

BIOGRAPHY

I am an early-career researcher in media and cinema studies, with a particular interest in comedy, persona, performance, and genre. I recently completed a PhD at RMIT University, Melbourne, researching parafictional persona in the comedian comedy. In my professional career I have worked as a journal editor, film programmer, media producer and arts administrator.

QUALIFICATIONS

PhD (Media and Communication) RMIT University Supervised by Dr Alexia Kannas and Dr Stayci Taylor Research Topic / Thesis: "Performing the Self: Parafictional Persona and the Comedian Comedy"	2024
Bachelor of Media and Communication (Honours) RMIT University Graduated with 1st Class Honours (H1) Thesis: "The Suburban Grotesque: Australian Cinema's Second Wave"	2019
Bachelor of Communication (Media) RMIT University Graduated with High Distinction	2018

RESEARCH

Refereed Journal Articles

- Dixon, B.J. (forthcoming), "Meta Humour in the 1950s Sitcom: Parafiction and Self-Reflexivity in *The George Burns & Gracie Allen Show*", *New Review of Film & Television Studies*, accepted.
- Dixon, B.J. (forthcoming), "Parafictional Persona and Performative Fandom: The Audience as Performer in the *On Cinema at the Cinema* Universe", *Comedy Studies*, proposal accepted.
- Dixon, B.J. (2019), "'Give Me the Seth Rogen Laugh': *This Is the End* and Parafictional Persona", *Popular Culture Studies Journal*, 7(2), pp. 25-38.

Conference Papers

- Dixon, B.J. (2024), "Cringe Comedy and the Suspension of Empathy," *Australasian Humour Studies Network Conference*, University of Queensland, 7-9 February.
- Dixon, B.J. (2021), "Parafiction in the 1950s Sitcom: Meta Humour and Self-Referentiality in *The George Burns and Gracie Allen Show*," *Television Histories in Development*, Netherlands Institute for Sound and Vision, 30 September-1 October.
- Dixon, B.J. (2019), "Friends with Benefits: Neoliberalism and Heteronormativity in the Bromance Film," *Pop Culture Association of Australia & New Zealand (PopCAANZ) Conference*, RMIT University, 3-5 July.

SCHOLARSHIPS, HONOURS & AWARDS

RMIT-ACMI X Graduate Residency Program Part-time residency at ACMI X researching community media as an incubator for comedy in Australia • Award: Valued at AU\$1,920	2024
Australasian Humour Studies Network Student Scholarship Conference bursary for the 2024 AHSN Conference • Award: Valued at AU\$300	2023
<i>Studies in American Humor</i> Judith Yaross Lee Publication Grant Competitive award supporting graduate students in humo(u)r studies • Award: US\$100 stipend and one year of professional mentorship	2020
RMIT Research Stipend Scholarship (RRSS) Competitive scholarship to study a PhD at RMIT University • Award: AU\$31,260pa	2019
Vice Chancellor's List for Academic Excellence, RMIT University Awarded to those with results in the top 2% of all RMIT students	2018 2019

TEACHING & CURRICULUM

Studio Leader

[RMIT University](#) • 2024

Studio Title: Beyond a Joke, Beyond a Genre: Investigating and Creating Comedy Media
Prompt: How can we creatively think of comedy as a mode within (and beyond) genre, form, and media?

Guest Lecturer

[RMIT University](#) • 2024

Course: TV and Screen Cultures
Lecture Title: TV Stars, Personalities, and Personas

Tutor

[RMIT University](#)

TV and Screen Cultures (2024)
Uses of Film Theory (2023, 2024)
Film Criticism: From Early Cinema to the Digital Age (2022, 2023, 2024)
Beyond the Frame: Technologies, Industries and Audiences (2022)
Introduction to Cinema Studies (2021)
Popular Cinema (2020, 2021)

Teaching Innovation

[Podclass](#) • 2020

A bespoke podcast series commissioned by RMIT University in response to the COVID-19 pandemic co-produced, hosted, and edited with Dr Alexia Kannas and Georgia Imfeld for the Uses of Film Theory course. The series comprised 12 episodes of course content delivered in lieu of in-person lectures, with extended conversations linking weekly subject matter with assigned readings and screening material, modelling discussion behaviour for students to use in the virtual classroom.

PROFESSIONAL & OTHER EXPERIENCE

Screen Inquisition

[Director](#) (2022–Present)

A regular series of curated screenings and discussions that spotlight and intersect with research being undertaken by HDR students and staff in RMIT's School of Media and Communication.

Senses of Cinema film journal

Editor (2020-2021)

Administrator & Webmaster (2018-2020)

Melbourne Cinémathèque

Board Member (2018-2020)

Human Rights Arts & Film Festival (HRAFF)

Programming Coordinator (2019)

Feature Film Programmer (2016-19)

The Essential

Publisher & Editor (2013-2017)

Australian Film Institute | Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts

Communications & Marketing Coordinator (2012-2016)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Association of Internet Researchers (AoIR) 2020-Present

Australasian Humour Studies Network (AHSN) 2020-Present

Australian Film Critics Association (AFCA) 2014-Present; Board Member, 2015

International Association for Media & Communication Research (IAMCR) 2021-Present

International Society for Humor Studies (ISHS) 2021-Present

Melbourne Emerging Screen Scholars (MESS) 2020-Present

Pop Culture Association of Australia and New Zealand (PopCAANZ) 2019-Present

Society for Cinema & Media Studies (SCMS) 2020-Present