

National Cultural Policy Submission

Chakris Srisuwan

Submitted: On behalf of an arts peak body

As an artist

As an individual

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

The main challenge in acknowledging this First Nation's pillar is to responsibly understand and accommodate for a future that is created with the informed perspectives of our first nation's people. Assumptions can be made on part of the developers as to what may be best for the reconciliation of the divide throughout first nation's trauma, but these assumptions are incomparable to the possibilities achieved through sensible consultation with communities and individuals representative of these perspectives.

Strong Institutions

Western Australia is in dire need of more Artist Run Initiatives (ARIs), such that it is truly important to provide the necessary structural changes to policy and financial support, so that these community focussed initiatives can further improve the inter-cultural prosperity of their local areas across Australia.

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

First Nations

It is important for me to acknowledge first nation's history and how it is situated in our current social climate because that lineage is an invaluable and integral part of the identity of this land upon which we move. Understanding what has come before settlement and has been affected by such colonisation not supports the greater political project of reconciliation, but also provides inspiration and reason to my activities as an independent artist focussed on creating a collaborative community.

Strong Institutions

Institutions provide the essential back-bone and enduring support for the cultivation of artistic projects that return a surplus to their communities, without the aid of these institutions and organisations focussed on the arts sector, events and programs focussed on building local community which I have been a part of would not have been possible.

Are there any other things that you would like to see in a National Cultural Policy?

It would be incredible to see the return of an Arts Commissioner who can provide the scaffolding for emerging artists of this era: what has created an intrusive imbalance between the social development of artists within Western Australia in the 80s in comparison to today, is how there was direct institutional support and flexibility in the development of novel ideas during that time period that is no longer present.