

SLINGSBY

- Journey In Wonder -

National Cultural Policy

To whom it may concern,

Apologies for the brief submission. The past four months have been an extremely busy and successful time for our small company. We have two productions on the road touring across Australia and throughout regional South Australia. Both productions are sharing the stories of Australians, performed to audiences in regional and metropolitan communities (including schools). The artists making these productions include first nations artists, CALD artists, artists with disability and international collaborators. Our company is also currently engaged in two international intercultural collaborations (one bilingual). We are also delivering workshops in education and community settings in regional and remote Australia, providing inspiration and delivering skills development for young people, empowering them to tell their own stories and potentially to find their way into the wonderful creative industries. In 2022 the company will return to international touring, sharing our creative voice with global audiences and extending the employment and artistic benchmarking opportunities for Australian artists.

All the elements of our current program are working well, being celebrated, and awarded. We'd like to do more. To bring more people into the tent, create more opportunities for more audiences, young people, communities, and artists. The five pillars set for the Cultural Policy seem wise and I would encourage significant investment and policy structure around young people and their engagement in art and culture. They are artists and audiences today and in the future. Investment in them now will reap rich rewards in the long-term. Engaging in the arts throughout the span of our lives helps to build an empathetic and cohesive society. That is good for everyone. Art is where we test democracy, question, and explore the human experience and expand our horizons. Without culture we are lost and isolated.

At Slingsby we desperately want to contribute to a connected, healthy, and emboldened Australia. With a National Cultural Policy and requisite investment that considers the interconnected nature of the professional arts industry with all sectors of community, we will be empowered to get on and do just that.

Wishing you all the best in your important work.

Sincerely,



Andy Packer
Artistic Director/CEO