

National Cultural Policy Submission

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Public

Individual

Jacqueline Bradley

Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

My name is Jacqueline Bradley. I am based in Canberra, and I work as an artist and university lecturer working across mediums, with an ongoing focus on glass.

I was awarded a residency at the [REDACTED] in 2020. This was my first experience working with glass, and I was supported and mentored by several experienced glass artists. At the end of this residency I was offered an exhibition at the [REDACTED]. The work developed and exhibited over this time has gone on to become a rich research area within my practice, and I have continued to develop and exhibit this work nationally. A year later I moved into a studio at the glassworks, and glass has since become a central element in my practice. While in my studio, I work with a range of highly skilled artists using the extraordinary facility that us the glassworks. Without this space, and the artists, craft and design makers who work there, I would never have made the conceptual and material leaps that have driven my practice and career in the subsequent years. I am so grateful to those artists and makers who have shared their knowledge and skills with so many artists, myself included.

The skills held in sites like the [REDACTED] are second to none. Without these places, there would be no means to access not only glass as a medium, but the deep knowledge - material, historical and contextual - that gives this medium meaning. The Glassworks is a generative and generous institution that allows so many makers and designers across disciplines, nationally and internationally, to realise new ideas, solve problems, make new work and new knowledge. There is nothing else like it and without these spaces the cultural sector in Australia would be greatly diminished.

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.