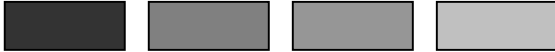




ASSESSMENT MEETING REPORT



Inter-Arts Office
ArtLab

APPLICATION CLOSING DATE
15 April 2007

AUSTRALIA COUNCIL
372 ELIZABETH STREET SURRY HILLS NSW 2010
PO BOX 788 STRAWBERRY HILLS NSW 2012

Phone (02) 9215 9000
Toll-free (1800) 226 912
Fax (02) 9215 9111
www.ozco.gov.au



ASSESSMENT PANEL COMMENTS

The ArtLab Program is a new initiative offered through the Inter-Arts Office. It is worth noting that both staff and Panel members were extremely encouraged by the number of applications received to the round and by the varied areas of practice represented in the projects.

The Panel were highly responsive to projects that emphasised 'new collaborations' reflecting the objective of the ArtLab program to keep skills set unique and fresh to allow for unexpected and experimental artistic investigations.

The Panel strongly encourages potential applicants to contact staff before making any application to the Inter-Arts Office. This assists applicants to understand the aims of the initiative in relation to their project proposal.

To assist in the assessment of future applications to the Inter-Arts Office, the Panel strongly encourages individuals to register on the Council's Register of Peers, which is used to identify people to sit on future panels.

The next closing date for the Inter-Arts Office's project grants and initiatives is 15 October 2007 for *self-initiated* and *Banff* Residencies the Young and Emerging Initiative *Run_Way*.

If you have any questions in regard to this funding round or submitting an application to the next round please do not hesitate to contact Inter-Arts Office staff on 02 9215 9116 or inter-arts@ozco.gov.au.

Andrew Donovan
On Behalf of the Assessment Panel
June 2007



ABOUT THIS REPORT

This report provides a context for the assessment of ArtLab applications submitted to the Inter-Arts Office on 15 April 2007. It details statistical analysis of the grant round and more general comments made by the Inter-Arts Assessment Panel (Panel) during the assessment of the applications at its meeting held on 5 June 2007.

The Inter-Arts Office supports new artistic practice that does not fall within the existing funding guidelines of the artform boards. This includes creative processes such as interdisciplinary and hybrid arts, and cross-disciplinary projects involving artists and practitioners from other fields.

The Inter-Arts Office supports development processes or artistic outcomes that demonstrate a capacity to make conceptual or practical leaps in our knowledge and perception of what constitutes art. Artists working in this area create works that transform our experience of art – it is challenging, new and as yet unresolved in terms of its position within established artforms.

ATTENDANCE

The Inter-Arts Office does not have a board or committee. Instead it convenes assessment panels after each closing date made up of peers from the field, which assess applications and make recommendations on funding to Council.

The Panel for the 5 June 2007 assessment meeting consisted of the following peers:

Chris Henschke (VIC)

Chris Henschke is a lecturer within the School of Creative Media at RMIT University and works in interactive media, virtual environments and sound design.

Caroline Farmer (VIC)

Caroline Farmer is the Executive Director of Experimenta Media Arts, Melbourne

Cat Hope (WA)

Cat Hope is an accomplished sound artist, performer, composer, songwriter and noise artist whose interdisciplinary practice crosses over into video, performance and installation

Stephen Jones (NSW)

Stephen Jones is an Australian video artist and electronics engineer, who recently completed a history of the early decades of electronic art in Australia (to 1975).

Julie-Anne Long (NSW)

Julie-Anne Long is an independent dance artist and Artistic Director of Critical Path, a choreographic research and development centre for dance artists in NSW

Melentie Pandilovski (SA)

Melentie Pandilovski is a Curator, Artist, Writer, and Director of the Experimental Art Foundation in Adelaide, SA.

Rob Kelly (QLD)

Rob Kelly is the Artistic Director of Raw Space Gallery in Brisbane, QLD



ABOUT THIS REPORT

The following Inter-Arts Office and Council staff were in attendance:

Andrew Donovan	Director
Ricardo Peach	Program Manager
Nina Stromqvist	Program Officer
Catherine Birrell	Administrator
Lia Kemp	Administrative Assistant



- The Panel identified that in some applications there was a **lack of content and rationale** for the project and that the aesthetic intention needed to be more clearly defined.
- The Panel also noted that a large proportion of projects lacked a clear research methodology making it difficult to assess the applications against the program's research objectives.
- Many of the projects resembled large New Work or Skills & Arts Development, rather than research projects.
- **Support material** represents the project in the application and is the main opportunity to demonstrate the calibre of the artists proposed to participate in the project. As some peers need to get a sense of the work through support material, applicants are encouraged to submit support material of the highest possible viewing quality.

- The composition of the assessment panel is varied and all applicants should remember that each panel member may not be familiar with their work. It is therefore important that applicants avoid submitting basic documentation of their previous work and rather use their support material to **tell a story** about their work and proposed activity.



STEPS IN THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS

BEFORE THE MEETING

Staff check eligibility and register applications on the Australia Council's (Council) 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 Inter-Arts assessment meeting. Applications are made into booklets and sent to panel members. Staff also check and manage any conflicts of interest that panel members have with applications and study the applications in order to provide information to the panel as required (see below *).

AT THE MEETING

ASSESSMENT

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

Panel 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.

The Council 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 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 Council'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 fulfil 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, Committees, Panels 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.*



Inter-Arts Office
ArtLab
Round Id: 15369 Closing Date: 15-APRIL-2007

Project descriptions

1. Sarah Last will work collaboratively on The W I R E D Lab providing a permanent research site and resource for artists, musicians and scientific practitioners on Rawilla, a farm in the South-West-Slopes of inland NSW. Participants will experiment with the sonic properties of wires and their capacities in visual, computation, science and medical realms.

State **Amount**
NSW \$66,000

2. The ArtLab project will see Hellen Sky and collaborators engage in research focusing on the writing and performance of storytelling. The research will attempt to bridge the gap between the performer and the audience using a variety of media including spoken word, movement, sound, moving image, spatial design, virtual worlds and realtime interactivity.

VIC \$75,000

Amount Approved: \$140,000

