

National Cultural Policy Submission

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Public

Individual

Annette Downs



Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

With more than 40 years' experience in the performing arts—particularly in Tasmania and across regional Australia—I have seen firsthand how national cultural policy settings shape the health, ambition and equity of our sector. I want to acknowledge the significant progress already achieved through Revive. The impact of First Nations First and the work on Creative Workplaces has been especially tangible on the ground.

Pillar 2: Striving for a better balance in the distribution of funds between traditional arts in major centres and investing in the new, the experimental and the high risk explorers. Also raising the profile of our innovators.

Pillar 3: Centrality of the Artist

Two areas feel urgent:

- Artistic freedom and protection from interference-Recent experiences at the Venice Biennale, Adelaide Festival and elsewhere highlight how vulnerable artists remain to political, corporate or institutional pressure. These lessons must not fade with corporate memory. Cultural governance frameworks need to embed protections so artists can speak clearly, freely and without fear of retribution.
- Creative rights in an AI driven environment-The pace of technological change has outstripped artists' ability to protect their work. While the "horse has bolted" in some respects, policy must still intervene to prevent further exploitation. Artists need clear, accessible information about the rights they do—and do not—have when their work is scraped, replicated or monetised by tech platforms. Stronger regulatory settings are essential.

Pillar 4: Federal /State harmonisation: The refresh of membership across national framework companies has been profoundly important.

I would like to see a policy that continues to champion equity, innovation and artistic courage.