

I am an established artist who has been practising full-time in the Australian Arts sector for 45 years.

My comments below are made in direct response to the Public Consultation paper Towards a new National Cultural Policy

- Invested funding to secure the future of our national collecting institutions and national arts training organisations.

*My Comment: Our art galleries are struggling to maintain their infrastructure, let alone expanding their collections and supporting living artists in the process.*

- Loaned 333 works of art to 42 institutions under the Sharing the National Collection initiative to take some of the world's best artwork out of storage in the National Gallery of Australia and display it around Australia.

*My Comment: This is a worthwhile program that has national benefits*

- Funded specialist in-school arts education programs that directly draw from cultural and creative sector expertise, to support creative practice in Australian classrooms.

*My Comment: This is very important to seed the evolution of cultural life Australia-wide. But Art in schools is waning ... why? and what are the effects?*

General Comments:

Authorship, originality and the implications of AI need more immediate attention. Artist's livelihoods are very much under threat with not enough research or investment into how to limit this type of theft and how to safeguard originality and copyright protection.

Since the demise of organisations like Craft Australia and the diminishment of international residencies and opportunities once championed by the Australia Council and its networks international opportunities have generally diminished. It is vital artists are supported in these international endeavours to express, create, develop and share their work with the rest of the world.

Artists desperately need physical significant places and spaces to create and engage and present and share their creative endeavours. The federal government needs to support new buildings and existing organisations to enable culture to seed, develop and be shared. Not just digital, virtual spaces, but spectacular places where cultural life can flourish across diverse communities.

The planned and stalled new Tarrkarri – Centre for First Nations Cultures is a case in point. Australians, artists and audiences needs this gallery. It would be really welcome if this new institution also expanded to include all Australian Contemporary Artists. All practising artists need this kind of concrete support and validation. It would send the message that the government does indeed value the huge contribution that contemporary living breathing practising artists make to the cultural sector and to the quality of life of all Australians and beyond. The Arts in South

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Australia have suffered greatly under the current government with sport receiving a disproportionate focus, financial investment and attention from the current premier.

Sincerely

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