

Social Change Symposium

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School: Media and Communication

Presentation: Second Milestone Review (upgrade Masters to Confirmed PhD), May 2023

Title: Watchable and watched: a case for class diversity on Australian screens

Abstract: Australia has a strong legacy of women in key creative roles in the filmmaking industry from the inception of screen production to the present day. This research seeks to understand which pathways lead women to successful careers in the Australian film industry because while film schools demonstrate an equal intake across students who identify as male and female, the industry itself shows ongoing disparity. Currently, there exists a knowledge gap with regards to the journey that women in contemporary Australia take from the point of leaving tertiary level education to establishing a career in the film industry. Further questions include, how do newly graduated women navigate typically masculine film sets and, how women interact with funding bodies and industry unions.