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In all of my courses in the Film and Visual Culture Department, I include practical elements to help students understand the art-making process from the inside, from the perspective of the artist. Rather than simply analyse the work from a distance, students become artists, and participate in the creation of artwork, either individually or collectively.

Learn more at: https://teachingperformance.wordpress.com

Teaching Performance

{ Learning about art by becoming an artist

Students in 1st year learn what performance is by experiencing it. Sitting in the Taylor Quad for 20 minutes, they observe the manner in which passersby start to 'perform' once they realise they are being watched.

In 3rd and 4th year, they learn about the significance and potency of the body in performance, by taping me to a desk—a re-performance of a 1971 action. Through participation, they are forced to confront the corporeality of the body.

By the time of postgraduate study, students are empowered to lead their own events, such as this "Friday Lunch" at Deveron Arts in Huntly, an organisation focused on ephemeral and participatory art projects.