

Andrew Garton

Filmmaker, Musician,
Producer

Andrew Garton

PO BOX 662
Hurstbridge, 3099
Australia

+61 (0) 409948280
andrew@secessionfilms.com

About

A freelance filmmaker, creative producer, musician and new media artist with over thirty years experience in community-based cultural development and information communications. With a Master of Arts in New and Interactive Media Andrew collaborates within multidisciplinary production environments both in Australia and abroad.

Andrew was a co-founder of Pegasus Networks, the earliest national internet service provider in Australia which went online in 1989. He was also co-founder in 1995 of the new media artists collective, Toy Satellite, Producer, and Operations Manager of the Indonesia-based EngageMedia Collective and was the inaugural Program Director of the screen resource centre, Open Channel. In 2001 he produced the opening of the Taipei International Arts Festival in collaboration with Taiwanese artists, touring the completed work, Undercurrents, throughout Australia. A series of commissions followed including works for the Australian Centre for the Moving Image, Ars Electronica, KunstRadio, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation and a two-year artists residency at the Dunmoochin Foundation in the Victorian bush, Australia.

Andrew has produced numerous public events collaborating with artists on such wide-ranging topics as open licenses for screen producers, collaborative book and place-making, mixed media arts production with asylum seekers exploring connections to their homelands ([Bamiyarra](#)), the history of psychedelic lighting design in Melbourne ([The Light Show](#)) and more recently crafting performance installations on the cosmology of the last forest dwellers of Sarawak ([Tong Tana](#)).

In 2012 Andrew returned to filmmaking, writing and directing short format documentaries. In 2015 he formally registered his production studio Secession Films and began work on his first feature documentary, *Ocean in a Drop - broadband impacts rural India*, with the New Delhi based Digital Empowerment Foundation. *Ocean in a Drop* was launched at the Chennai International Film Festival in 2017 with the support of the Australian High Commission, India. His first book, *Right to Know - India's Internet Avant Garde*, was published in India by the Digital Empowerment Foundation and the Australia India Institute. His next feature, *Forged from Fire - the making of the Blacksmiths' Tree* will be launched in Melbourne in February 2019. Andrew is presently completing two short films, *Stupendous - dancing through Parkinsons'* and *This Choir Sings Carols* and researching a new feature documentary, *The Story of Making - Artisan Hands of India*, in collaboration with Ammachi labs, Amritapuri, Kerala.

Select works

Forged from Fire / Writer, Director, Producer

2012 - 2018, MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

An artisan response to the catastrophic Black Saturday fires of 2009 - the making of the Blacksmiths' Tree. In post-production, to be completed October 2018.

Right to Know - India's internet avantgarde / Author

2017, INDIA

A personal account of the impact the internet has made on rural and tribal woman, children and community workers encountered during the making of the feature documentary, Ocean in a Drop. Forwards by Anriette Esterhuysen and Mishi Choudhary. Published by the Digital Empowerment Foundation and the Australia India Institute. ISBN 978-81-933164-2-9

Ocean in a Drop / Writer, Director, Producer

2015- 2017, INDIA

Feature documentary on the impact broadband is having on rural and tribal communities in India. In collaboration with the Digital Empowerment Foundation and Inomy Media in association with the Internet Society, Australia India Institute and the Association for Progressive Communications. The film premiered at the Chennai International Film Festival, 18 December, 2017.

Bamiyarra Not so Still(s) / Creative Producer

2012, MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

Photo essays, two channel video projection, 4 micro-docs in collaboration with young people who have refugee backgrounds. Also known as Homelands, the project was supported by the City of Melbourne, Swinburne University and the Cultural Development Network. Exhibited at the Walker St Gallery, Dandenong, Victoria, 2013, Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre, NSW, 2013, Signal Gallery, Melbourne, 2012.

Associations and membership

Adjunct Industry Fellow / Media and Communication, Swinburne University of Technology

2016 - Present, MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

Associate Member / Association for Progressive Communications

2016 - Present, INTERNATIONAL

Interests and hobbies

Andrew is a regenerative agriculture and fermentation enthusiast. When not baking or fermenting cabbage, he continues to explore music composition, sound design and performance on both keyboards and guitar. In the early 1980s Andrew was an active member of several live and recording bands in Sydney. He performs and records with the four piece post-punk and progressive rock band *Rat Kangaroo* and releases his own music on Bandcamp.

References

John Smithies / Director, Cultural Development Network

Tel. +61 (0) 418 374 036 / john.smithies@culturaldevelopment.net.au

Mahony Kiely / Coordinator, Community Development, City of Whittlesea

Tel. +61 (0) 432074227 / Mahony.Kiely@whittlesea.vic.gov.au

Paul Wilson / Executive Director, APNIC

Tel. +61 (0) 418981428 / pwilson@apnic.net

Websites and Social

Portfolio and Blog

andrewgarton.com

Secession Films

secessionfilms.com

Andrew Garton on Bandcamp

andrewgarton.bandcamp.com/

Twitter

[@andrewgarton62](https://twitter.com/andrewgarton62)

Instagram

[@andrewgarton](https://www.instagram.com/andrewgarton)

LinkedIn

[linkedin.com/in/andrew-garton/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/andrew-garton/)