

MARGOT POLITIS

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📍 Gadigal Land Sydney NSW, Australia

Artistic Direction
Community Arts & Cultural Development
Program Management
Set & Spatial Design

2003 Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Creative Arts | Flinders University Drama Centre, South Australia
2025 IAP2 Certificate of Engagement | The Engagement Institute (IAP2 Australasia)
2025, 2015 Disability Awareness, Accessible Arts
2024 Trauma Informed Community Development, LCSA

Margot Politis is a vibrant and impassioned multidisciplinary Artist and Community Arts and Cultural Development (CACD) practitioner, with over 20 years of experience in arts leadership, curation, events and program management, directing, producing, Community Engagement, and set & spatial design. As the former and longest serving Artistic Director of Sydney's Milk Crate Theatre, an arts organisation working with people with varied and complex lived experiences, Margot is recognised internationally for implementing best practice in the inclusive production of stunning original performance works, ambitious cultural programming, and effecting powerful social impact.

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR Milk Crate Theatre Sydney NSW 2016 - 2025

Artistic Programming | Artistic Direction | Facilitation | Events Producing | Arts Administration | Project Management | Partnership and Stakeholder Management | Management of staff, artists, cast, crew, technicians and contractors | Community Arts & Cultural Development (CACD) | Developing Artist Programs and skills development | Community Engagement | Creative consultation, co-planning and Evaluation | Cultural Infrastructure Development | Organisational Strategy Development | Grants and Funding Acquisition, Management and Reporting | Design & Co-Design of Accessible Practice and Methodologies | Training artists and partners | Set, Costume, Props and Spatial Design | Building and tools | Audience Development | Artistic Programming with Community Service Providers, Councils, Schools, Arts Institutions

2024 PAC Impact Award | 2023 NSW Business Award Outstanding Community Organisation | 2022 Way Ahead NSW Mental Health Matters Media & Arts Award (with Shopfront Arts Co-op - Tiny Universe)

ACCESSIBILITY DIRECTOR Shopfront Arts Co-op Carlton, NSW 2009 - 2016

Direction and Facilitation of Arts Projects by, with and for young people with disability | Establishment of Accessibility Program, Practice and Methodologies | Training artists and partners | Artistic Programming | Establishment of Bodylines and Harness Ensembles for young people with disability | Events Producing and Administration | Partnership and Stakeholder Management | Project Management | Management of staff, artists, cast, crew, technicians and contractors | Community Arts & Cultural Development (CACD) | Community Engagement | Grants and Funding Acquisition, Management and Reporting | Set, Costume, Props and Spatial Design | Audience Development | Artistic Programming with Community Service Providers, Councils, Schools, Arts Institutions

2017 Sydney Theatre Awards Best Production for Young People | 2016 New York City Independent Film Festival Official Selection, 'Reaching Out Over & Over' | 2014 + 2015 FINALIST NSW Disability Industry Innovation Awards | 2013 Creative Partnerships Australia Arts Access Award



2025 | **COLLECTIVE**

Milk Crate Theatre Developing Artist Program Presentation
Director, Set + Costume Designer
Sydney Opera House Centre for Creativity
Multi-artform collection of works



2024 | **Hello, Are You Still There?**

Milk Crate Theatre + Shopfront Arts Co-op
Co-Director, Choreographer, Set + Costume Designer
Shopfront Arts Co-op, NSW
Multi-artform performance work; Intergenerational



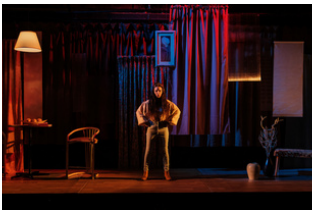
2023 | **SOLACE**

Milk Crate Theatre + Box of Birds
Co-Director, Choreographer, Costume Designer
ARA Darling Quarter, Sydney NSW
Theatre, movement, interactive projection



2023 | **EMERGENCE**

Milk Crate Theatre 24th Anniversary Exhibition
Director, Curator, Designer, Archival, Install
107 Projects, Redfern
Photography, film, Artist Talks



2022 | **DUST**

Milk Crate Theatre
Director, Set + Costume Designer
Richard Wherrett Studio, Sydney Theatre Company, Walsh Bay NSW
Text-based work, presented in reverse traverse



2022 | **MCT Restrospective**

Milk Crate Theatre 23rd Anniversary Showcase
Director, Curator, Producer, Choreographer, Set + Costume Designer
Sydney Town Hall, NSW
Historic performance pieces from MCT body of works



2021 | **Tiny Universe**

Milk Crate Theatre + Shopfront Arts Co-op
Co-Director, Choreographer, Set + Costume Designer
PACT Theatre, Erskineville NSW
Theatre work, Intergenerational
2022 Way Ahead NSW Mental Health Matters Media & Arts Award



2021 | **Sit In That Chair**

Milk Crate Theatre + Sydney Street Choir
Director, Facilitator, Producer
Studios 301 Alexandria
Recording of theme song from MCT 2019 show, *Natural Order*



2019 | **Natural Order**

Milk Crate Theatre
Director, Set + Costume Designer
Petersham Town Hall, NSW
Multi-artform, immersive, roving staging and audience



2019 | *INTERIM*

Milk Crate Theatre + Counterpoint Community Services, Waterloo Housing Estate
Co-Director, Mentor, Set + Spatial Designer
107 Projects Redfern
Multi-artform performance work responding to Waterloo Redevelopment



2019 - CURRENT | *Temperance*

Independent
Self-devised multi-artform dance theatre work
2020 Ausdance Artist in Residence (DAIR)
2019 Inner West Council Edge Spaces Program



2018 | Pathways Developing Artist Program

Milk Crate Theatre
Co-Designer, Facilitator, Director, Producer
South Eveleigh Precinct, Supported by Mirvac
Multi-artform collection of works



2016 - 2017 | *The Forest Unyielding + Heads Will Roll*

Self Help Arts: 2 year Arts + Mental Health project
Creator, Director, Devisor, Facilitator, Curator, Set + Costume Designer
107 Projects, Redfern NSW
Immersive multi-artform installation works + community connection



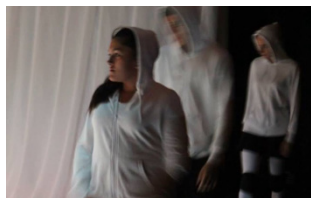
2017 | *Dignity of Risk*

Shopfront Arts Co-op + ATYP
Concept originator, Choreographer
Australian Theatre for Young People Walsh Bay
2017 Sydney Theatre Awards, Best Production for Young People



2016 | *It's Like This*

Shopfront Arts Co-op, Bodylines Ensemble
Director, Facilitator, Set + Costume Designer, Film Co-Director
Shopfront Arts Co-op; Museum of Contemporary Art
5 short dance theatre films by young people with disability



2014 | *Out of Line*

Shopfront Arts Co-op, Bodylines + Harness Ensembles + Kogarah High School Support Unit + ASPECT Schools
Director, Facilitator, Choreographer, Set + Costume Designer
Shopfront Arts Co-op; Australian Theatre for Young People Walsh Bay
Multi-artform performance work about bullying + neurodiversity



2013 | *Reaching Out, Over & Over*

Shopfront Arts Co-op Bodylines and Harness Ensembles
Director, Facilitator, Choreographer, Set + Costume Designer, Film Director
Short dance film, filmed in the reverse-round
Official Selection New York City Independent Film Festival 2016



2010 | *Cuckoo*

Independent + mentored by Tricia Brouk NYC
Devisor, Performer, Set + Costume Designer
The Factory Theatre, Sydney Fringe
Solo Dance Theatre work

WORK, continued

CREATIVE AUSTRALIA Peer Assessment Panel, Funding	Current
DIRTY FEET, Sydney NSW Consultant and Facilitator Disability Programs	2015 - 2022
AUSDANCE NSW Artist, Penrith Public School & Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre	2016
AUTISM SPECTRUM AUSTRALIA (ASPECT) Sydney NSW Teacher's Aide, Artist	2015 - 2016
ACCESSIBLE ARTS NSW Catalyst Dance Program Core Artist Team	2015 - 2016
ROZELLE NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE NSW Disability Arts Program Facilitator, Support	2014 - 2016
TASDANCE Launceston TAS Artist In Residence, Inclusive Practice	2015
POWERHOUSE MUSEUM, Ultimo Sydney NSW Facilitator, Tours & Programs	2014 - 2015
ABC AUSTRALIA NETWORK + UTS INSEARCH LTD TV Presenter <i>Study English</i> , and South East Asia Promotional / Educational Tours	2006 - 2015
THE SONG ROOM, Warrawong Public School, NSW Lead Artist, Facilitator	2014
BEYOND THE SQUARE ARTS, Parramatta NSW Lead Facilitator Disability Programs	2014
MIGRATION MUSEUM, Adelaide SA Facilitator, Tours & Programs	2008 - 2009
RESTLESS DANCE THEATRE, Adelaide SA Performer, Tutor, Board	2004 - 2007

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND TOURING

BRASIL: *With One Voice*: Arts and Homelessness Project, Rio de Janeiro

Australian Delegate, Milk Crate Theatre; Hosted by Streetwise Opera UK, Olympic Games Arts Program, 2016

UNITED KINGDOM: Self-directed Arts & Disability Research Tour

Candoco Dance Company Summer Lab, Graeae Theatre, Stopgap Dance, Mind The Gap, Oily Cart, Kazzum Australia Council for the Arts Cultural Leadership Grant, 2013

UNITED STATES: Self-directed Arts & Disability Research Tour + Development of performance work

Axis Dance Company California, Gabrielle Roth Moving Centers California + NYC, Theatrelab NYC, Mentorship Tricia Brouk, NYC

2 x US tours funded by Australia Council for the Arts, The Ian Potter Foundation, 2009

FURTHER TRAINING

2025 Set Design Essentials, Paul Matthews; NIDA

2025 INCITE Masterclass, Force Majeure

2014-15 Autism Awareness, Autism Spectrum Australia (ASPECT)

REFEREES

JODIE WAINWRIGHT

CEO, MILK CRATE THEATRE

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Employer

BILL YAN

Partnership Officer, Paul Ramsay Foundation

Former Operations Manager, Counterpoint

Community Services

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Community Partner / Peer

NATALIE ROSE

CEO / Creative Director, Shopfront Arts Co-op

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Employer / Peer

ANTHEA DOROPOULOS

Director & Co-Founder, Dirty Feet Ltd

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Employer / Peer