

# **National Cultural Policy Submission**

**Annalouise Paul Dance Theatre**

Submitted: On behalf of a for-profit arts business and as an artist

**What challenges and opportunities do you see in the pillar or pillars most relevant to you? Feel free to respond to any or all pillars:**

## **First Nations**

First Nations arts, language, history and culture must become compulsory in the schools curriculum, with electives in HSC and at least one semester in tertiary education. This will ensure goals are reached in the timeline for this policy.

## **A Place for Every Story**

Cultural diverse stories and practices still sits at the bottom of the Arts. There can be no excuses anymore. There needs to be dedicated policy and quotas to see a wholesale shift in the industry. To honestly represent our streets, on the stage and screen with integrity and innovation.

## **The Centrality of the Artist**

Artists remain underfunded. Its that simple. There is a constant dole out of funds to majpor conapnues who have long had infrastrucite and human resources.

It is insulting that time after time, year after year, artists hear the term 'unfunded excellence' in the rejection of their submission. There needs to less funded medicorcity and more risk on those truly innovative work and artists.

**Please tell us how each of the 5 pillars are important to you and your practice and why. Feel free to respond to any or all that are applicable to you:**

## **A Place for Every Story**

Growing up in the 70's, multiculturalism was seen as something to be proud of as an Australian. Now it is dismissed as lesser than and artists that have migrated to this country

and their art forms and cultures evolved and changed on this land and in this landscape are still valued with lesser importance.

By way of example, Australia's diversity of cuisine is the envy of many countries. Our arts could be too if the funding, policies and willingness to push cultural diversity to the fore, alongside is there. Our arts could lead the world.

### **The Centrality of the Artist**

The genre I work within is intercultural dance theatre. I have pioneered many works over the last 20 years that others replicate, now, years on.

I have won awards for my work; particular the Australian Arts in Asia Award, in Dance (a joint win with major company, Bangarra) and from this many international exchanges and collaborations evolved.

I believe we need an major intercultural dance-theatre company, that can house many cultural forms, international exchanges and collaborations and lead the way, internationally as a flagship company alongside other major companies.