

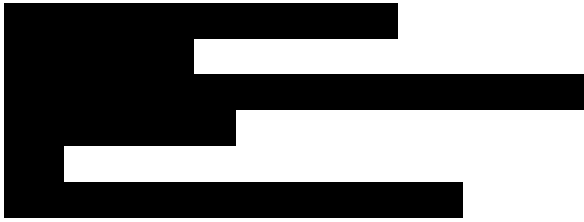
## National Cultural Policy Submission

1470195

Public

Individual

Christopher Clinton



Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

My name is Christopher Clinton. I am based in [REDACTED], and I work as a Architect/Designer-Maker & Chair, Designed Objects Tasmania.

As Chair of Designed Objects Tasmania (DOT), craft and design represent the intersection of culture, creativity, place and making. Tasmania has a deeply embedded culture of skilled makers and designers whose work reflects both the distinct character of our island and the values of care, sustainability and innovation. Craft and design are not simply aesthetic pursuits; they shape how we live, connect and understand ourselves and our communities. Through material knowledge, storytelling and collaboration, the sector contributes to cultural identity, economic resilience and social wellbeing while fostering meaningful connections between people, objects and place.

Without proper investment in the craft and design sector, Australia risks losing a vital part of its cultural infrastructure and creative future. The sector supports pathways for emerging practitioners, preserves specialist skills and enables regional communities such as Tasmania to retain and grow creative industries. A lack of support would diminish opportunities for experimentation, education and public engagement, while weakening the visibility and value of Australian craft and design both nationally and internationally. Investment is essential not only to sustain makers and designers, but to ensure that the cultural knowledge, innovation and diversity they contribute continue to enrich Australian society.

I support the three asks made by the Australian Craft and Design Centres (ACDC) network in their submission to this consultation: a 10-year workforce development plan that addresses skills and training shortages for craftspeople and designers; the establishment of a dedicated craft and design structure within Creative Australia, with its own mandate to advocate for the sector, develop funding pathways, and coordinate across government; and an export and tourism development strategy that positions Australian makers in international markets, including at showcase events like Milan Design Week.