Video recording is now a routine practice in relation to live performance but in Australia there is still little discussion of what makes a good recording from the artists’ point of view, nor from that of other users of performance documentation (analysts, historians, theorists, archivists, publicists, entrepreneurs, funding bodies). In this panel, the organisers wish to bring together performance artists, video makers and academics to discuss different approaches to recording and new documentation and recording technologies.

We propose to invite two or three people (performance practitioners and video makers) to show a short extract from a recording they have made in the last year or so and to discuss how it exemplifies their goals in the documentation process, and how it is negotiating the interface between the live performance and technologically mediated representation of it. Ideally, each of these presentations will be complemented by input from other artists involved in the production and/or from people who are using the recording in different (e.g. publicity, archival, performance analysis) contexts.

We are keen to hear from people who would like to participate in this panel and, in particular, from people who wish to propose recordings that could be presented as a trigger for discussion of the qualities that make a 'good' recording from the point of view of the different stakeholders involved.

Anyone—academics, performance practitioners, video makers involved in the making and use of recordings of performance—interested in being involved in this panel should contact Gay McAuley with suggestions of work that could form the basis of our panel discussion, as described in the proposal.

Format
It is proposed that this panel take the form of a single 90 minute slot, during which presentation of, say, two carefully chosen documentation projects would occur (each allocated 30 minutes), followed by a 30 minute round-table discussion of the qualities that make a "good" document from the points of view of the different stakeholders involved.

It may be that we need two sessions, one for presentation of a variety of documentation projects, and one for the round table discussion of issues arising. This will depend in part on the range of offers that are made.

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