



TIME IS NOT A LINE

A DOCUMENTARY BY DARCY NEWTON

FEATURING STEPHEN HENNESSY & SIAN TJIA HENNESSY

DIRECTOR & CINEMATOGRAPHER DARCY NEWTON | PRODUCER LUCA CATALANO | EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS TERESA TJIA & SHAUN MILLER | EDITOR CONNOR PISCICELLI | COMPOSER & SOUND DESIGNER J. DAVID FRANZKE | KEY ARTIST SIAN TJIA HENNESSY | COLOURIST MARCUS MASON | LEGALS SHAUN MILLER

LOGLINE

In his final months, artist Dr Stephen Hennessy races to complete a life-spanning exhibition—transforming his death into an act of love for his daughter.

SYNOPSIS

Time is Not a Line is a nonlinear documentary exploring the final months of renowned Australian artist/designer Stephen Hennessy's life (1956-2025). Faced with a terminal cancer diagnosis, Stephen races to complete his PhD and mount his last exhibition—one that re-engages with his 50-year long career, while creating a lasting emotional and creative legacy for his daughter.

With Sian's help, Stephen confronts generational trauma, completes his exhibition, and challenges his mortality with candour and creativity. Weaving together studio and exhibition scenes, family archives, interviews, and his funeral, the film poly-temporally captures a father's final act of love—and a legacy shaped through art, vulnerability, and death.



Time is Not a Line (2025), directed by Darcy Newton



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DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

"Working alongside Stephen during his final months of life was an unforgettable experience. His terminal diagnosis didn't diminish his passion—it deepened it. He remained fiercely committed to his art, his ideas, and most of all, his family. He approached death not with fear, but as a creative challenge—to make something lasting and meaningful for those he loved

The time we spent together profoundly shaped how I think about life, grief, and the boundaries of art itself. *Time is Not a Line* aims to honour Stephen's vision, capturing a man who met death with open eyes and a full heart, and turned it into one final, powerful act of creation."

Darcy Newton, 2025

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Darcy Newton is an award-winning documentary filmmaker based in Melbourne. His short *Icebergers* (2019) received 'Best Documentary' at Melbourne Indie Film Festival and his debut feature *Claptrap* (2024) was awarded 'Wildcard' at Melbourne Documentary Film Festival, with *Claptrap* recently completing its national theatrical release in April, 2024.

Time is Not a Line (2025) promises to be Newton's most intimate work yet—zeroing in on a family story with profound implications on learning how to navigate death and love.







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SELL OUT WORLD PREMIERE AT BALLARAT INTERNATIONAL FOTO BIENNALE 2025

In August 2025, *Time is Not a Line* (2025) premiered at Palace Regent Cinemas Ballarat as part of the Ballarat International Foto Biennale (BIFB), one of Australia's leading international photography and visual arts festivals. The sold-out screening included a Q&A session with director Darcy Newton and key artist/co-subject Sian Tjia Hennessy.

The screening marked a significant milestone for the film, positioning it within a program renowned for its curation of world-class, thought-provoking work. In an era where intimate, personal cinematic experiences are rare, the event resonated deeply with both Stephen's family and the wider audience.



CREDITS

Featuring

**Dr Stephen Hennessy
& Sian Tjia Hennessy**

Director & Cinematographer

Darcy Newton

Producer

Luca Catalano

Executive Producers

Teresa Tjia & Shaun Miller

Editor

Connor Piscicelli

Composer & Sound Designer

J. David Franzke

Key Artist

Sian Tjia Hennessy

Colourist

Marcus Mason

Legals

Shaun Miller

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Time is Not a Line (2025), directed by Darcy Newton

Dedicated to
DR STEPHEN HENNESSY
1956-2025

