



## Call for Directors

The Critical Animals Creative Research Symposium seeks two new Directors for 2011 – 2012. The successful applicants will work alongside the ongoing Director, Sarah Caufield. Although the position officially begins in January 2011, the successful applicants will ideally attend this year's festival, 30 Sep – 1 Oct, and be available for a weekend of strategic planning in late October.

**DEADLINE: Wednesday 1 September, 2010**

To apply, send your cover letter and CV as one attachment to:  
[criticalanimals@gmail.com](mailto:criticalanimals@gmail.com) with subject line "CA Director Application".

### About the Critical Animals Creative Research Symposium

Over three days, Critical Animals brings together artists, academics and students who seek out research, practice-led development and/or quasi-intellectual conversation. Over 50 artists are selected from Australia and internationally to present work and papers, taking part in panels, experimental forums and performances. The symposium is run by and for those engaged in creative and experimental art practices, and aims to create thought, discussion and collaboration. Set to the backdrop of the dynamic and ever-evolving This Is Not Art festival (TINA), the symposium occurs annually in Newcastle, NSW, on the first weekend in October.

Critical Animals is a conference for artists and audiences to connect meaningfully with creative research: both the critical engagement with arts practices, and creative approaches to critical thinking. It's a space for established academics and practitioners, as well as early career academics and students. For many of the latter, Critical Animals will be their first conference experience, and so importantly, the environment is a supportive one. All participants are assisted with preparation and curation, and provided with opportunities for programming across the other TINA festivals.

Critical Animals is important as a space for surprising and original material to emerge in interesting contexts. The symposium draws its artists from a broad pool of writers, researchers, performers, visual artists, musicians, sound artists, thinkers and part-time philosophers. It's a breeding ground for long-term networks and partnerships between artists, audiences and organisers.

Alongside Critical Animals, This Is Not Art is comprised of four other partner festivals: Crack Theatre Festival, Electrofringe, National Young Writers' Festival and Sound Summit. TINA is a national festival with an annual audience of over 3000.

[criticalanimals.org](http://criticalanimals.org)

[www.thisisnotart.org](http://www.thisisnotart.org)

## Position Description

Position Title:	Director
Period:	1 – 2 years (2 years desirable)
Commencement:	January 2011
	Attendance at the 2010 Critical Animals Symposium and October 2010 Strategic Planning meeting preferable.
Working hours:	Approx 1 day per week in lead-up; increasingly more hours as the festival nears; full time for the week of the festival. 450 hours per year.
Key relationships:	This position works closely with the other Directors. The Directors are members of TINA Org, the organisational team comprising the TINA Coordinator and Directors from all TINA festivals. Critical Animals also has a small team of Program Coordinators and volunteers that contribute to the process in the lead up to and during the festival.
Fee:	All Critical Animals roles are volunteer positions, pending funding options.
Location:	Critical Animals is a national festival and is predicated on national involvement. <b>You do not need to be based in Newcastle to direct the festival.</b> The successful candidate will, however, be required to attend monthly TINA Org meetings on weekends in alternating cities, attend occasional Critical Animals meetings, and be in Newcastle for approximately one week at the time of the festival.

## Responsibilities of the Director

### Program

- Select artists through applications
- Create the festival program through the conception and organisation of panels, presentations, paper sessions, readings, performances, exhibitions, installations, workshops and special events
- Facilitate sessions and appoint facilitators for events
- Manage events through artist liaison prior to and during the festival, mindful of overall festival logistics

### Fundraising and Sponsorship

- Actively seek sponsorship opportunities for the festival
- Maintain and develop relationships with funding bodies and partners
- Acquit funding and sponsorship for the festival

## Publicity and Communications

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- Act as a media spokesperson and public face of the festival
- Publicise the festival, festival initiatives and call for proposals
- Liaise with the TINA Media Coordinator to publicise the festival and its artists
- Maintain [criticalanimals.org](http://criticalanimals.org)
- Phone and email communications with artists during the application and selection process, festival lead-up, the festival itself and festival post-production

## Logistics

- Liaise with TINA organisers and other festival Directors to ensure that Critical Animals is integrated with other aspects of the TINA program
- Arrange venues; create and work to running sheets for venues to ensure that events run on time, and that bump in and bump out occur smoothly
- Liaise with artists and TINA Production Manager to organise the tech requirements for events and ensure that these are delivered during the festival
- Work with Program Coordinators and volunteers to ensure that the program is supported by appropriate human resources
- Ensure the festival and its operations are delivered on time and within budget

## Strategically

- Plan for the long-term viability and vitality of Critical Animals
- Network with artists, partnering organisations and universities to build and sustain solid relationships for the delivery and sustainability of the festival

## **Who we're looking for**

For the role of Director, we're looking for someone passionate about the intersection of arts and research, about the development of creative research and multidisciplinary art forms. You might be an artist, an academic, an organiser, you might be engaged in postgraduate study, you might be some combination of these.

You will have existing artistic networks, and an understanding of the issues facing artists in traditional, contemporary and emergent forms. Even if your interests are stronger in one area of the arts than others, don't be put off. We are looking for Directors who will complement the skills and knowledge of the others, in order to maintain a diverse and representative festival. But this isn't restrictive, we are open and receptive. You'll have the ability to research and oversee the creation of a diverse and comprehensive festival program, by working collaboratively over distance, predominantly managing large volumes of email correspondence.

This is an opportunity to help shape an exciting and emerging festival, to broaden your artistic networks on a national level, and to gain experience and professional development in festival management.

For further information, email [criticalanimals@gmail.com](mailto:criticalanimals@gmail.com) or call us directly: Sarah Caufield 0433 574 142 or Aden Rolfe 0411 755 545.

We look forward to hearing from you!

**Critical  
animals**