

National Cultural Policy Submission

1471045

Public and anonymous



Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

I support the submission made by the Australian Live Performance Export Alliance to recognise live performance export and international engagement as critical to the careers of Australian artists, the reputation of Australia overseas and the long-term viability of the performing arts ecology.

Despite strong and growing demand from mature global markets for Australian work, the ability to get that work overseas is becoming increasingly difficult.

Sharp increases in touring costs, freight, travel, visas, accommodation, wages, insurance and contingency have made many engagements impossible to confirm. Disruption is now the normal operating environment for international touring.

Painstakingly built international networks, developed over decades, are now at risk of collapse because we lack coordinated support to convert demand into viable touring. For small-to-medium companies and First Nations-led companies - who are some of Australia's strongest performers overseas- the financial and workforce risk is increasingly unsustainable.

Headline asks

1. Name live performance export and international cultural engagement as strategic priorities in the next National Cultural Policy.
2. Establish an ongoing dedicated live performance export fund for tour-ready artists and organisations with demonstrated international demand.
3. Pilot a presenter-fee matched funding model, such as 30% matched support against guaranteed international presenter fees, to convert confirmed demand into viable touring.
4. Create a quick-response international disruption fund and require realistic contingency in all publicly supported international touring budgets.
5. Establish a cross-government International Cultural Relations coordination mechanism linking arts, foreign affairs, trade, tourism, migration, state agencies, Creative Australia, overseas posts and the live performance sector.
6. Establish dedicated First Nations-led international exchange, Indigenous diplomacy and market development infrastructure, including culturally grounded investment models and implementation support for existing Indigenous-to-Indigenous exchange strategies.