien Operative, Berlin
 Australian International Video Festival (Special Award)
- 1990 *Satellite Cultures*, New Museum, New York
Sound Basis Video Art Festival, Wrocław
 Procréart, Paris
 E.P.E, Paris
 Australian International Video Festival, Sydney
- 1989 *Videokunst in Australien-Auf dem Weg zu Teletopologien*, Ars Electronica, Linz
Australian Perspecta 1989, Performance Space, Sydney
 Audio Visueel Experimenteel, Arnhem
- 1988 *Recent Acquisitions*, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
Experimenta, Melbourne
Aarhus Video Festival, Aarhus
 First Draft, Sydney
Sounds in the House, Arthaus, Sydney
Experimenta, Melbourne
Writers in Recital, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
- 1987 *Video: Documenting a Decade of Difference*, Performance Space, Sydney
 Melbourne International Film Festival, Melbourne
- 1986 *Recent Australian Video Installation*, Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Melbourne
 (with Philip Brophy, David Chesworth, Leigh Hobba, Jill Scott, Randelli)
 The Gunnery, Sydney
 French-Chilean Video Festival, Santiago
- 1983 *Continuum '83*, Video Gallery SCAN, Tokyo
- 1982 *TV NU VU*, State Film Centre, Melbourne
- 1981 *ANZART*, Auckland
TVTABOU, Paddington Town Hall, Sydney
- 1980 Watters Gallery, Sydney
- 1979 *Queensland Art Gallery Sculpture Prize*, Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane

Public Collections

Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
 Australian Centre for the Moving Image, Melbourne
 Fukuyama Museum of Art, Hiroshima
 Griffith University Art Collection, Brisbane
 National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
 Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney

Selected bibliography

- 2019 Tyler Patterson, [Review, Witkacy & Malinowski: a cinematic séance in 23 scenes](#), Running Dog
- 2017 Stella Rosa MacDonald, [Witkacy in the Mirror](#), Articulate, Sydney
- 2016 Keith Gallasch, [Love, materialism & metaphysics](#), Realtime 136
- 2013 Andrea Linnenkohl, 'John Gillies: Granite', in 30. *Kasseler Dokfest*, Catalogue, Kassel
- 2012 Adam Geczy, 'Digging Deep: *Excavation*, The Armory Exhibition 2012', *Art Monthly*, 254 October 2012.
Andrew Frost, 'John Gillies', <http://scanlines.net/person/john-gillies>
- 2011 Peter McKay, 'Tracking function: Considering the past decade in new media' in *Ten Years of Contemporary Art, The James C Sourris AM Collection*, Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane.
- 2008 Therese Davis, 'A Road Movie by John Gillies', in *Video Logic*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney.
Rachel O'Reilly, 'Divide (2006), John Gillies'
<http://videoground.wordpress.com/2008/09/07/divide/>
Gail Priest, 'Sounding Sight, Space and Bodies: A Survey of Mixed Media Explorations' in *Experimental Music: Audio Explorations in Australia* (Gail Priest ed.) UNSW Press, Sydney p201.
- 2006 Penny Webb, 'Of beastly beatitudes', review *The Age*, Melbourne 20.4.06 pp.19
Fiona Trigg, 'John Gillies: Divide', in 2006 *Contemporary Commonwealth* Catalogue, National Gallery of Victoria and Australian Centre for the Moving Image, pp. 62–65.
Ruark Lewis, 'John Gillies Makes Video', *Lino*, No 13, pp 110-112.
Holdsworth, Ruth, 'Old Land, New Testament', review, *Realtime*
http://www.realtimearts.net/feature/Inbetween_Time_2006/8395
Marie-Anne, Mancio, 'A Geography of Longing and Belonging', review, *Realtime*
http://www.realtimearts.net/feature/Inbetween_Time_2006/8393
- 2004 Adam Geczy, 'Video Magic at the Performance Space' review, *Art Monthly*, no 174, October 2004. pp 3-6.
Therese Davis, 'John Gillies: A Cinema of Lost Images' in *John Gillies: Video Works 1982 – 2001*, exhibition catalogue, Performance Space, Sydney pp 3-5.
Edward Scheer, 'Live Art/Media Art: John Gillies, Performance and the Techno-Live' in *John Gillies: Video Works 1982 – 2001*, exhibition catalogue, Performance Space, Sydney, pp 5-9.
Jane R Goodall, 'John Gillies', *The Insider* Vol 1, pp 109
Keith Gallasch, '[Across Great Divides, Artist Interview: John Gillies](#)', *Realtime* April-May No 60, pp.22-23
- 1997 Francesca Azzi, 'John Gillies faz do Vídeo uma Manifestação Performática', *Magazine Aqui-O Tempo* Belo Horizonte, 8.7.1997, pp. 3.
Beth Jackson, 'The Performer and the Video Screen', *Realtime* June - July, pp. 34
- 1995 Charles Green, *Peripheral Vision: Contemporary Australian Art 1970 - 1994*, Craftsman House, Melbourne, pp.104-106

- 1994 Nicholas Zurbrugg, 'John Gillies', *Electronic Arts in Australia: Continuum: The Australian Journal of Media & Culture*, vol. 8 no. 1, pp. 200- 215
 Nicholas Zurbrugg, 'Orchestrating Armada: John Gillies', *Eyeline*, no. 25, Brisbane, pp.13-15.
- Nicholas Zurbrugg, 'John Gillies and the Craft of Video', *John Gillies: Armada*, exhibition catalogue, Queensland College of Art, Brisbane pp. 5-8
- 1992 Vicki Riley, 'Elevations of Trauma: Techno/Dumb/Show: John Gillies and the Sydney Front', *Cantrills Filmnotes*, no. 65/66, pp. 33-37
 John Conomos, 'A Video that Questions the Primacy of Narrative', *Strangers in Paradise*, exhibition catalogue, National Museum of Modern Art, Seoul, pp. 34 – 37.
 Pamela Hansford, 'John Gillies and the Sydney Front', *Australian Perspecta 1991*, exhibition catalogue, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, pp. 42 - 43.
- 1991 Margaret Brown, 'Pushing Video's Horizons', *VideoCamera*, Sept.
- 1988 Fran Dyson, 'Pneumatic Video', *Scan +*, vol 1, pp. 10 - 11