



### **Acknowledgement of Country:**

The Creative Arts department would like to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we live and work, and where this publication was created, the Wurundjeri and Boon Wurrung people of the Kulin Nations. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging. This land was stolen and sovereignty was never ceded. Colonisation is ongoing and its presence in art is very prevalent. This land always was and always will be Aboriginal land.

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# Welcome to the Creative Arts!



We're all about helping you have fun, get involved and get creative! Whether you're interested in music, dance, theatre, film, performance art, visual art, makeup, baking or knitting, we're here to make sure you get to do it all, and do it in a safe, fun, accessible and sustainable way!

We aim to facilitate as many opportunities as possible for you to be involved! Whether you're new to the arts and want to give it a try, or you're an emerging artist and you want to further develop your craft or learn a new skill, we want to help you out, and provide ways for you to be involved, get creative, and have a marvellous university experience!

This year in particular will be important for developing new works, and new ideas, and Tastings (our biennial developmental platform for facilitating new student works) will be a super-duper important part of that. We want to ensure that this year's Tastings is the biggest it has ever been and provide opportunities for students to be involved both on campus and remotely, which will ensure that there will be many more creative projects, ideas, and artists in future years!

We also want to emphasise the importance of collaboration and working together with other students and other departments to ensure that big projects can happen that may not be possible alone. Collaboration brings people together, and a lot of fun and good can come from working with others. A big priority of the Creative Arts department will be to collaborate on a wide variety of events, and to work together with the Arts and Culture departments, and with UMSU as a whole organisation. This will ensure the best possible university experience for students!

If you have questions, or ideas you want to run by us, or you want to discuss ways on how you can get involved, come by our office, which is currently on **Level 1 of Union House** (near the UHT and GPG offices).

If we're ever not in our office, you can contact us via:

@umsucreativearts  
 @umsu\_creative\_arts  
 arts@union.unimelb.edu.au

We also have a linktree, where you can find more information about us:  
[linktr.ee/CreativeArtsUMSU](https://linktr.ee/CreativeArtsUMSU)



# Meet Your Office Bearers



**Marcie**

Hello hello! I'm Marcie! I use they/she pronouns, I'm a psychology and creative writing undergrad student, and I'm excited to be one of your Creative Arts Officers for 2022!

Since my very first semester I have been super-duper involved with the arts and UMSU. I co-founded the Creative Literature and Writing Society (CLAWS), a creative writing club that prioritises creative expression for writers of all backgrounds and experiences, and I was a founding committee member and the 2021 co-artistic director of experimental theatre group Fake Newspaper Theatre.

Additionally, I have been an active contributor to Farrago since 2019, an active member of the UHT community since 2018 (being involved with multiple student theatre groups such as Mudcrabs, Four Letter Word, and Fake Newspaper Theatre) and I have actively been going to the Creative Arts collective since 2020, with 2021 having me rarely if ever missing a collective!

I am glad to be one of your student reps for the Creative Arts, and I do hope to see you get involved with the Creative Arts! If you ever want a chat, or run by any ideas, you can come by the Creative Arts office. If I'm not there, I'm only an email away!

**Prerna**

Hi I am Prerna Aggarwal. I use she/her pronouns and I am one of your Creative Arts Officers for 2022. I study a Master of Management in Accounting and Finance at the University.

I love everything arty and crafty because it has been my solace. Art is something that has always been close to my heart and it helps me connect with people. Because when I create, I feel like it clears my head. It helps me make sense of my emotions. And it somehow, it makes me feel calmer and more relaxed. Art, for me, has taught me so much. I have begun to understand, through my art in its various mediums and forms, my life. A lot of my free time is spent doodling or making something crafty for my friends and family. Arts for me has been a therapeutic procedure therefore I love it.

I hope I can help you explore your arts journey through the resources and the guidance provided by the Creative Arts Department. So, next time you see me in office. Don't be shy, just come in and say hi.

# What We Are Planning For 2022





This year we're dedicated to the reinvigoration, revitalisation, renewal and reimagination of the arts. With those themes in mind, we have a plethora of events and initiatives both old and new to get you involved and creative.

You can find out more informative about our events, initiatives, collectives and campaigns on our socials or the UMSU website at: [umsu.unimelb.edu.au/arts](https://umsu.unimelb.edu.au/arts)

These include, but aren't limited to:



# Poems & Written Word Stories



# Stone Statues Don't Cry

BY WILDES LAWLER

**Content Warning:** mention of drowning

*This glasshouse gallery has no ceiling,  
and the blood of my callouses  
is slicked,  
like hot oil paint on its walls;  
my heavy heart and I  
try to climb out.  
But how can I see when my eyes  
eclipse with searing envy?*

*There is nothing here but Da Vinci's  
and Michaelangelo's.  
Marble and paint layered gods  
to admire;  
moulds that seem impossible to fill.  
I cannot even fill the mould  
I have been given.  
I am nothing  
but wormly in my own skin,  
constantly told I am not enough.*

*Outside this glasshouse gallery  
there are eyes  
sharp like chisels,  
and the widest mouths  
blunt like chisels.  
They dart their looks toward me,  
calling me a bone thin runt  
then telling me "stone  
statues don't cry  
so be quiet in there".*

*I get in a terrible whirl.  
It rains on the ceiling  
but the ceiling is not there.  
Except the rain is my tears;  
washing away paints  
crumbling the marble.  
But the running paint is perfect,  
the broken statues are still manly.  
So I am to drown myself in  
this glasshouse gallery.*

# Caress the Sun

BY CAITI G

*I move the stars for no-one  
I'd rather ride the span of time  
Like a serpent who has consumed galaxies  
Jaw unhinged  
For no beckoning has effect  
In the expanse of all that was*

*Talk of tea leaves, misread  
For it was not a viper, but a rope  
A twine that bends and constrains  
A time that ebbs and wanes  
It touches us all, and we are tethered*

*It hurts the mind to ask  
It hurts me more to move the stars  
I trade my hand of flesh for one that  
May caress the sun  
And not be burnt  
For if there is one thing I have learnt  
It is this*

# Black

BY AYUSHMAAN NAGAR

*Black is being buried beneath a  
soaken ground.  
A sunken lover,  
A fallen soldier.*

*A moment of sorrow,  
A statement of pride.*

*Black is your shadow on a moon-y night.  
A moment of terror,  
A protective sigh.*

*Black is a lifeless hollow,  
Black. Is. You.*

# In conversation with flowers

BY ELINA PUGACHEVA

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*The fields are really alive here  
I feel like wordsworth with the daffodils*

*I would describe the colours cheesily  
But I know it wouldn't matter to you*

*But you should know that the flowers  
speak here  
And I listen*

*They say we should try to let go  
of memories  
Instead admire them and the evergreens*

*I used to try but failed and cursed  
Myself, the world, and you - my worst*

*But slowly the pain kills less  
In times of hell I look up  
and wave to airplanes*

*Airplanes don't see my naivety  
They only feel the freedom of heaven*

*But I still wave  
Because now I can*

*No-one watches me here  
Except my botanical onlookers*

*I am like plath with her tulips  
Except these flowers slowly  
wipe away salty tears*

*In 20 years you will fade into the  
insignificance  
Of half-a-life-lived ago*

*Maybe I will even have children then  
If I can find someone first  
who can stand me*

*Even now I feel your poison too much  
Even when I walk alone*

*But then I talk with those who listen  
Comforting me with  
mellifluous perfection*

*These flowers with their blooms  
They smell of heaven and  
the love of old books*

*I am not truly happy here  
But for the first time I am learning to be*

# TROPHY CASE

BY MAX JAMES FLETT

*Stamped once on each hand.  
A badge of the dimmed light  
Sewn wild into my sleeves,  
Due soon to melt  
Without a fan.*

*A pneumatic drill.  
This passport,  
This leatherbound travel bag  
Tells anyone what I've seen,  
Where and in what daylight.  
A badge of honor dug heavy in blue ink.*

*A river guide stops  
Bending to sample the water  
Every ten or so paces.  
There's a Norman Rockwell imitation  
Hanging low in my mother's living room.  
Beside a glass case of first aid patches,  
Railroad badges.*

*She tells me in secret it's fake  
As are the scouts' ardent chants  
Marching limp along her wall.  
I tell her, I say  
I rather be that boy scout there  
Than an amnesiac.  
It's fake  
But it could still be pawned.*

*The entry stamp -  
It's battered into my arm  
And on the riverbank,  
It'll wait for me  
To finish my smoke  
And get back in there.*

*"Don't drink and drive, Call-A-Cab."  
Reads the stamp buried in a thin red  
The telephone numbers  
They break off into little steams and  
Some freak fisherman reads off 1300s  
Floating past me down the river.*

*Below merit badges and union flags  
My hands are shaking to tell me  
"Don't drink"-  
Smudged blind from its plastic shell.*

*Who was stamping this five hours ago?  
Better yet - where was the scoutmaster  
Giving badges worth boasting?*

*"Didn't talk too loud"  
Hanging crooked, dusty on a  
mother's wall  
"Didn't make a pass at someone else's  
girlfriend."  
Pinned neatly to a khaki shirt.  
"Didn't wake up wishing that it was you  
dead in that river"  
"Didn't lie awake at night  
wishing instead  
You were cold  
Carried out the water in a red blanket."*

# Artwork/ Designs/ Photography Showcase

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## Stardust and Starry Nights

BY JESS NORTON (SHE/HER) | @JESSN\_NO





## Black

BY A. BUCHANAN

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## Golden Tiger

BY MONICA YU | @MIIERYU



## Undefined

BY POOJA GOEL | @  
YOU\_PERSONA\_ART



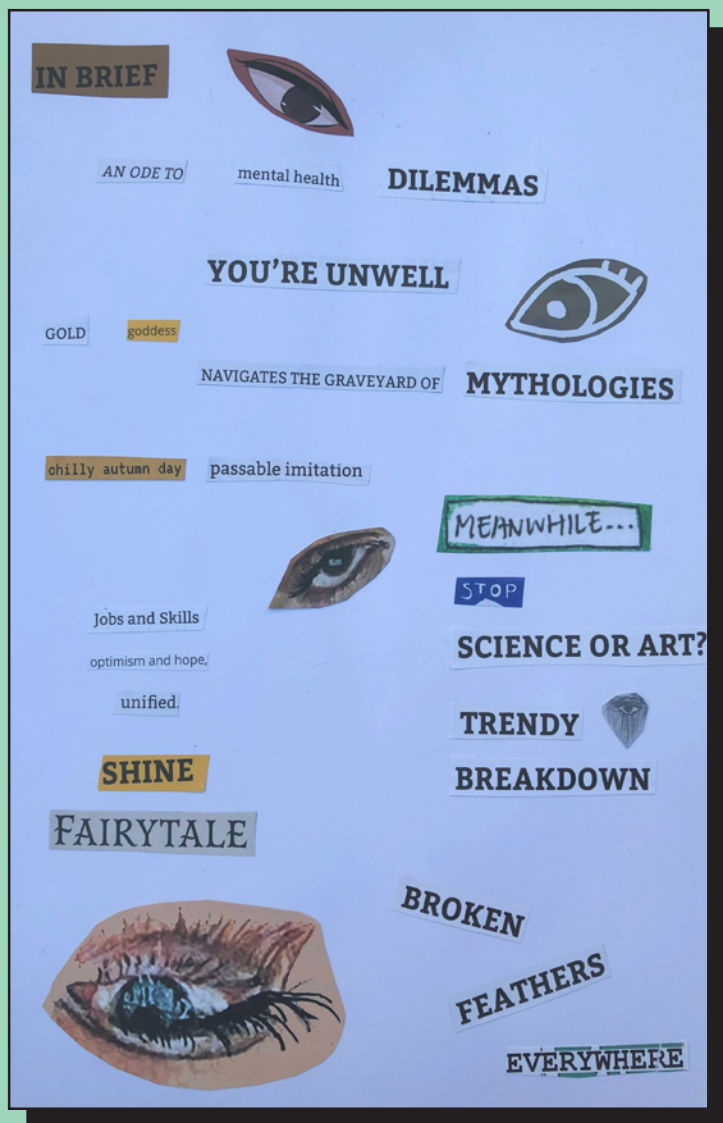
## Peached

BY RACHEL LING | @  
WEICHOU



## Iris

BY HELENA CUI



## An Ode to Mental Health Dilemmas

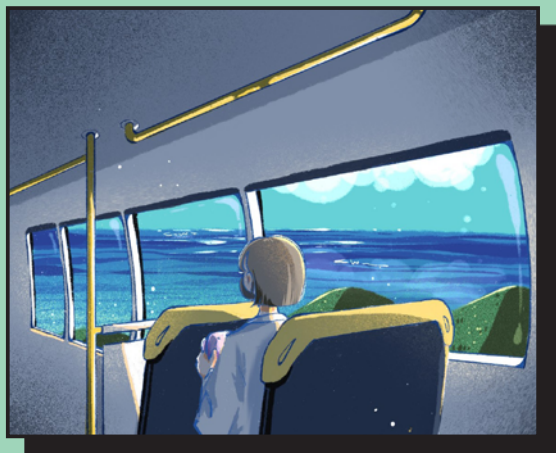
BY KIARA GRACE



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## Fish Kill Spectres

BY TORSTEN STROKIRCH | @TORSTEN\_STROKIRCH



## Fort Nepean

BY WEITING CHEN  
@WEITINGCCCC

# Multi-Media, Music & Videos



# Geneva

BY LUCY LORENNE | @LUCYLORENNE.MUSIC



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**Click to  
listen**

## Celestial Hearts

BY LESLIE HO | @LESLIEHO020202



**Click to  
listen**

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## Transmutation

BY OLGA DZIEMIDOWICZ | @ART\_BY\_OLGA\_D



**Click to  
view**

# I Want to Place my Head Against the Wall

BY JAMIE KIM

[SOUNDCLOUD.COM/USER-743280872-626144554](https://soundcloud.com/user-743280872-626144554)



**Click to  
listen**



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