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Museum of Contemporary

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THE UNEASY SENSATION OF BEING LEFT ALONE ON A VAST STAGE

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WITH SOME RESPECT FOR FACTS



GIVING THEIR SPARE TIME TO MOVEMENTS BIGGER THAN THEMSELVES

This publication was printed on the office printer, collated and bound by the front-of-house staff at the Museum of Contemporary Art Australia (MCA), Sydney. Designed by Maud Vervenne, it was produced as an accompaniment to Isabelle Sully's work *The Lives Already Given To Work*, exhibited as part of *The National: Australian Art Now*, from March 31–July 9, 2023.

Composed of a series of experimental news bulletins voiced by leading Australian journalist Sandra Sully, *The Lives Already Given To Work* is an audio piece played at the top of each hour via the public announcement system of the MCA. Drawing a connection between different information distribution infrastructures found in the museum, the two-part work plays on the role and history of media technologies and communication networks in women's movements and questions the expectation of neutrality imposed upon the newsreader herself.

SLUGLINES is composed of a collection of headlines belonging to each of the bulletins making up The Lives Already Given To Work, typeset as one-line poems. In newspaper editing, a 'slug' is the term given to stories that are in production, termed as such while they make their way from the reporter and through the editorial process towards publication. In a classic feminist move of diverting institutional resources one learned from the grey literature scattered throughout the research underpinning the work—this publication was produced in-house by the same staff who operate the PA switchboard and is distributed freely via the information point they oversee: the front desk.