

Australian Cultural Policy: The Next Decade

Monday 8 April 2019
State Library of Victoria

OUTLINE

8:45am	Registration	
9:00am	Symposium welcome	Dr Xin Gu (Masters of Cultural and Creative Industries, Monash University) Prof Sharon Pickering (Dean of Arts, Monash University)
9:10am	Outline and key provocations	Ms Esther Anatolitis(NAVA) and Dr Ben Eltham (Monash)
9:30am	Keynote	Hon Tony Burke MP Shadow Minister for the Arts
10:15am	Response to keynote	Dr Bianca Beetson (Artist / Griffith University / QAGOMA)
10:45am	Morning tea	<i>Light refreshments provided</i>
11:00am	Panel 1: State of Australian culture in 2019 Moderator: Esther Anatolitis	Mr Channon Goodwin (Bus Projects / All Conference), Ms Alex Marsden (Australian Museums and Galleries Association) Mr Nicholas Pickard (APRA AMCOS), Ms Kate Torney (State Library of Victoria)
12:00pm	Panel 2: State of the industry: evidence base Moderator: Ben Eltham	Dr Marnie Badham (RMIT University), Mr Matthew Deaner (Screen Producers Association), Dr Katya Petetskaya (Macquarie University), and Mr Adam Portelli (MEAA)
1:00pm	LUNCH	<i>Lunch is not catered. We encourage guests to stretch their legs and choose from the many surrounding options in central Melbourne.</i>
2:00pm	Panel 3: Policy for the new decade Moderator: Esther Anatolitis	Dr Amanda Coles (Deakin University), Mr Adrian Collette AM (Australia Council), Ms Alison Croggon (critic and novelist), and Prof Justin O'Connor (University of South Australia)
3:15pm	Afternoon tea	<i>Light refreshments provided</i>
3:30pm	Panel 4: The public interest: Rethinking public broadcasting for a 21st century Australian democracy Moderator: Ben Eltham	Assoc Prof Margaret Simons (Monash), Assoc Prof Tony Moore (Monash) and Mr Andy Nehl (Producer/Director/UTS)
4:30-5:00pm	Key insights for the next term of government	Esther Anatolitis and Ben Eltham with Bianca Beetson and Kate Torney

PROGRAM

9.00am – 9:10am: Introduction and welcome to the Symposium

Dr Xin Gu (Course Coordinator, Masters of Cultural and Creative Industries, Monash University)

Professor Sharon Pickering (Dean of Arts, Monash University)

9.10am – 9.30am: Symposium outline and key provocations

Dr Ben Eltham (Masters of Cultural and Creative Industries, Monash University)

Ms Esther Anatolitis (Executive Director, National Association for the Visual Arts)

9:30am – 10.15am: Keynote speech and audience questions

The Honourable Tony Burke MP (Shadow Minister for the Arts)

10.15am – 10.45am: Response to the keynote

Dr Bianca Beetson (Artist / Griffith University / QAGOMA)

10.45am – 11.00am: Morning tea

Light refreshments provided

11.00am – 12 noon: Panel 1: State of Australian culture in 2019

Moderator: Esther Anatolitis

Australia's cultural and creative industries contribute \$111.7 billion to the economy, or 6.4% of GDP. Artists are working harder and across more disciplinary areas than ever before. And yet artists' incomes are declining, more and more artists are living precariously, it's taking longer for artists to become established, and the gender pay gap is worse in the arts than in any other industry. What condition are the creative industries in – and what are the implications for the Australian culture? What are the threats facing these sectors, and what are the opportunities?

Panellists: Mr Channon Goodwin (Bus Projects / All Conference), Ms Alex Marsden (Australian Museums and Galleries Association) Mr Nicholas Pickard (APRA AMCOS), and Ms Kate Torney (State Library of Victoria)

12 noon – 1.00pm: Panel 2: State of the industry: evidence base

Moderator: Ben Eltham

Culture was once a sector with relatively little hard data. In recent years, the evidence base has firmed. We know a lot more about culture and creativity across several dimensions: production, consumption, labour markets, and the diversity of cultural expressions. With more data available than ever before, how can we make sure that this important research and analysis is informing advocacy, action and policy? This panels brings producers, organised labour, and academics together to discuss what we know, and what we still need to find out.

Panellists: Dr Marnie Badham (RMIT University), Mr Matthew Deaner (Screen Producers Association) Dr Katya Petetskaya (Visual Artist/Macquarie University), and Mr Adam Portelli (MEAA)

1.00pm – 1.45pm: Lunch

Lunch is not catered. We encourage attendees to stretch their legs and choose from the many surrounding options in central Melbourne.

2.00pm – 3.15pm: Panel 3: Policy for the new decade**Moderator: Esther Anatolitis**

Cultural policy is a neglected field of public policy, with a manifest need for new ideas and new frameworks. Since 2013 the Australian Government has lacked a documented cultural policy – and yet it's possible to read an undocumented policy position in the values that have informed funding and program priorities. This lack of concrete policy settings is an opportunity to rethink Australian cultural policy for the new decade. This panel asks artists, academics and policymakers to be ambitious for Australia's next cultural policy.

Panellists: Dr Amanda Coles (Deakin), Mr Adrian Collette AM (Australia Council), Ms Alison Croggon (critic and novelist), Prof Justin O'Connor (University of South Australia)

3.15pm – 3.30pm: Afternoon tea

Light refreshments provided

3.30pm – 4.30pm: Panel 4: The public interest: Rethinking public broadcasting for a 21st century Australian democracy**Moderator: Ben Eltham**

Public broadcasting, community media, social media and public spaces are critical for a healthy public culture. The ABC is Australia's most important cultural institution – a source of trusted, evidence-based information and journalism, which has enabled citizenship, creativity and social cohesion since the 1930s. Despite being consistently named the nation's most trusted public institution, the ABC has been destabilised by political attack, funding cuts and more recently, a crisis of governance. Community and social media foster specialist discussions for a broad diversity of communities, while public spaces are regulated more and more heavily in the age of right-wing extremism, whose language tends to be fuelled by commercial media in disturbing ways. With spaces for gathering and debate increasingly under attack, what's at stake for Australian democracy? A panel of leading media and public space practitioners examine the future of the public interest.

Panellists: Assoc Prof Tony Moore (Monash), Mr Andy Nehl (journalist and producer, Triple J and The Chaser; Lecturer, UTS) Assoc Prof Margaret Simons (Monash)

4.30pm – 5.00pm: Wrap-up and insights

Esther Anatolitis and Ben Eltham wrap up on key insights for the next term of government, with Bianca Beetson and Justine Hyde (State Library of Victoria) offering key provocations from the day's discussion.

SPEAKERS

The Honourable Tony Burke MP (Shadow Minister for the Arts)

Tony Burke MP is Labor's spokesperson for the federal Arts portfolio. He also holds the portfolios of Citizenship and Multicultural Australia, and the Environment and Water. He is the federal member for Watson.

Ms Esther Anatolitis (National Association for the Visual Arts)

Esther Anatolitis fosters local, regional, national and international perspectives on contemporary arts issues as one of the nation's leading advocates for the arts. Her practice rigorously integrates professional and artistic modes of working to create collaborations, projects and workplaces that promote a critical reflection on practice. With a strong background in visual arts, design, architecture and media, Esther has held leadership roles including Craft Victoria, Melbourne Fringe, SBS and Express Media, and most recently with Regional Arts Victoria. She is Deputy Chair of Contemporary Arts Precincts and has served numerous board, policy, advisory and juror roles. Esther is a former curator of Architecture+Philosophy, Digital Publics and Independent Convergence, and has taught into the studio program at RMIT Architecture, as well as at UNSW and the University of Sydney. A writer and critic, Esther's work is regularly published and collected at estheranatolitis.net.

Dr Marnie Badham (RMIT University)

With a 20-year history of art and social justice practice in Canada and Australia, Marnie has research expertise in cultural value and the politics of measurement, a socially-engaged art, and participatory-advocacy methodologies. Her current work includes policy advice with local government, a book project on 'the social life of artist residencies: connecting with people and place not your own', a series of cultural mapping collaborations; and new pedagogical and experimental forms of curation. She is involved in a long-term research partnership on the working conditions of artists with NAVA, the National Association of Visual Arts. Marnie is Vice Chancellor's Post-Doctoral Research Fellow at the School of Art and teaches in the Masters of Art - Art in Public Space program at RMIT University.

Dr Bianca Beetson (Artist, Griffith University, Queensland Art Gallery)



Bianca Beetson is an artist, activist, educator, agitator and an all-round troublemaker. Bianca is a Gubbi Gubbi/Kabi Kabi (Sunshine Coast) Waradjuri (NSW) woman who was born in Roma in western Queensland. She studied a Bachelor of Arts in visual arts at QUT from 1993 -95, completed her Honours in 1998 and her Doctor of Visual Arts in 2018. Bianca is a visual artist who works in a broad range of media including painting, drawing, sculpture, installation, photography and public art. She is a former member of the seminal Aboriginal artists collectives Campfire group and Proppanow. Bianca is the Program Leader of the Bachelor of Contemporary Australian Indigenous Art at the Queensland College of Art, Griffith University and was recently appointed to the Queensland Art Gallery-GOMA board of trustees.

Dr Amanda Coles (Deakin University)

Amanda Coles is a Lecturer in the Department of Management in Deakin Business School. Amanda areas of expertise are in Arts and Cultural Management and Employment Relations. Her research examines the political economy of labour markets and workforce development in the cultural economy with a focus on public policy, collective representation and gender.

Mr Adrian Collette AM (Australia Council)

Adrian Collette is the new CEO of the Australia Council for the Arts. Mr Collette held the position of Chief Executive of Opera Australia, Australia's largest performing arts company for 16 years. He also worked in book publishing for a decade, including as Managing Director, Reed Books, a Division of Reed Elsevier. His previous role of Vice-Principal (Engagement) at the University of Melbourne included the oversight of the University's museums and galleries and its many arts sector partnerships. He served on the Australia Council Board since 1 July 2013.

Ms Alison Croggon (critic and novelist)

Alison Croggon is a Melbourne writer and critic. Winner of the 2009 Pascall Prize for Critic of the Year, she reviews performance for ABC Arts Online and is a columnist for *Overland Literary Journal*. She is the author of YA novels *The Books of Pellinor* and *Black Spring*.

Mr Matthew Deaner (Screen Producers Association)

Matthew Deaner is the Chief Executive Officer of Screen Producers Australia, a national organization that unites the screen industry to campaign for a healthy commercial environment. Matthew oversees all aspects of Screen Producers Australia's advocacy work, industrial negotiations, events and operational issues. He also works closely with our Council to set the strategic direction of the organisation as well as identify and execute new business development opportunities. Matthew brings a wealth of knowledge to Screen Producers Australia with his experience as a lawyer in both Sydney and London and in senior policy and strategy positions with Screen Australia and the Australian Subscription Television and Radio Association.

Dr Ben Eltham (Masters of Cultural and Creative Industries, Monash University)

Ben is a passionate teacher who leads several of the core subjects in Monash's innovative Masters of Cultural and Creative Industries. Ben's primary research interest is the public policy of culture in Australia, particularly at federal level. He has published peer-reviewed journal articles, conference presentations, creative works, and edited book chapters. His monograph, *When the Goal Posts Move: Patronage, power and resistance in Australian cultural policy 2013-2016* was published by Currency House in 2016. Ben also works extensively in the popular media as a journalist and essayist for publications including *New Matilda*, *Crikey*, *Guardian Australia*, *Overland* and the *Sydney Review of Books*. He is also sought out as a cultural policy consultant by federal, state and local policymakers, penning reports for the federal Department of Industry, Creative Victoria and the City of Sydney.

Dr Xin Gu (Masters of Cultural and Creative Industries, Monash University)

Xin Gu is a lecturer in Communication and Media Studies. She is also member of the Monash Focus Program – Culture, Media and Economy (CME), member of the Research Unit in Public Cultures (RUPC) at the University of Melbourne and coordinator of The Asian Cultural and Media Studies (ACMS) Research group under Monash Asia Institute. She is teaching the Master of Cultural and Creative Industries (MCCIs) and the Master of Communication and Media Studies (MCMS).

Mr Channon Goodwin (Bus Projects, All Conference)

Channon Goodwin is an artist and arts-worker based in Melbourne. Currently, Channon is the Director of Bus Projects, founding Convener of the All Conference network, and makes films and podcasts for Fellow Worker. Prior to this he was a founding Co-Director of Boxcopy in Brisbane and worked at Metro Arts and the Queensland Art Gallery/ Gallery of Modern Art. Channon is currently undertaking a Master of Arts at Monash University and his research interests include collective, collaborative and artist-run practice.

Ms Alex Marsden (Australian Museums and Galleries Association)

Alex Marsden is a strategic designer and cultural heritage adviser. She has a diverse background in public policy, strategic design and cultural heritage management, linked by a primary focus on people, culture and values. Trained as an historian, she has worked in museums, the non-government sector, heritage agencies and key national public policy departments. In March 2015 Alex was appointed to the position of National Director at Museums Galleries Australia: the national membership association that represents museums and galleries – large and small – and museum workers, professional and volunteer, across Australia.

Associate Professor Tony Moore (Monash University)

Tony Moore is an Associate Professor at Monash University and was a member of the ABC National Advisory Council (1986–88) and a documentary maker and current affairs producer at ABC Television for a decade (1988-97), working on award winning documentaries social documentaries and programs such as *Four Corners* and *Foreign Correspondent*. As a media scholar, he has written extensively on reforming the ABC, and has just completed a major study *-Fringe to Famous -* examining the ABC's role in cultural innovation. Tony is Head, Communications and Media Studies at Monash University, and his most recent documentary co-produced by the ABC was *Death or Liberty* (2016).

Mr Andy Nehl (University of Technology Sydney)

Andy Nehl is a Lecturer and since the 1980s has worked with ABC television and radio as a journalist, producer, series producer, director and senior manager, developing and leading innovative programs with a particular emphasis on leveraging issues important to youth and marginal groups to popular audiences. Notable successes he has produced include *The Chaser's War on Everything*, *CNNNN* and *The Hamster Wheel*, current affairs innovation *Hungry Beast*, *The Roast*, *Hack Live*, *Beatbox*, and (with Andrew Denton) *Blah, Blah, Blah*. As manager of Triple J in the early 1990s Andy was responsible for transforming the Sydney station into a national radio network.

Professor Sharon Pickering (Dean of Arts, Monash University)

Prof Sharon Pickering is a Professor of Criminology and Dean of Arts at Monash University. She researches irregular border crossing and has written in the areas of refugees and trafficking with a focus on gender and human rights. Prof Pickering was most recently an Australian Research Council Future Fellow on Border Policing. She is Series Editor with Katja Franko Aas (Oslo University) and Mary Bosworth (Oxford University) of Routledge Studies in Criminal Justice, Borders and Citizenship and is the former Editor of the *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology*. She has authored 14 books and over 60 journal articles and book chapters.

Mr Adam Portelli (Media, Arts and Entertainment Alliance)

Adam is the Regional Director of the Victorian and Tasmanian Branches of the Media Entertainment and Arts Alliance (MEAA), the union that represents performers, media professionals, and entertainment workers. Before joining the MEAA, Adam worked as an employment lawyer and with the National Union of Workers as its National Industrial Officer.

Associate Professor Margaret Simons (Monash University)

Margaret Simons is an award-winning freelance journalist and author and currently an Associate Professor at Monash University's School of Film, Media and Journalism. She has published 10 books. Her most recent work includes a biography of Kerry Stokes, published in November 2013, *Journalism at the Crossroads*, published by Scribe in 2011 and the book *Malcolm Fraser: The Political Memoirs* co-written with former prime minister Malcolm Fraser and published by The Miegunyah Press in 2010. The latter book won both the Book of the Year and the Douglas Stewart Prize for Non-Fiction at the NSW Premier's Literary Awards in 2011

Professor Justin O'Connor (University of South Australia)

Justin O'Connor worked for a decade developing cultural industries policies for Manchester and the UK regions. He has consulted for cities across Europe, Russia and East Asia, and conducted extensive research in Shanghai and China. He has recently worked on developing strategies for the cultural economy in Tasmania, and for DFAT's Soft Power unit. He is currently involved in international research projects on cultural industries and urban manufacturing, and UNESCO's 2005 convention on the diversity of cultural expressions.

Dr Katya Petetskaya (Visual Artist/Macquarie University)

Katya Petetskaya is a visual artist who works predominantly in painting and visual art performance. Her painting and performance practice are process-led, exploring alternative forms of knowledge to understand the relation between body, medium and 'reality'. Katya Petetskaya is also Research Project Director at the Macquarie University Department of Economics. She was Co-Director of the 2017 National Artists Survey (Australia Council) and is currently Co-Director for the National Survey of Remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Artists 2015-2020.

Mr Nicholas Pickard (APRA-AMCOS)

Nicholas is a public affairs, communications and government relations specialist with C-suite experience in the UK and Australia. He has managed the profile, reputation and advocacy campaigns of organisations and public figures across government, the arts, transport infrastructure, creative industries and the media. A former journalist and ministerial adviser who has worked in London, Canberra and Sydney, Nicholas was central to the team that created, devised and launched Australia's last national cultural policy, *Creative Australia*.