

National Cultural Policy Submission

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Public

Individual

Karen Milder



Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

I am based in Australia as an Independent Multidisciplinary Artist, Author and Creative Coach researching Identity. I am continually investigating the individual creative self within a location to understanding the vulnerability and resilience within constant environmental and social changes. My methodology flows from a wide source of theories within Psychology, Philosophy and Sociology that I have been researching and expressing in regard to Identity.

Each creative step I take is a footprint I have made and left behind as I experience continuous changes within systems I enter. I am often learning diverse ways to navigate my individual self by knowing my shadow self to being my authentic creative self in my art practice. From an early age I have been communicating art through photography, paint, installations, books and music by working intuitively in my delivery.

Re-iterating the five pillars in submission becomes a reminder of the opportunities that are available to date for all artists to respect, reflect, support, provide and connect. These five pillars being of first nations first, a place for every story, centrality of the artist, strong cultural infrastructure and engaging the audience is a solid foundation to date. This framework now and moving forward will further enhance cultural shaping of Identity by building the future of all art language that can be presented on the Australia and World Stage.

I find myself Identifying with Pillar Two, a place for every story is part of my Coaching in building confidence in individuals and group settings. How to embrace and gain further place-based practice is thriving in some sectors, yet the clarity around being an independent artist comes with its trials and tribulations. I have witnessed my students feel entirely overwhelmed, as the art world is unable to provide a full time opportunity due to limited finances and support around being a Professional Artist.

An important part of my time to share and submit is that practicing Independent Artists still have an individual voice to be heard and documented in our National Library of Australia and Trove.

A story for a story, a tune for a tune and yet to be an Artist and thrive within a landscape of harshness has differently been a test at times, yet no passion is smooth and it is the dedication and motivation that drives the light from within me. I will continually support the artworld and provide my skills and gift.

On my final note there is not an exact answer, though after reading all documentation provided, I am looking forward to further opportunities coming to light in corporate, educational and government bodies supporting and recognizing the importance to keeping art in the foreground and growing a strong creative Australia.