

National Cultural Policy Submission

1472543

Public

Organisation

ELISION

Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

In the small to medium sector we would like to see an even greater emphasis placed upon supporting 'the arts'; upon those individuals and the small ensembles that form part of the ecology which are essentially not-for-profit. Diversity without sustainability becomes exploitation and accordingly to maximise impact we would like to see Government investments focussed upon experimental risk-taking that both nationally and internationally drives understandings of Australian capabilities, shines a light into how we understand ourselves and societies, and is heavily engaged and networked with the international positioning of Australian practice- a dynamic that makes the world a bigger place for all of our practitioners.

There was a lot that was fantastic about the former Australia Council for the Arts and not the least having those words, 'the arts' front and centre in the very name of the organisation. Creative Australia, the current incarnation, is very much about 'investment' and accordingly its public discussion often prioritises the measurement of outputs, a certain functional economic language. Yet the rate of change, whether geopolitical, biological, climate and pandemic threats, or the unpredictable impact of AI is such that underpinning economic assumptions are usually and quickly assailed by a changing world. There is an argument for weighting delivery of resources towards the artist as creator and to small ensembles that have the resilience to negotiate, improvise and be expressive within new and fluid circumstances.