

Talya Chalef



Talya Chalef is an independent theatre-maker working in multidisciplinary visual performance work. The Dame Joan Sutherland Award have awarded Talya a grant to assist towards living costs while she attends Columbia University's School of the Arts masters Playwriting program in New York City. She has been given an incredible opportunity to extend, develop and nurture her performance practice with some of the most inspired and exciting theatre-makers in New York City.

Talya has been based in Melbourne completing a Graduate Animateuring (theatre-making) program at the VCA in 2004 and devising new performance works *site* (2006, nominated in the Victorian Green Room awards), *In Other Words* (2007 and 2009, also nominated in the Victorian Green Room awards) and *Eyton Rd* (2009, Melbourne and Cape Town)

In 2007, the University of Minnesota invited Talya to speak about her performance project *site* on an international Heritage sites panel. That year Taya co coordinated The South Project's art gathering in Soweto, South Africa. In 2008 she was awarded an Ian Potter travel scholarship along with the inaugural Gwandalan award through La Mama theatre, to research site-specific arts practice within Europe whilst developing performance project *Eyton Rd*. *Eyton Rd* premiered in Melbourne in February 2009 and subsequently toured to Cape Town's Infecting the City Festival.

In mid 2009 the City of Melbourne's CultureLab program along with the Besen Family Foundation supported a redevelopment of performance *In Other Words* before it toured to Argentina as part of Proyecto 34'S cultural exchange.

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