

CORPORATE OVERVIEW

The Australia Council is a Commonwealth statutory authority created under the *Australia Council Act 1975*. Section 5 of the Act defines the functions of the Council as:

FUNCTIONS

- (a) to formulate and carry out policies designed:
- (i) to promote excellence in the arts;
 - (ii) to provide, and encourage provision of, opportunities for persons to practise the arts;
 - (iii) to promote the appreciation, understanding and enjoyment of the arts;
 - (iv) to promote the general application of the arts in the community;
 - (v) to foster the expression of a national identity by means of the arts;
 - (vi) to uphold and promote the rights of persons to freedom in the practice of the arts;
 - (vii) to promote the knowledge and appreciation of Australian arts by persons in other countries;
 - (viii) to promote incentives for, and recognition of, achievement in the practice of the arts;
 - (ix) to encourage the support of the arts by the States, local governing bodies and other persons and organisations;
- (b) to furnish advice to the Government of the Commonwealth either of its own motion or upon request made to it by the Minister, on matters connected with the promotion of the arts or otherwise related to the performance of its functions; and
- (c) to do anything incidental or conducive to the performance of any of the foregoing functions.

PROFILE

The Australia Council is the Federal Government's arts funding and advisory body. Its vision is to enrich the life of the nation by supporting and promoting the arts.

Australia is a culturally rich nation and the work of our artists is central to our sense of national identity and the way we are perceived by the world. The Australia Council performs a crucial role in supporting Australian artists and arts organisations to pursue artistic excellence, to create and present their work, to take advantage of opportunities to improve and develop their skills, and to tour and promote their work to wider audiences. It directly supports young, emerging, developing and established artists through a range of grant programs offered across all artforms, and it encourages arts and non-arts organisations to support and present artists' work, thereby expanding employment opportunities for all artists. The Council also plays a vital role in developing new audiences for the arts both here and overseas and in promoting appreciation of the value and role of the arts in the Australian community.

The Council's national focus reflects the culture and creativity of both regional and urban communities, at the same time honouring its statutory obligation to ensure access to, and participation in, the arts by all Australians. The arts of Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders are valued and supported and communities across Australia are enriched by opportunities to incorporate the arts in local cultural life. The Council also maintains and develops cooperative arrangements with State and Territory arts funding authorities, local governments and key international agencies in all its activities.

The Australia Council was formed as an interim council in 1973 and was given statutory authority by the *Australia Council Act 1975*. It replaced an earlier, non-statutory body called the Australian Council for the Arts which was established in 1968 as a division of the Prime Minister's Department. The Council subsumed other arts-related government

functions, such as the Commonwealth Literary Fund, which had supported writers since 1908, and the Commonwealth Art Advisory Board, which was set up in 1912 to develop a national art collection and, from 1927, to advise on matters relating to the visual arts. The Australia Council was granted considerably expanded functions and greater independence from government in its policy-making and funding roles than its predecessors.

The work of the Australia Council has always been guided by two fundamental principles. The 'arm's length' principle, which is enshrined in the *Australia Council Act*, ensures that decisions about specific grants are made at a distance from political processes.

The second principle is 'peer assessment' whereby decisions on grants are made by artists, individuals closely associated with the arts and community representatives who are the peers of those being assessed. Grants are offered to artists and arts organisations whose proposals, in competition with those of other applicants, and within budgetary constraints, demonstrate the highest degree of artistic merit and innovation.

The Australia Council is committed to providing the best possible system of peer-assessed funding of creative work. It is also committed to ensuring that creativity and excellence in the arts flourish and that all Australians have access to the arts and to the stimulation and enjoyment the arts can bring.

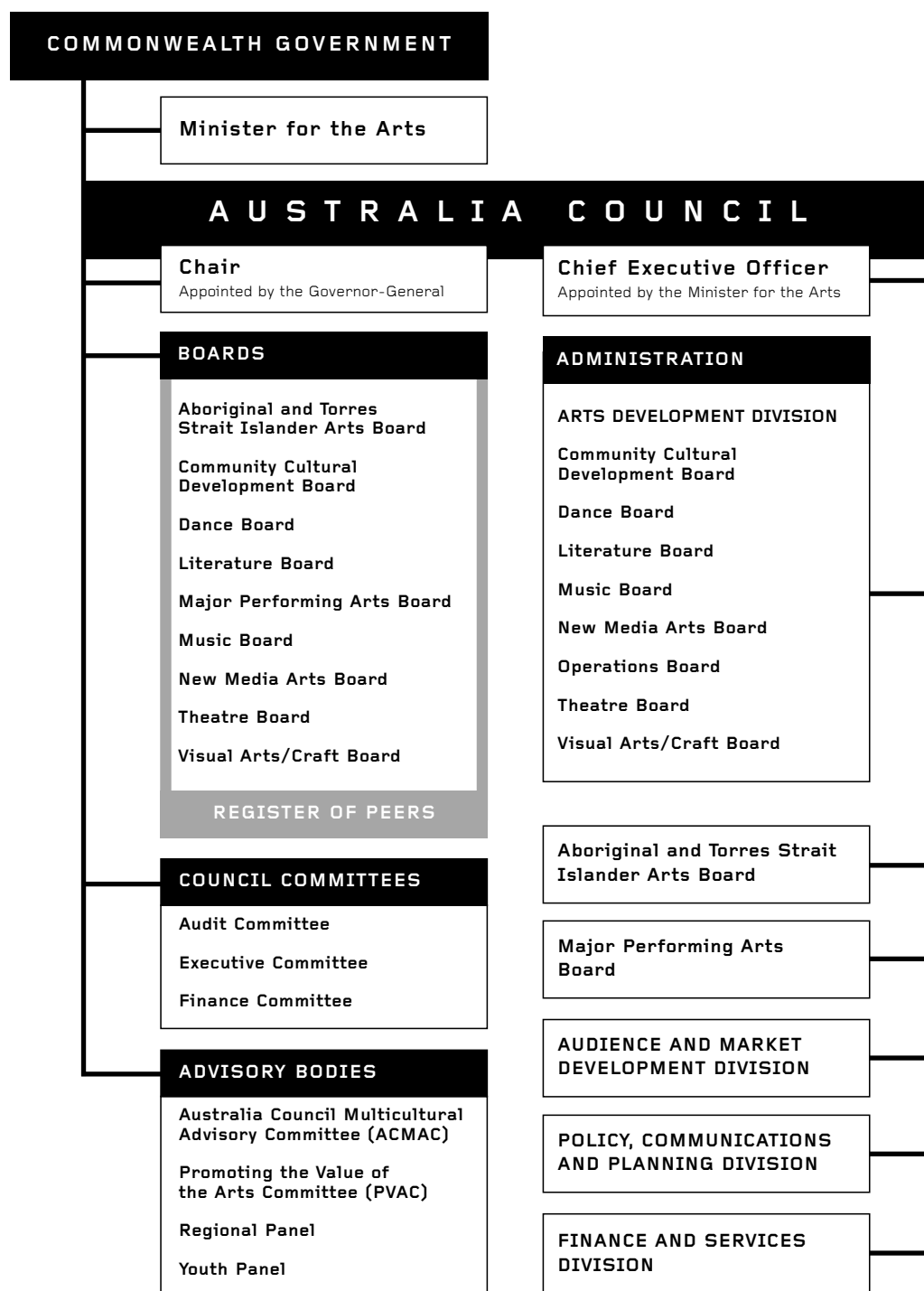
The Australia Council's strategic plan, *Directions 1999-2001* developed strategies in the following four key areas:

- promoting the value of the arts;
- building a greater international focus;
- youth and the arts; and
- ensuring the sustainability of the arts sector

A new Corporate Plan for the 2001-2004 period will be announced in October 2001.

The Australia Council's online presence is at: www.ozco.gov.au. The offices of the Australia Council are situated at 372 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills, Sydney NSW 2010.

ORGANISATIONAL CHART



CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The Australia Council is a statutory authority established under the *Australia Council Act 1975*. The Council is subject to the terms of its own Act as well as to the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*.

THE GOVERNING BODY

The governing body of the Australia Council is responsible for the overall corporate governance of the organisation, including the determination of priorities and the policy and budgetary framework within which the Council and its Boards and advisory bodies operate, and for monitoring its achievements.

In accordance with the terms of the *Australia Council Act 1975*, the Council has between 10 and 14 members, including the Chair. The Chair is appointed by the Governor-General on the advice of the Minister for the Arts.

Members, with the exception of the Chief Executive Officer who is a member of Council *ex officio*, are part-time statutory appointments made by the Minister. Terms of appointment are generally three years. Members are appointed with a view to achieving a balance of relevant expertise in the arts, skills in corporate governance and administration along with regional, gender, ethnic and Indigenous community representation.

During 2000-2001, the Council met five times: 17-18 August 2000 (Melbourne); 9-10 November 2000 (Sydney); 2 February 2001 (Perth); 30 April-1 May 2001 (Sydney); and 19-20 June 2001 (Canberra).

BOARDS

The various Boards administer the Council's arts funding role and are the Council's main source of advice on the development of arts policy and grant programs.

COUNCIL MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE AT COUNCIL MEETINGS

COUNCIL MEMBERS	17-18 AUG 2000	9-10 NOV 2000	2 FEB 2001	30 APR-1 MAY 2001	19-20 JUNE 2001
Margaret Seares	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Helen Nugent	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Jennifer Bott	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sally Chance	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Terry Cutler *	—	—	—	✓	✓
Nicholas Hasluck	✓	✓	✓	✓	x
Beth Jackson *****	✓	✓	✓	✓	x
Deborah Klika	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Li Cunxin	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Victoria Lynn **	—	—	—	—	✓
Patrick Morgan	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Christopher Pearson	✓	✓	x	✓	✓
Ron Radford ***	✓	✓	✓	✓	—
John Rimmer ****	✓	✓	✓	—	—
Nathan Waks	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Richard Walley	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
David Whitney	x	✓	✓	✓	✓
* appointed 7 February 2001					
** appointed 10 June 2001					
*** completed term 9 June 2001					
**** resigned 5 February 2001					
***** resigned 16 July 2001					

The Boards are established by the Minister under the Act and function within the framework of Council's corporate plan, *Directions 1999-2001*, and related policies and budget allocations. Under the Act, the Boards must consist of a Chair and not fewer than four, nor more than eight, other members. Currently, each Board has seven members, including a Chair, except for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts Board which has nine members, including a Chair, as well as a nine-member Grants Committee (four of whom are Board members). Members may be appointed for four years but, in general, appointments are for no more than three years. Board Chairs, under the Act, are members of Council.

As with Council, the Act specifies that the Boards must include people who practise or have practised the arts or are otherwise associated with the arts, as well as community interest representatives, as the Minister thinks fit. The power to allocate grants has been delegated by the Council to the Boards. In assessing grant applications, the Boards are guided in their decisions by the expert advice of peers drawn from the Register of Peers. Peers are listed on the Register for up to three years and may be invited once only by each Board to assist at grant assessment meetings, held at least twice a year. Peers also provide 'in-the-field' assessments and general policy advice to the Boards, as commissioned.

Under the Council's Conflict of Interest Code, peers may not advise on their own grant applications nor on grant applications that would benefit them in any way through a third party.

In addition to their role in providing advice to the Council, the Boards develop their own policies - within the framework of policies and priorities determined by the Council for their own artform areas.

In the current year there were 75 members of the Boards. Thirty-nine peers provided external assessment of applications, support material or performances. A further 13 assisted at policy development meetings and

35 participated in grants assessment meetings. Their names are included in the grants lists section of this report.

INSURANCE

The Council's insurance policy for 2000-2001 included a directors' and officers' liability cover.

FRAUD CONTROL

Council developed a comprehensive Fraud Control Plan in 1995 which was reviewed in the 1998-99 financial year. The outcome of this review was that the Council was assessed as a non-risk entity. Council will undertake further review in 2002.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

To assist in the execution of its duties the Council has established an Executive Committee, an Audit Committee and a Finance Committee. Appointments to the Committees are reviewed annually.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee was established in May 2001 and met once (by teleconference). The Committee's role is to deal with urgent matters between Council meetings, take an overview of the Council's overall management and systems, and review and report on the Chief Executive Officer's performance.

Members of the Committee at 30 June 2001:

Chair of Council: Margaret Seares
Chair of the Audit Committee: Nathan Waks
Chair of the Finance Committee: Helen Nugent
Chief Executive Officer: Jennifer Bott

AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Audit Committee, established in February 1998, monitors the Council's compliance with its corporate governance obligations overall. This includes reviewing and making recommendations to Council on external accountability and financial reporting, internal control structures, its risk management systems, audit requirements and other legislative and ethical issues as they arise.

The membership comprises three members of Council, a non-executive member of whom is appointed as its Chair, the Chair of Council, the Chief Executive Officer *ex officio* and an experienced external financial adviser. The Council's internal auditors, KPMG, and its external auditors, the Australian National Audit Office, attend meetings as required.

Meetings are normally held four times a year, with the Chair reporting to Council on relevant issues. During the year the Committee met on four occasions: 8 September 2000; 8 November 2000; 11 April 2001; and 30 May 2001.

Members of the Committee at 30 June 2001:

Chair of Committee: Nathan Waks
Council member: Terry Cutler
Council member: Deborah Klika
External financial adviser:
David Hey-Cunningham

The former Chair, John Rimmer, resigned from the Council on 5 February 2001.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee provides an overview of the Council's budget preparation, financial management and related issues of significant financial impact.

During the year the Committee met six times: 19 October 2000; 24 November 2000; 29 January 2001; 28 February 2001; 9 April 2001; and 17 May 2001.

Members of the Committee at 30 June 2001:

Chair of Committee: Helen Nugent
Chair of Council: Margaret Seares
Council member: David Whitney
Chief Executive Officer: Jennifer Bott

COUNCIL ADVISORY BODIES

In addition to policy input from its Boards, the Council relies on the expert advice of a limited range of specialist committees and panels on particular issues as it determines.

At 30 June 2001 the bodies were:
Australia Council Multicultural Advisory Committee
Promoting the Value of the Arts Committee
Regional Panel
Youth Panel

AUSTRALIA COUNCIL MULTICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ACMAC)

The Australia Council Multicultural Advisory Committee's function is to advise Council on matters relating to the Council's Arts in a Multicultural Australia Policy. It meets and reports to Council as required.

MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE AT AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

AUDIT COMMITTEE MEMBERS	8 SEPT 2000	8 NOV 2000	11 APR 2001	30 MAY 2001
John Rimmer (Chair) *	✓	✓	—	—
Jennifer Bott	✗	✓	✓	✗
Terry Cutler **	—	—	✓	✓
Deborah Klika	✓	✓	✓	✓
Nathan Waks (Chair) ***	✓	✗	✓	✓
David Hey-Cunningham (external consultant)	✗	✓	✓	✗
* resigned 5 February 2001				
** appointed 5 February 2001				
*** appointed Chair 5 February 2001				

This longstanding advisory Committee of Council comprises one member from each Board. This year the committee met four times: 24 July 2000 (Sydney); 2-3 November 2000 (Melbourne); 22 February 2001 (Sydney); and 16 May 2001 (teleconference).

Members of ACMAC at 30 June 2001:

Deborah Klika (Chair)
Linda Cooper (New Media Arts)
Connie Gregory (Literature)
Lindy Lee (Visual Arts/Craft)
Sandra Phillips (ATSIAB)
Bagryana Popov (Community Cultural Development)
Yoni Prior (Theatre)
Marie Siganto (Major Performing Arts)

This year, for the first time, three 12-month external appointments were also made:

Panos Couros
Benjamin Genocchio
Jacy Kattan

During the year the following members finished their terms on the Committee:

Karin Puels (Major Performing Arts formerly Major Organisations)
Helen Rusak (Music)
Tarcisio Teatini-Climaco (Dance)

PROMOTING THE VALUE OF THE ARTS COMMITTEE

The Promoting the Value of the Arts Steering Committee was established in January 2000 to identify opportunities for partnerships within the cultural sector and, more broadly, to promote the value of the arts to all Australians. It also plays a role in advancing specific initiatives on Council's behalf.

During the year there were sixteen meetings which included:

Full Steering Committee
29 August 2000

WORKING GROUPS

Education and the Arts

8 August 2000, 20 October 2000,
28 March 2001, 15 June 2001

Arts and Media Relations

15 August 2000, 11 October 2000,
6 December 2000, 26 February 2001,
26 June 2001

Involving the Sector

1 August 2000, 8 May 2001

Branding the Arts

1 August 2000, 8 November 2000,
15 March 2001, 18 May 2001

Members of the Promoting the Value of the Arts Committee as at 30 June 2001 were:

Jennifer Bott (Chair)
Zita Antonios
Angela Bishop
Rachel Boyce
Ron Brien
Paul Costantoura
Nicola Downer
Gerald Ellis
Sharon Firebrace
Jane Flemming
Richard Frankland
Stuart Hamilton
Peter Harvie
Derek Hynd
Christopher Knoblanche
Joan Livermore
Elizabeth Ann Macgregor
Judith McLean
Sandra McPhee
Les Neilson
Helen Nugent
Kerry O'Brien
Christopher Pearson
Greig Pickhaver
Brian Robinson
Margaret Seares
Barry Spurr
Deborah Thomas
Margaret Throsby
Ken West
Sandra Yates

During the year the following members finished their terms with the Committee:

Peter Allen - 8 March 2001
Stephen Armstrong - 31 January 2000
Julie McCrossin - 17 August 2000
Ian McNamara - 31 January 2001
Tim O'Loughlin - 1 December 2000
Rob Palfreyman - 31 January 2001
Richard Tognetti - 31 January 2001
David Whitney - 1 December 2000

REGIONAL PANEL

In October 2000 the Regional Panel was formed to advise Council on how to improve its delivery of programs in regional Australia. The terms of reference for the panel are:

- to provide specialist expertise and advice to Council on the particular circumstances of regional arts and communities
- to inform the Council of current arts activities in regional areas
- to highlight the Council's contribution to regional arts development in Australia
- to incorporate a regional arts perspective into Council programs
- to propose initiatives to address issues which have been identified
- to forge partnerships to promote the value and development of regional arts.

The Panel met four times during the year: 26, 27 and 29 October 2000; 14 December 2000 (teleconference); 21 February 2001 (teleconference); and 30 April-1 May 2001.

Members of the Regional Panel at 30 June 2001:

Patrick Morgan (Chair, Boolarra, Vic)
Trisha Arden (Augathella, Qld)
Kevin Fong (Broome, WA)
John Harvey (Fregon, SA)
Jon Hizzard (Flinders Island, Tas)
Ken Lloyd (Port Adelaide, SA)
Denise Officer (Darwin, NT)
Christine Pulvirenti (Ingham, Qld)
Kim Tyrer (Mount Barker, WA)
Narelle Vogel (Albury, NSW)
David Whitney (Council member, Canberra, ACT)
Catherine Worth (Lismore, NSW)

YOUTH PANEL

The role of the Youth Panel is to articulate the needs of young people. Established in November 1999, the Panel aims to improve Council's understanding of issues concerning young people and the arts and its response to them.

This year the panel met five times: 26-27 July 2000 (Sydney); 25-26 October 2000 (Brisbane); 29 November 2000 (Melbourne); 19 January 2001 (Canberra); and 5 April 2001 (Sydney).

There were also three meetings by teleconference on 22 August 2000, 17 May 2001 and 8 June 2001. The Panel's term was extended by six months and five new members were welcomed.

Members of the Youth Panel at 30 June 2001:

Deborah Klika (Chair)
Paschal Berry
Karen Bryant
Samantha Chalmers
Lana Gishkariany
James Lynch
Brad Macdonald
Glyn Parry
Briony Rhodes
Jared Thomas
Luke Tierney
Alick Tipoti
Marcus Westbury

The following members of the Panel retired on 31 January 2001:

Diana Ah Naid
Sally Chance
Tony Grybowski
Daniel Palmer
Jennifer Spinks



Margaret Seares



Terry Cutler



Helen Nugent



Jennifer Bott

MEMBERS OF THE AUSTRALIA COUNCIL AT 30 JUNE 2001

Margaret Seares (WA) Pro Vice Chancellor (Community & Development) at the University of Western Australia, was appointed Chair of the Australia Council for three years from 7 July 1997. Her term was extended to 30 June 2001. From 1991 to 1995 she was Associate Professor of Music and the Dean of the School of Music, and Deputy Chair of the Academic Board at UWA. Her background and training is as a musicologist, and her special areas of research interest are in harpsichord music of the early 18th century and Australian music of the post-Colonial period. Dr Seares is also currently a member of the Foreign Minister's Australia International Cultural Council, a Director of the Australia Foundation for Culture and the Humanities, and a member of the Board of Trustees of both the Western Australian Museum and of the Perth Theatre Trust. More recently she has been appointed to the National Portrait Gallery Board. In 1996, Dr Seares was appointed to the Board of the Australian Opera (now Opera Australia).

Terry Cutler (Vic) Managing Director of Cutler & Company Pty Ltd, was appointed Chair of the New Media Arts Board and a member of the Australia Council for a three-year term from 7 February 2001. On 18 June 2001 it was announced that Dr Cutler had been appointed as the new Chair of the Australia Council, commencing his three-year term from 1 July 2001. He stepped down as Chair of New Media Arts Board on 30 June 2001. Dr Cutler is also a member of the Australian Information

Economy Advisory Council, a Member of the International Advisory Panel for the Multimedia Corridor in Malaysia, and a Council Member of the Victorian College of the Arts. He was formerly a Director of Opera Australia and the Cinemedia Corporation, Chairman of the Australian Government Industry Research and Development Board, and Executive Director, Corporate Strategy for Telecom Australia.

Helen Nugent (NSW) was appointed Chair of the Major Organisations Fund and a member of the Australia Council for a three-year term from 1 July 1997, and was reappointed for a further two-year term to 30 June 2002. She was appointed Deputy Chair of Council from 14 August 1998. Dr Nugent returned to duty on Council from 1 February 2000 after serving as Chair of the Federal Government's *Inquiry Into the Major Performing Arts Sector* which ran from December 1998 to December 1999. As recommended by the Inquiry, the Major Performing Arts Board was established by the Federal Minister for the Arts, the Hon. Peter McGauran, MP, on 4 October 2000 to replace the Major Organisations Fund. Dr Nugent has been appointed Chair of the new Board for a two-year term to 3 October 2002. She is currently also a Non-Executive Director of Macquarie Bank, TAB Queensland and United Energy Victoria and has recently been appointed as a member of the Council for Multicultural Australia. Dr Nugent's former positions have included Director of Strategy, Westpac Banking Corporation, Director of the Bank of New South Wales, Director of Mercantile Mutual, Professor of Management



Sally Chance



Nicholas Hasluck



Beth Jackson



Deborah Klika

and Director of the MBA Program at the Australian Graduate School of Management, partner with McKinsey & Company, as well as a member of the Commonwealth Government's Administrative Review Council. Dr Nugent has also served as Deputy Chairman of Opera Australia and as Director of Playbox Theatre.

Jennifer Bott (NSW) was appointed Chief Executive Officer of the Australia Council for a five-year term from 8 February 1999. Ms Bott is a member of the Foreign Minister's Australia International Cultural Council and the Commission for International Cultural Promotion. She is also a member of the Australian National Commission for UNESCO and Chair of the Culture Network. Ms Bott is a Trustee of the Opera Australia Benevolent Fund, a Life Member of Musica Viva Australia, a former board member of Opera Australia and the Australian Institute of Arts Management, and former Deputy Chair of AFS International Programs (in New York). She is Chair of Australians for the Return of the Parthenon Marbles. She is an English and history teacher by training. Ms Bott's most recent position was General Manager of Musica Viva Australia, previously holding senior positions with the international educational organisation AFS International Exchanges, Opera Australia, the Australian Bicentennial Authority, and the Arts Council of Australia.

Sally Chance (SA) was appointed as Chair of the Dance Board and a member of Council for a three-year term from 3 December 1999. She is co-founder and Artistic Director of Adelaide's

Restless Dance Company, a youth dance ensemble, which from its first performance at the Adelaide Fringe in 1992 has developed an Australia-wide profile for explorations into cultures of disability through workshops and performance. She has had wide experience as a Dance Worker in the United Kingdom, South-East Asia and in Australia, and as a Director. More recently, Ms Chance was the Asialink Artist-in-Residence based at the Darpana Academy of Performing Arts in India.

Nicholas Hasluck AM (WA) is a writer, a Judge of the Supreme Court of Western Australia, and was previously a Barrister and part-time president of the Equal Opportunity Tribunal. He was appointed as Chair of the Literature Board and a member of Council for a three-year term from 4 December 1998. Justice Hasluck won *The Age* Book of the Year Award in 1984, and the Premier's Literary Prize (WA) in 1991. His works of fiction and essays include *Quarantine*, *The Light That Time Has Made*, *The Chance of Politics* and most recently *Our Man K*. He has been Deputy Chair of the WA Academy of Performing Arts, a member of the Copyright Law Review Committee Experts Group and the WA Arts Council, and previously served on the Australia Council as Deputy Chair from 1978 to 1982.

Beth Jackson (Qld) was appointed as a community interest representative on Council for a three-year term from 24 February 2000. Ms Jackson's current position is Director, Griffith Artworks, Griffith University, and she is responsible for overseeing the University's internationally recognised collections of



Li Cunxin



Victoria Lynn



Patrick Morgan



Christopher Pearson

Australian art, including the country's largest collection of video art. She is also a freelance curator and writer, and her recent exhibitions include a virtual online exhibition which formed part of the official Sydney Olympic Games Arts Program. In 1999 she served as Chair of the Multimedia Art Asia Pacific Festival. Ms Jackson resigned from the Council on 16 July 2001.

Deborah Klika (NSW) is a film and television producer, and script editor, who operates her own consulting firm, Comedy Script Services, and is co-founder of The Comedy Workshop. She was appointed as a member of the Australia Council for a three-year term from 27 March 1997, subsequently appointed Chair of the Community Cultural Development Board from 13 August 1998, and has been reappointed for a further two-year term to 11 April 2002. Ms Klika previously sat on the NSW Government Women's Consultative Committee and currently sits on the NSW Government's Legal Services Tribunal, and more recently was appointed Convenor of the ABC National Advisory Council.

Li Cunxin (Vic) is Associate Director and Head, Asian Desk of Johnson Taylor Stockbrokers, and was appointed as a member of the Australia Council for a three-year term from 22 June 1999. He was Principal Artist with the Australian Ballet from 1995 to 1999. Li Cunxin was accepted for the Beijing Dance Academy at the age of 11; he was soloist, and then principal dancer, with the Houston Ballet from 1979 to 1995, and has danced leading roles in the major classical and

contemporary ballets. He has received numerous awards at international competitions held in the USA, Japan and the former USSR.

Victoria Lynn (Vic), Curatorial Manager of Cinemedia in Melbourne, was appointed Chair of the Visual Arts/Craft Board and a member of the Australia Council for a three-year term from 10 June 2001. Ms Lynn is one of Australia's foremost curators of contemporary art, and is also responsible for managing the curatorial activities of the Australian Centre of the Moving Image, which will open in March 2002. From 1991 to 2001 she was Curator of Contemporary Art at the Art Gallery of New South Wales, and from 1998 to 2000 she was Chair of the Board of Directors of the Performance Space in Sydney. Ms Lynn has curated numerous exhibitions, locally and overseas, and is the author of many articles, catalogue essays, edited collections, and books on artists, Marion Borgelt, and Eugene Carchesio.

Patrick Morgan (Vic) is a writer and was appointed for a three-year term on Council from 24 July 1999; he has also been appointed as Chair of Council's Regional Panel. Formerly Senior Lecturer at the Gippsland Campus of Monash University, Mr Morgan previously served a three-year term on the Literature Board of the Australia Council. He won the Inaugural Community and Local History Award in 1998 for *The Settling of Gippsland* and is co-editor of the Australian Academy Edition of *Henry Kingsley: The Recollections of Geoffrey Hamlyn*, the first in a series of scholarly



Richard Walley



Nathan Waks



David Whitney



Susan Parker

editions of classic Australian texts. He is Chair of the Literature Residencies Advisory Committee, Asialink, University of Melbourne, and is also a member of the National Archives of Australia Advisory Council.

Christopher Pearson (SA) is an essayist, reviewer and journalist and was appointed as a community interest representative member of the Australia Council for a three-year term from 27 March 1997; he has been reappointed for a further two-year term to 11 April 2002. He is the editor of *The Adelaide Review*, a columnist for *The Australian Financial Review*, and the winner of a National Trust Award. He also serves on the Council for the National Museum of Australia. Mr Pearson was a founding editor of *The Sydney Review* and publisher at Wakefield Press.

Richard Walley OAM (WA) was appointed as Chair of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts Board and a member of the Australia Council for a two-year term from 31 May 2000. He is Director of Aboriginal Productions and Promotions, and is one of Australia's leading Aboriginal performers and writers. Dr Walley has been involved as director, designer, writer, musician, dancer and actor with a range of stage and television productions including *The Dreamers* (1982), *A Fortunate Life* (1984), *Bullies House* (1985), *Coordah* (1985), *Australian Mosaic* (1988), *Jackaroo* (1990), *Munjong* (1990), *Balaan Balaan Gwdtha* (1992) and *Close to the Bone* (1993). He toured Australia, Japan, Europe and the USA with a number of these productions, and as a didgeridoo performer

and a lecturer on Nyoongar culture. Dr Walley served a previous term as ATISA Chair from 1992 to 1996.

Nathan Waks (NSW) is Principal Cellist with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra and a Board Member of the Australian National Academy of Music. He was formerly Managing Director of Symphony Australia. Mr Waks was appointed Chair of the Music Board and a member of Council from 4 December 1998 to 30 September 2001. Formerly a Director of Music at the ABC, founding Director and Artistic Adviser of the Australian Chamber Orchestra and founding Director of the Australian Music Centre, Mr Waks has also performed with a number of prestigious orchestras, including the BBC Symphony Orchestra. He studied at the Paris Conservatoire, and has won the ABC Instrumental Competition; his compositions include scores for the films *Kangaroo*, *For Love Alone* and *My Brilliant Career*.

David Whitney (ACT) is Director of the Canberra Theatre Centre and was appointed Chair of the Theatre Board and a member of the Australia Council for a three-year term from 24 July 1999. He was previously Director of the Araluen Centre for Arts and Entertainment in Alice Springs, Executive Member of the Australian Performing Arts Centres Association, and General Manager of the Riverland Cultural Trust in Berri, South Australia, and has held several positions with the Adelaide Festival Centre Trust.

Susan Parker, the Administrator within the Community Cultural Development Board, was elected to represent staff as an observer on Council for 2000-2001.

The Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts also has observer status on the Council. During the year this has been fulfilled by Rob Palfrey and Alan Stretton.

In other changes to the membership of Council during the year under review, Ron Radford, Chair of the Visual Arts/Craft Board, completed his four-year term on 9 June 2001, and John Rimmer, Chair of the Audit Committee and the New Media Arts Board resigned from Council as at 5 February 2001.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The work of the Council, its Boards and advisory bodies, is supported by a full-time staff of 120 located in Sydney. Staff are appointed under the *Australia Council Act 1975*, on terms and conditions set out in the Council's Determination No 1 of 2000 and the Council's Certified Agreement.

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts Section is headed by a Director.

The Major Performing Arts Board, under its Director, aims to ensure that Australia has an artistically vibrant, financially viable and broadly accessible major performing arts sector. It has responsibility for implementing the decisions of the Cultural Ministers Council on the recommendations of the Major Performing Arts Inquiry, working jointly with relevant State funding agencies.

The Arts Development Division comprises eight sections, including the Operations Section, which is responsible for the processing and registration of grant applications and other routine aspects of the administration of Council's funding responsibilities. Each section within the Arts Development Division is headed by a Manager.

Senior officers manage the grant assessment process and artform development for the following Boards (formerly known as Funds): Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts, Community Cultural Development, Dance, Literature, Theatre, Music, New Media Arts and Visual Arts/Craft.

The Audience and Market Development Division comprises sections responsible for Council's work in the areas of national audience and market development, arts marketing skills development, and international marketing and promotions.

The Policy, Communications and Planning Division comprises Public Affairs, Policy and Planning, Human Resources, Information Technology, and the Library, each headed by a Manager.

The Finance and Services Division includes Finance and Services, each headed by a Manager.



Don Baxter



Karilyn Brown



Catherine Brown-Watt



Cathy Craigie

SENIOR MANAGEMENT

The Australia Council's senior management team is headed by the Chief Executive Officer and includes the Executive Directors of the four Divisions (Arts Development, Audience and Market Development, Policy, Communications and Planning, and Finance and Services), the Director of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts, and the Director of Major Performing Arts.

Don Baxter commenced as Executive Director, Policy, Communications and Planning Division in October 1999, and was formerly the Director, Arts Funding Division from 1 July 1997. A librarian by training, Mr Baxter had spent the previous thirteen years leading the community response to HIV/AIDS at a national and State level, the last six years as Executive Director of the AIDS Council of New South Wales, Australia's largest HIV/AIDS organisation.

Karilyn Brown was appointed the Executive Director, Audience and Market Development in January 2001, and was formerly the Deputy Executive Officer for the Visual Arts/Craft Board (1983-1994). Actively involved in the arts and cultural field for over 25 years, Ms Brown was the Cultural Program Manager for the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games, responsible for the management of four Olympic Arts Festivals (1997-2000) and the Paralympic Arts Festival (2000). She has developed cultural policy and funding strategies for City of Sydney, and has extensive experience in working with artists, arts programming, policy development and arts events. Ms Brown's

board memberships have included Artbank, the Olympic Co-ordination Authority's Public Art Advisory Committee, Object: Australian Centre for Contemporary Craft and Design, and Stalker Theatre Company.

Dr Catherine Brown-Watt was appointed Director of the Major Performing Arts in December 2000. Dr Brown-Watt was Manager of Council's Major Organisations Fund from its establishment in 1995. In 1999, she was seconded from Council to act as the Executive Officer for the Federal Government's Major Performing Arts Inquiry - a ministerial inquiry into Australia's major performing arts sector. Trained in music and dance, since 1985 she has held a range of positions including Deputy Controller, Programming for the Queensland Performing Arts Centre, Registrar at the National Institute of Dramatic Art (NIDA), Special Projects and Policy Manager for ABC Concerts, and General Manager of the Australian Music Centre. Dr Brown-Watt holds a science degree and doctorate in psychology and spent ten years on the academic staff of the University of Queensland.

Cathy Craigie was appointed Director of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts in December 2000. Ms Craigie, who is of the Anaiwon/Gamilaroi Nations, was a member of the Arts Advisory Council of the NSW Ministry for the Arts and was Chair of its Indigenous Arts Reference Group from 1998 to 2000. She was General Manager of Gadigal Information Service for six years and has held a variety of key positions in Aboriginal arts, health and housing organisations. Ms Craigie has also



Ben Strout



John Wicks

consulted on issues as diverse as Indigenous women’s legal services, homelessness and Aboriginal management models. An accomplished writer, dramaturge and playwright, Ms Craigie’s plays include *The Other Side* and *Murri Love*. She has been a dramaturge at the Australian National Playwrights’ Conference and has facilitated writing workshops across Australia. She coordinated the 2000 NSW Indigenous Arts Conference.

Ben Strout became the Executive Director of Arts Development in December 2000. Mr Strout has a BA *cum laude* in History of Ideas from Williams College, Massachusetts. He trained as a performer and director at the Eugene O’Neill Theatre Center’s National Theatre Institute and at the Hartman Theater Conservatory (USA). He has worked with a number of theatres in the USA and for PBS television before coming to Sydney in 1982 as Artistic Director of Australia’s Theatre of the Deaf. Mr Strout joined Council as a Senior Program Officer for the Performing Arts Board in 1988 and since then has also been policy officer in the 1994-95 review of peer assessment, Operations and Communications Manager for Performing Arts, and Manager of both Theatre and Dance. In 1990 he spent a year away from Council as the Executive Director of the Australian Centre of the International Theatre Institute.

John Wicks, Executive Director, Finance and Services, has been with the Council since October 1989, first as Accountant, Finance Division and then as Senior Finance Officer,

Arts Development Division. Mr Wicks was officially appointed to his current position in February 2000. Prior to joining the Council, Mr Wicks spent eleven years in the Banking and Finance sector in Australia and overseas. His last appointment was with Lloyd’s Bank in Sydney as Assistant Management Accountant. He has a Bachelor of Business degree, with a major in accounting, and a Diploma in Business Accounting. Mr Wicks is an associate member of the Australian Society of Certified Practising Accountants.

Sarah Gardner served as Council’s Director of Strategic Initiatives until 2 March 2001. She is now Executive Director of the newly established International Federation of Arts Councils and Culture Agencies.

During the year, **Philip Rolfe** resigned as Director of Audience and Market Development on 27 October 2000 to take up a post at the Sydney Opera House. **Catherine Watts**, previously Director of Corporate Services and more recently Director of Special Projects, resigned from the Council on 20 April 2001.

INQUIRIES ABOUT THIS REPORT – CONTACT OFFICER

The Australia Council welcomes your comments on this report. Comments and requests may be directed to:

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