



ASSESSMENT MEETING REPORT



VISUAL ARTS/CRAFT BOARD

APPLICATIONS CLOSING DATE
1 AUGUST 2002

AUSTRALIA COUNCIL
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THE INFORMATION IN THIS REPORT IS EMBARGOED FROM PUBLIC
DISCUSSION UNTIL 5 DECEMBER 2002



ABOUT THIS REPORT

This report refers to applications received by 1 August 2002 and assessed at the meeting of the Visual Arts/Craft Board of the Australia Council held 25-26-27 September 2002, at which applications were assessed for the following grant categories:

- **Skills and Arts Development:** this category supports professional development opportunities for individual artists, arts writers and curators, and provides support to organisations for programs and services which contribute to the professional development of visual artists and craftspeople. Grants were offered to emerging practitioners, as well as to established practitioners through the 'General' and 'Visual Arts/Craft Studio Residencies', in addition to organisations. A new small grants sub-category was introduced this year under the Government's Young and Emerging Artists Initiative.
- **Presentation and Promotion:** the purpose of this category is to increase opportunities for arts organisation to present, promote and interpret contemporary Australian visual arts and craft in a critically stimulating way, and to broaden audiences for the work of arts practitioners.
- In addition, the Board discussed nominations for the **Visual Arts/Craft Emeritus Award** and the **Visual Arts/Craft Emeritus Medal**. The **Award** is given to an eminent living artist or craftsperson in recognition of a lifelong and outstanding contribution to the visual arts and or crafts. The **Medal** is given to honour the professional achievements of a living writer, curator, administrator or advocate, whose contribution has been likewise outstanding.
- As is standard practice, the Board also assessed various **Out-of-Time** applications and considered **Partnerships and Initiatives** proposals, whilst progressing several **Strategic Initiatives**.

ATTENDANCE

The Visual Arts/Craft Board supports the creation, presentation and interpretation of contemporary Australian visual arts and craft. The Board aims to provide direct and indirect support for Australian artists working in a wide range of artforms, and for contemporary art and craft organisations, by the provision of grants and the development of policy.

The role of the Board members is to assess and make decisions on grant applications. Board members are also advised by Peers selected from the Register of Peers. Nominations for the Register are called annually and are open to all.

Board members in attendance at the meeting were:

Victoria Lynn (Chair, Community Representative) Curator, Vic
Victoria Lynn is the Director of Creative Development at the Australian Centre for the Moving Image in Melbourne. Victoria was appointed Chair of the Visual Arts/Craft Board from July 1 2001. From 1991 to 2001 she was Curator of Contemporary Art at the Art Gallery of New South Wales.



Jane Finlay Visual Artist, WA

Jane Finlay is a visual artist based in Western Australia. Jane is currently Lecturer at Curtin University and Lecturer in Art & Design at West Coast College of TAFE. She is a founding member of The Verge Inc. Special projects include a collaboration with Polytech Plastics and a temporary mobile public artwork commissioned by East Perth Redevelopment Authority.

Felicia Kan Visual Artist, NSW

Felicia Kan is a Sydney artist whose practice encompasses photography, painting and sculpture. Her work explores the correlation between photography, sculpture and painting and is represented in private and public collections including the MCA, Sydney and James D Wolfensohn Collection Washington DC.

Nick Mount Craftsperson, SA

Nicholas Mount is a glass artist who has developed an international reputation through the design and manufacture of a wide range of glass products. He has had an extensive national and international exhibiting career, and has lectured and demonstrated in Japan, Germany, Canada and the USA. Nick Mount is a former head of the Jam Factory Glass Studio in Adelaide.

Martin Walch Visual Artist, Tas

Martin Walch is a visual artist who lives and works in Hobart. Since first exhibiting in 1994, he has been recognised as developing an exciting practice and been included in significant international exhibitions, such as 'ARCO' in Madrid, Spain, and the 2002 Adelaide Biennial of Australian Arts, 'Converge – where art and science meet'.

Liz Williamson Craftsperson NSW

Liz Williamson is a textile artist whose practice has achieved international standing. A committed educator she has held numerous workshops throughout the Asian region and the USA. Liz Williamson currently lectures at the College of Fine Arts, University of NSW. Her textiles are represented in most State and major textile collections in Australia.

The **Peer** in attendance at the meeting was **Christian Thompson**, Visual Artist, Vic.

The role of staff is to provide information and advice to Council, Boards and advisory bodies to assist in their determination of policy and their assessment of applications. They also provide information and support to potential applicants for grants, and administer the Council's grant programs to ensure a simple fair and efficient assessment of applications. Program Officers have no decision-making role in relation to the allocation of grants.

Staff in attendance at the meeting were:

Anna Waldmann (Manager)
Joe Pascoe (Senior Program Officer)
Billy Crawford (Program Officer)
Ingrid Mills (Acting Administrator)
Linda Goodman (Assistant Program Officer)
Eve Sullivan (Assistant Program Officer)
George Dann (Acting Assistant Program Officer)
Jenny Roper (Administration Assistant)
En En See (Acting Administration Assistant)



CHAIR'S COMMENTS

This was a most interesting though challenging meeting of the Visual Arts/Craft Board. The grant categories under consideration – Skills & Arts Development and Presentation & Promotion – are in some ways aligned, as the outcomes of one will often eventually form the subject of the other.

On a more practical note it was an impressive and at times humbling experience to witness the quality of the many applications made to the overseas studio program, housed within the Skills & Arts Development category. The studio program remains one of the most sought after areas of support. In straight number terms, 240 applications were received for the studios as follows; Barcelona (32), Greene Street (39), London (31), Los Angeles (12), Milan (17), Paris (35), Rome (30), Tokyo (17), Künstlerhaus Bethanien Berlin (19) and PS 1 New York(8).

The Skills & Arts Development grant category also attracted 63 applications from individuals for proposals designed to deliver professional development, as well as five applications from organisations. The Board was pleased that of this total of 319 applications approximately 40% came from first-time applicants. The Board sees this as an indication of the continued effectiveness of Australia Council advocacy, and would encourage those who 'missed out' to consider re-applying at the next opportunity.

The Presentation & Promotion grant category was especially demanding to evaluate. The Board sought to achieve some kind of overall balance within the list of successful grantees, whilst judging each application stringently on its merits. What is sometimes absent from the public record are the details on the amounts sought. Many of the seemingly large grants start life even larger, and are progressively pared down as the VACB seeks to accommodate the wealth of imaginative and viable projects put forward. Budgets are examined in great detail and Board members willingly enter into spirited discussions of the projects under consideration. I hope that you may agree that the final list of grants will result in the greater encouragement of contemporary Australian visual arts and crafts, for the benefit of as wide a range of audiences as possible. In all 16 projects were funded at a total value of \$679,960 as listed at the end of this document.

No report such as this could be complete without some reference to the recently released Report of the Contemporary Visual Arts and Craft Inquiry. The Board is in the same position as the many individual artists and other arts organisations that may benefit from its recommendations. Like you we must wait for the political wheels to turn and hope that the Federal and State budgets are able to sustain what the Inquiry's Chairperson, Rupert Myer, has characterised as a reasonable though essential request that should confer long terms benefits, both to the sector and the wider public.

Finally, it is my great pleasure to announce that the recipient of the Visual Arts/Craft Emeritus Award for 2002 is sculptor Robert Owen, and the recipient of the Visual Arts/Craft Emeritus Medal for 2002 is curator and administrator, William Wright.

Victoria Lynn
Chair
Visual Arts/Craft Board



OUTCOMES

PROGRAM TITLE	APPLICATIONS (Number)		SUCCESS %	APPLICATIONS (Amounts - \$)	
	RECEIVED	APPROVED		REQUESTED	APPROVED
SKILLS & ARTS DEVELOPMENT	319	52	16	4,133,659	507,108
PRESENTATION & PROMOTION	70	16	23	2,041,225	679,960
PARTNERSHIPS & INITIATIVES and STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	2	2	100	33,450	28,450
OUT-OF-TIME	4	2	50	42,213	8,345
TOTAL	395	72		6,250,547	1,223,863

A full list of approved grants is attached.



FEEDBACK

General comments

- All applicants are encouraged to use jargon-free language when describing their projects. Project descriptions can be simple or complex in terms of concepts, however, please remember that your application may in some circumstances be one of several hundred received. It is best to describe your project as directly and clearly as possible.
- Resumes work best when they focus on achievements or events that relate to the project description. Additionally, overall career highlights can add interest and put your future project in a broader context.
- With budgets income and expenditure should equal each other. The 'third column' is where you can nominate how you would allocate the VACB grant if successful.
- The quality of your support material should be as high as possible. The Board sees several thousand slides in a typical grant round, so it is important to make sure your slides are focussed and clear. Remember that the slides will be shown in the order in which you number them.

Grant category comments

- Skills & Arts Development. The Visual Arts/Craft Studio Residencies, which are offered within the Skills & Arts Development category, are open to all people regardless of age. As a grant program, it has the capacity to benefit emerging, established and senior artists alike. Intending applicants may wish to give a specific reason for their choice of studio, however, this aspect of your application may be expressed in relatively personal terms if that is your preference. The Board is keen to receive applications from both visual artists and craftspeople for the studios.
- Presentation & Promotion. The Board tends to be most interested in exhibition proposals driven by strong and adventurous curatorial concepts. Evidence that the project is well planned and will attract significant audiences are also persuasive factors. The Board's understanding of significant audiences tends to be informed by the location of the activity and the type of exhibition under consideration.

Emeritus Award and Medal

- Nominations for the Visual Arts/Craft Emeritus Award and Visual Arts/Craft Medal are encouraged from any interested persons. Please contact the staff at the Visual Arts/Craft Board for further details.



PARTNERSHIPS AND INITIATIVES

Partnerships and Initiatives

The following Partnerships and Initiatives was approved by the Board during the meeting:

Craft Organisations Australia

Craft Organisations Australia comprises the State and Territory craft councils and several other craft organisations who meet regularly to exchange ideas and plan future activities. This \$15,000 grant will enable all members of COA to come together at least twice a year, thus facilitating the exchange of information and exhibitions, and facilitate policy development across the contemporary craft sector

Strategic Initiatives

In line with the Australia Council Corporate Plan and associated policies such as the Arts in a Multicultural Australia, the Visual Arts/Craft Board researches and implements Strategic Initiatives. The following Strategic Initiative was approved by the Board during the meeting:

24 HRArt

24HRArt, a contemporary art space in Darwin, put forward an exciting proposal to run a project called 'Construct'. This project references the multi-cultural population of Darwin, in particular the contribution Greek people have made to that city. Consisting of a program of exhibitions and seminars, which will include speakers from Melbourne and Sydney, 'Construct' will investigate the idea of transferring cultural values, particularly with regard to Darwin (amount granted: \$13,450).

The Visual Arts/Craft Board is also developing an art book Strategic Initiative, which will facilitate the publication of six art books over three years. The books will be monographs on contemporary Australian visual artists and craftspeople.

Out-of-Time Applications

In exceptional circumstances the Australia Council will consider applications for grants outside of the advertised closing dates. The following Out-of-Time grants were approved by the Board at the meeting:

- Paul Davis

Paul Davis received \$2,525 to participate in the Forsham Ceramic Exhibition, China, 2002.

- SIX

SIX received \$5,820 to participate in the International Shibori Symposium, Harrogate, England, 2002. The members of SIX are Denise Sprynskyj and Peter Boyd.

For further information on these or any other matters;

- phone (02) 9215 9068
- email vac@ozco.gov.au
- or visit the Australia Council website www.ozco.gov.au



STEPS IN THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS

BEFORE THE MEETING

Staff check eligibility and register applications on Council's computer database. You will receive a letter acknowledging your application with an application number and staff contact for your reference. Staff analyse the statistical information provided by applicants to help Council measure the effectiveness of its grant programs. Staff prepare applications and support material for the Board assessment meeting. Applications are made into booklets and sent to Board members. Peers are invited to participate as advisers to the Board at the meeting bringing additional expertise and perspectives to the assessment process. Staff also check and manage any conflicts of interest that Board members and peers have with applications and study the applications in order to provide information to the Board as required (see below *).

AT THE MEETING

ASSESSMENT

Board members assess your application against the published selection criteria. Board members may examine support material at the meeting or by prior arrangement.

Board members may also take into account information from other sources such as:

- their attendance at performances and other events;
- reports from members of the Register of Peers who may be asked to provide formal assessments of designated works;
- reviews, videos and recordings, referee reports and other material;
- any previous Australia Council grant acquittal reports and performance agreements you may have had; and
- communication with State and Territory agencies.

Boards may decide not to fund the application at the level requested. While your application may meet the stated selection criteria, this does not guarantee you a grant. The Australia Council receives many more applications than it can support. The success of your application must rest ultimately on the merits of your proposal against published criteria and in competition with all the other applications considered for funding.

NOTIFICATION OF DECISION

All applicants will be notified of the Board's decision by mail during the month indicated in the Handbook and the application forms. Information about grant decisions will not be released over the phone.

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS SUCCESSFUL

If your application is successful, you will receive a letter of agreement offering you a grant. This letter outlines the terms and conditions of the offer. Payment of a grant will not be made until you have accepted the conditions by signing and returning the letter of agreement.

ACQUITTAL OF GRANTS

Acquittals are the artistic and financial reports that you must provide after completing your project. Acquittal reports enable the Council to fulfill its obligations of accountability as well as allowing us to learn about the success or otherwise of your project. These reports are a valuable way for you to contribute to the policy development work at the Australia Council.

**Staff do not make funding decisions. Staff provide information and advice to Council, Boards and advisory bodies to assist their determination of policy and assessment of grant applications. Staff also provide information to potential grant applicants and administer the Australia Council's grant programs to enable a simple, fair and efficient assessment of applications.*



GRANTS LIST

APPROVED GRANT LIST
Visual Arts/Craft Board
BARCELONA STUDIO – SKILLS AND ARTS DEVELOPMENT
Grant Round Id: 12542 Closing Date:01-AUG-2002

Client Name	Application Title	State	Amount
Folland, Nicholas	Barcelona Studio Residency	SA	\$10,000.00
Jolly, David	Barcelona Studio Residency	VIC	\$10,000.00
MacDonald, Anne	Barcelona Studio Residency	TAS	\$10,000.00
Tu, Andrea	Barcelona Studio Residency	VIC	\$10,000.00
Total No. of Grants: 4		Total Amount Approved:	\$40,000.00

APPROVED GRANT LIST
Visual Arts/Craft Board
GREENE ST, NEW YORK STUDIO – SKILLS AND ARTS DEVELOPMENT
Grant Round Id: 12543 Closing Date:01-AUG-2002

Client Name	Application Title	State	Amount
Kennedy, Sheridan	Greene St, New York Studio Residency	NSW	\$10,000.00
Kosloff, Laresa	Greene St, New York Studio Residency	VIC	\$10,000.00
Nolan, Rose	Greene St, New York Studio Residency	VIC	\$10,000.00
Wei, Guan	Greene St, New York Studio Residency	NSW	\$10,000.00
Total No. of Grants: 4		Total Amount Approved:	\$40,000.00



APPROVED GRANT LIST
Visual Arts/Craft Board
LONDON STUDIO – SKILLS AND ARTS DEVELOPMENT
Grant Round Id: 12545 Closing Date:01-AUG-2002

Client Name	Application Title	State	Amount
Ferran, Anne	London Studio Residency	NSW	\$10,000.00
Munro, Alison	London Studio Residency	VIC	\$10,000.00
Swallow, Ricky	London Studio Residency	VIC	\$10,000.00
Temin, Kathy	London Studio Residency	VIC	\$10,000.00
Total No. of Grants: 4		Total Amount Approved:	\$40,000.00

APPROVED GRANT LIST
Visual Arts/Craft Board
LOS ANGELES STUDIO – SKILLS AND ARTS DEVELOPMENT
Grant Round Id: 12546 Closing Date:01-AUG-2002

Client Name	Application Title	State	Amount
Giovanelli, Lesley	Los Angeles Studio Residency	NSW	\$10,000.00
Macdonald, Fiona	Los Angeles Studio Residency	VIC	\$10,000.00
Redfern, Dominic	Los Angeles Studio Residency	VIC	\$10,000.00
Wardle, Darren	Los Angeles Studio Residency	VIC	\$10,000.00
Total No. of Grants: 4		Total Amount Approved:	\$40,000.00



APPROVED GRANT LIST
Visual Arts/Craft Board
MILAN STUDIO – SKILLS AND ARTS DEVELOPMENT
Grant Round Id: 12547 Closing Date:01-AUG-2002

Client Name	Application Title	State	Amount
Aitken, Pamela	Milan Studio Residency	NSW	\$10,000.00
Cavaliere, Katthy	Milan Studio Residency	NSW	\$10,000.00
Duggan, Jo-Anne	Milan Studio Residency	QLD	\$10,000.00
Neeson, John	Milan Studio Residency	VIC	\$10,000.00
Total No. of Grants: 4		Total Amount Approved:	\$40,000.00

APPROVED GRANT LIST
Visual Arts/Craft Board
PARIS CITE STUDIO – SKILLS AND ARTS DEVELOPMENT
Grant Round Id: 12549 Closing Date:01-AUG-2002

Client Name	Application Title	State	Amount
Corompt, Martine	Paris Studio Residency	VIC	\$10,000.00
Dang, Dacchi	Paris Studio Residency	NSW	\$10,000.00
Total No. of Grants: 2		Total Amount Approved:	\$20,000.00



APPROVED GRANT LIST
Visual Arts/Craft Board
ROME STUDIO – SKILLS AND ARTS DEVELOPMENT
Grant Round Id: 12550 Closing Date:01-AUG-2002

Client Name	Application Title	State	Amount
Bila, Vito	Rome Studio Residency	VIC	\$10,000.00
Di Mauro, Sebastian	Rome Studio Residency	QLD	\$10,000.00
Harry, Anne	Rome Studio Residency	SA	\$10,000.00
Nell	Rome Studio Residency	NSW	\$10,000.00
Total No. of Grants: 4		Total Amount Approved:	\$40,000.00

APPROVED GRANT LIST
Visual Arts/Craft Board
TOKYO STUDIO – SKILLS AND ARTS DEVELOPMENT
Grant Round Id: 12551 Closing Date:01-AUG-2002

Client Name	Application Title	State	Amount
Bartholomew, Julie	Tokyo Studio Residency	NSW	\$10,000.00
Firth-Smith, Clare	Tokyo Studio Residency	VIC	\$10,000.00
Keating, Megan	Tokyo Studio Residency	TAS	\$10,000.00
Koller, Christopher	Tokyo Studio Residency	VIC	\$10,000.00
Total No. of Grants: 4		Total Amount Approved:	\$40,000.00



APPROVED GRANT LIST
Visual Arts/Craft Board
EMERGING – SKILLS AND ARTS DEVELOPMENT
Grant Round Id: 12540 Closing Date:01-AUG-2002

Client Name	Application Title	State	Amount
Bilske, Maria	Three month curatorial internship in New York art museum	SA	\$6,000.00
Chambers, Nicholas	Produce & distribute catalogue documenting '1,2,3,4' publication and exhibition program	NSW	\$4,800.00
Cormack, Emily	Undertake an internship at a major New York art museum to further develop professional practice	VIC	\$5,900.00
Hibberd, Lily	Publication of a catalogue & website for touring exhibition 'Blinded by the Light'	VIC	\$3,000.00
Keaney, Magdalene	Research & a mentorship at the V&A, London in the photography collection	ACT	\$6,000.00
Manwaring, Leah	Undertake a residency at the Textile Research & Design Centre in Montreal, Canada	ACT	\$6,000.00
Sivanesan, Haema	Travel costs to work in Chicago, USA on the installation of an Himalayan art exhibition	NSW	\$6,000.00
Total No. of Grants: 7		Total Amount Approved:	\$37,700.00

APPROVED GRANT LIST
Visual Arts/Craft Board
GENERAL ORGANISATIONS – SKILLS AND ARTS DEVELOPMENT
Grant Round Id: 12575 Closing Date:01-AUG-2002

Client Name	Application Title	State	Amount
Carclew Youth Arts Centre	Collaborative workshop series between mentors, curators & emerging artists examining exhibitions.	SA	\$8,800.00
Regional Galleries Association of Queensland	NETS Australia officers to attend two annual meetings in Hobart & Canberra in 2003	QLD	\$15,130.00
Total No. of Grants: 2		Total Amount Approved:	\$23,930.00



APPROVED GRANT LIST
Visual Arts/Craft Board
GENERAL – SKILLS AND ARTS DEVELOPMENT
Grant Round Id: 12541 Closing Date:01-AUG-2002

Client Name	Application Title	State	Amount
Andrew, Lisa	Create drawings using fabric and light at the Fabric Museum Workshop, USA	NSW	\$10,000.00
Baines, Robert	Production of catalogue and travel to exhibitions in Europe and USA	VIC	\$20,000.00
Bannon, Ivan	Attend the Art Trail residency and festival in Cork, Ireland	WA	\$2,000.00
Burraborang International Artists' Workshop	Residency program for 25 visiting artists at Burraborang, NSW	NSW	\$16,918.00
Clarke, Glen	Research and develop collaborative exhibition in Hanoi, Vietnam	NSW	\$20,000.00
Cooper, Justine	Research the collections held by the American Museum of Natural History, NY, USA	NY	\$6,000.00
Ford, Suzanne (Sue)	Redevelopment of existing artwork and the creation of new photographic and video work	VIC	\$20,000.00
Martin, Richard	Two month residency at Alliance Francaise Studio, Bangkok	SA	\$8,000.00
Miles, Elaine	Development of glass techniques including wheel cutting and wooden mould blowing	VIC	\$12,000.00
Venables, Prudence	Develop expertise in experimental firing techniques in Australia and Europe	VIC	\$15,560.00
Vitkovsky, Janice	Three month mentorship with Giles Bettison in his New York studio	SA	\$15,000.00
Total No. of Grants: 11		Total Amount Approved:	\$145,478.00



APPROVED GRANT LIST
Visual Arts/Craft Board
PRESENTATION & PROMOTION
Grant Round Id: 12539 Closing Date:01-AUG-2002

Client Name	Application Title	State	Amount
24HR Art: Northern Territory Centre for Contemporary Art	International component of 2003 exhibition and public programs	NT	\$15,260.00
Art Gallery of South Australia	2004 Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art.	SA	\$80,000.00
Art Gallery of Western Australia	4th Perth International Triennial of Craft & Design "P4: Playtime"	WA	\$80,000.00
Bathurst Regional Art Gallery	"Terrain", a group exhibition and educational program that targets regional youth	NSW	\$8,000.00
Biennale of Sydney Limited	Research and Development of 2004 Biennale of Sydney	NSW	\$80,000.00
Brisbane City Gallery	An exhibition of Australasian craft to coincide with Asia Pacific Cities Summit in April 2003	QLD	\$30,000.00
Centre for Contemporary Photography	"Art & Film", an exhibition exploring the influence of cinema on contemporary visual arts practice	VIC	\$17,700.00
Craft ACT: Craft and Design Centre	Appointment of full-time craft curator	ACT	\$22,000.00
Crafts Council of Victoria (Craft Victoria)	'Between You & Me', a national forum & publication connecting indigenous and western cultures	VIC	\$10,000.00



APPROVED GRANT LIST
Visual Arts/Craft Board
PRESENTATION & PROMOTION
Grant Round Id: 12539 Closing Date: 01-AUG-2002

Client Name	Application Title	State	Amount
Craftwest Centre for Contemporary Craft	'Land on the Body', an exhibition of fibre art by indigenous and non-indigenous artists	WA	\$27,000.00
Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces	Publication, 'A Short Ride in a Fast Machine: Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces 20 Years On'	VIC	\$20,000.00
JamFactory Contemporary Craft and Design	12 month program featuring new curators' projects, publications and a design workshop in 2003	SA	\$80,000.00
Object: Australian Centre for Craft and Design	Publication of three issues of Object magazine	NSW	\$70,000.00
University of Melbourne through Asialink Centre	Three touring exhibitions of Australian art and craft to ten venues across Asia	VIC	\$80,000.00
University of Wollongong Creative Arts (Visual Arts)	'Unfolding Territories: fabric(ations) of the Post Colonial', a touring exhibition of textiles	NSW	\$35,000.00
Wagga Wagga City Council Art Gallery	Research and tour an international exhibition of contemporary engraved and cut glass	NSW	\$25,000.00
Total No. of Grants: 16		Total Amount Approved:	\$679,960.00

