

Susie Anderson

b 1989

Horsham, Victoria

Susie Anderson is a writer of poetry and nonfiction whose work reflects on the hidden layers of visual arts practice, Country, memory and place. A proud Wergaia & Wemba Wemba woman from Western Victoria, her poetry and non-fiction writing has been published in a variety of publications in Australia and abroad, in print and online.

With a conversational and accessible approach to writing, her work spans many forms and an interview with her younger sister published in *Growing Up Aboriginal in Australia* was included in the VCE curriculum in 2018. She has also interviewed MCA Australia curators in *The National* publication in 2019, and Aboriginal artists such as Yhonnie Scarce and Fiona Foley for the magazine Artist Profile.

In 2010 Susie became part of the Editorial Committee of Voiceworks Magazine, published by Express Media, where she read and provided feedback on the work of writers under 25. Voiceworks is also where her first poem was published, providing a springboard for a poetry career that has always involved discussion and community. She has since been published, awarded or in residence at: Rabbit Poetry Journal, Cordite Poetry Review, Suburban Review, Wheeler Centre Hot Desk Fellowship, Overland Literary Journal's Nakata Brophy Poetry prize, Portside Review, Archer Magazine, Bundanon Trust.

She is sought after for her perspective on visual art, drawn from her work in the arts sector at organizations such as MCA Australia, Sydney Opera House and Science Gallery Melbourne. Her approach to arts writing peels back layers from a First Nations perspective, calling attention to the colonial mechanisms that influence our gaze on artwork, intertwining thoughts about place, memory and love. She has been published in Artist Profile magazine, Artlink, un magazine, FirstDraft Gallery Sydney, and recently for an international publication in Exeter, UK as part of the UNESCO City of Literature initiatives and in NGV's publication for Melbourne Now.

In 2019 she undertook a fellowship through Overland Poetry Journal which was a formative moment for the poetry collection *The Body Country*. In residence, she developed an essay of the same title, which reflects on how the self is crafted through experience, memory and identity. This essay *The Body Country* is threaded through the poetry collecting, providing the scaffold for poems - published and unpublished - that span over the past 10 years. This became a manuscript that won the 2021 State Library of Queensland Black&Write Fellowship and is forthcoming with Hachette in 2023.

Susie has performed her work widely in Sydney and Melbourne as well as internationally at independent writing events in the UK and America and in New Zealand at LitCrawl Wellington. Her most recent performances were at Blak & Bright Writers Festival's Education Day, Melbourne Writers Festival and The Wheeler Centre.

She is currently enrolled in the Faber Academy's Writing a Novel course, working on a fictional story about First Nations art, grief and Country.