

NOW OR NEVER



CITY OF MELBOURNE

GPO Box 1603
Melbourne VIC 3001
Telephone (03) 9658 9658
Facsimile (03) 9654 4854DX210487
ABN 55 370 219

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For the inaugural Now or Never festival I had the immense privilege of co-commissioning XYZZY, a truly remarkable video work created by Jess Johnson and Simon Ward.

I am delighted to provide a glowing testimonial for their exceptional talent and creative vision. From the moment we embarked on this journey together, it was evident that XYZZY was going to be a truly exceptional work, possessing their truly singular creative vision and execution. Every frame, every detail, and every nuance in XYZZY reflected an extraordinary level of dedication, creativity, and artistic expertise, and downright mind bending psychedelic storytelling. The work was an absolute standout at Now or Never (which featured 300+ artists over 17 days). XYZZY received 5 star reviews and was instantly selling out, so much so that we scheduled additional screenings to keep up with the demand.

XYZZY resonated deeply with our audience, eliciting a profound and visceral response to the trippy visuals and truly remarkable originality. Simon and Jess create work of a truly singular vision. Their meticulous attention to detail ensured that every aspect of the project, from concept development to the final edit, was executed flawlessly. Their work is a testament to the transformative power of art and its capacity to challenge norms, inspire, and stimulate dialogue. It was an absolute pleasure to witness their boundless creativity and innovative spirit throughout.

Anna Paterson | Programmer & Event Producer | Now or Never & Firelight Festival | Experience Melbourne
pronoun: she/her
City of Melbourne | Council House 2, [240 Little Collins Street Melbourne 3000](https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/council-house-2) | GPO Box 1603 Melbourne 3001
M: 0477 427 150 | F: 03 9654 4854 | E: anna.paterson@melbourne.vic.gov.au
www.melbourne.vic.gov.au | www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/whatson

We value: Integrity | Courage | Accountability | Respect | Excellence



The City of Melbourne respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land we govern, the Wurundjeri-woi Wurrung and Bunurong Boon Wurrung peoples of the Eastern Kulin and pays respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.

We acknowledge and honour the unbroken spiritual, cultural and political connection the Wurundjeri, Bunurong, Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurung and Wadawurrung peoples of the Eastern Kulin have to this unique place for more than 2000 generations.

We are committed to our reconciliation journey, because at its heart, reconciliation is about strengthening relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples, for the benefit of all Victorians. Sovereignty has never been ceded. It always was and always will be, Aboriginal land.