

SHIRIN SHAKHESI

Artist CV

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BIO

Shirin Shakhesi is an Iranian-Australian animator and multidisciplinary artist. She holds a Bachelor of Fine Art (Honours) in Animation from the University of Melbourne (VCA). Her diverse artistic practice spans digital painting, video animation, experimental projection art, and live performance integration. Her works often delves into themes of collective memory, cultural identity, environmental perception, and philosophical reflection, seamlessly weaving together elements of Persian literature with contemporary societal issues.

Her animations and visual storytelling have been showcased at festivals and exhibitions worldwide, including the MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL (MIFF PLAY), MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL ANIMATION FESTIVAL (MIAF), MELBOURNE WOMEN IN FILM FESTIVAL (MWIFF), and QUEENSLAND ART GALLERY OF MODERN ART (QAGOMA). Her award-winning films challenge perceptions, fostering deep emotional engagement and intellectual dialogue.

Her art combines visual storytelling and expressive themes, addressing both personal identity and broader social issues, while encouraging deep reflection and dialogue.

Through her work, she strives to bridge technology, nature, and human experience, creating art that invites audiences to reflect on the delicate balance between the past and present, the digital and the organic, and the seen and the unseen.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

2019-2023

Collaboration

- DEREK HO, Australian Broad Corporation, For Frog Sake! (ABC TV)
- JACQUI STOCKDALE, The Secret Story of The Outlaws' Inn, Benalla Art Gallery(NSW)
- ARYO HALL, Multicultural Arts Victoria, Dunya Better, (Victoria, Australia)
- DAN GORONSZY, Reservoir Map, Darebin Council (Victoria, Australia)
- GALI WEISS, I See Trace, Nillumbik Council (Victoria, Australia)
- BLAME THE SHADOW COLLECTIVE, Sky After Rain, Manningham Art Galley, Manningham Council (Victoria, Australia)

2019-2022

Promotional Designer

- Shamdoon Events Productions – Graphic Design (Australia, Spain)
- Saffron Only Luxury Spices – Promotion Designer (Australia, Iran)
- Disney Productions (Wasabi Digital) – Asset Designer & Image Editor
- WG Learning – Graphic Designer
- Motifex Audio & Video Production – Graphic Designer
- Lentil As Anything – Logo Designer for Movie Screening Nights (Sydney)

Art Gallery Associate

- 2025
 - Frida Kahlo: In her own image, BENDIGO ART GALLERY (Victoria, Australia)
- 2022-2023
 - Elvis: Direct from Graceland, BENDIGO ART GALLERY (Victoria, Australia)
 - LaTrobe University's Art Institute (Victoria, Australia)

EDUCATION

- 2020-2023
 - Honours of Fine Art (Animation) Melbourne University (VCA)
- 2019-2022
 - Bachelor of Fine Art(Animation) Melbourne University (VCA)
- 2012-2015
 - Diploma of Graphic Design, Sydney Enmore Design Centre (TAFE)
- 2008-2010
 - Advanced Diploma of Graphic Design, Tehran Institute of Technology (MFT)

SCREENINGS & FILMS

- 2023-2025
 - A Poetic Struggle - Animator and Director**
 - Castlemaine Fringe Festival (AUS)
 - Melbourne Women in Film Festival (AUS) (Melbourne Women in Film Festival (AUS) (Official Selection)
 - Melbourne International Film Festival (MIFF PLAY)
 - Melbourne Science Gallery, Dark Matter, Friday Night Social
 - New Castle Seahorse Film Festival
- 2022- 2023
 - Hollow - Animator and Director**
 - Melbourne International Animation Film Festival (Winner)
 - Poco Film Festival (Finalist)
 - Phantasm - Animator and Director**
 - Queensland Art Gallery Of Modern Art (QAGOMA) Animation Shorts: A Moment in Time
- 2020
 - A Plastic Flower - Animator and Director**
 - Melbourne International Film Festival (MIFF PLAY)
 - Melbourne International Animation Film Festival (Winner)
 - Melbourne Women in Film Festival (AUS) (Melbourne Women in Film Festival (AUS) (Official Selection)
 - Women In Film and TV (Finalist)
- 2019
 - Petrichor - Animator and Director**
 - Melbourne Women in Film Festival (AUS) (Official Selection)
 - Environmental Film Festival (AUS) (Official Selection)
 - La Guarimba Film Festival (ITALY) (UNICEF) (Official Selection)
 - Environmental Film Festival of Yale (USA) (Official Selection)
 - Cambodia International Film Festival (Cambodia) (Official Selection)
 - Annual Le-dub Film Festival (USA) (Official Selection)
 - Red Wasp Film Festival(USA) (Official Selection)
 - Florida Animation Film Festival (USA) (Official Selection)
 - Abba Bee SHORTS (AUS) (Official Selection)

AWARDS, GRANTS, RESIDENCIES

2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Artists Residency Centre for Projection Art (Melbourne, Australia)
2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Artists Residency Curiosibot Lab (Valencia, Spain)
2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New Colombo Plan (NCP) Mobility Grant for Cook Islands (Australian Governments)• Harry Hains Memorial Bursary
2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Multi Cultural Arts Victoria
2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Harry Hains Memorial Bursary

REFEREES

- **Christie Widiarto**

Lecturer and Course Coordinator of the Bachelor of Fine Arts (Animation)

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- **Karen Annett**

La Trobe Art Institute Art Director

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