

Since Revive was launched everything, in all the arts, is changed, changed utterly by the internet and particularly by artificial intelligence. Constant unknown change is now the basis of all contract law – even the social contract.

In any time in Western culture since the height of colonialism, Governments worldwide are slaves to their corporate masters. Then it was the trading companies with their own slaves and mercenary armies, now it is tech bros who are the pirates being allowed, by governments, to exploit international markets. AI companies have now fully slipped the leash in IP, copy, and moral rights and are running roughshod into the uncharted wilds, as surely as their corporate forebears were in, for example the likes of the British East India Company.

So it is also with the arts. The digital cowboys are unleashed on all art forms.

Having read the policy document produced by Creative Australia I can only say that this is a woefully inadequate response to the constant contemporary threats and current abuse of artists' IP, copy, moral, and cultural rights as well as their livelihoods. The policy directive seems to be 'keep calm and carry on' as though nothing is happening, no revolution to see here folks.

Creative Australia needs to engage and to allow Australian artists to engage with change and community. Some suggestions follow:

- 1) Create an Artists Living Wage scheme for artists across all art forms in the same mould as the old academies of the 1700-1800s. This would, in association with Services Australia, allow Creative Australia to provide dole + living wages to artists. Applications from artists for up to five years duration across all art forms. Democratic spread per Federal electorate. Require artists to create works and value add to their community or the community to which they apply. ie artist could apply to live and work in communities around the country not just the one in which they currently live.
- 2) Ask only one question of all types of grant applications: Is this a high quality artistic idea? If the germ of the idea is good Creative Australia needs to assist the artist to make it happen. Creative Australia could actively partner with artists in two essential ways: First to match artists with funding from various sources, both across and beyond government, and second to promote artists and their work through CA run active marketing campaigns.
- 3) Advocate strongly to mandate the teaching of practical arts in Universities. eg: Foundation Year and arts electives wherever electives are available in non-arts degree programmes.
- 4) Create a funding strand designed to encourage artists to confront AI in whatever ways they choose. In this way artists will shape the future of the response to rapidly changing algorithmic tools.

All these ideas need fleshing out. Happy to assist in that.

I hope you are able to consider these points seriously in your policy response to assisting the artists of Australia to eke a living.

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