

National Cultural Policy Submission

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Public and anonymous

Individual



Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

It is encouraging to have a National Cultural Policy that continues to shift and evolve with time. However, the current environment in which State funding is disappearing means that the demand for these resources is larger than ever, artists and organisations are not able to access state funding that was previously available, and national arts funding is increasingly distributed according to a stringent system of national principles that can undermine the validity of art in its global context. To exemplify the distinction between national and global context, one can think of the Whitlam government's purchase of Jackson Pollock's Blue Poles (1952), which was justified on the basis of its value to art, not only to Australian life and values. It remains one of the most significant pieces of international art in the Australian national collection. In other words, the funding pool is increasingly shallow and governed by a limited scope of artistic potential, resulting in art in this country being undercut in both conceptual content and material viability. More funding, distributed more widely, perhaps with the administrative assistance of localised organisations, could help to remedy these issues.