

Fri 26/08/2011

Submission for better coverage of the arts on our national broadcaster

### **Submission into the Senate Inquiry -**

- I am a Tafe Lismore – regional area Adv Dip Ceramics student.
- I use the ABC arts coverage as a learning tool.
- Learning what is current in the arts industry.
- What will make me a better and more profitable artist.
- Where the markets are, current trends
- What is happening outside our regional area,
- how artistic works are made and marketed.

11 Aug 2011 – Arts Minister Simon Crean today invited all Australians to comment on a discussion paper for the country's first **National Cultural Policy**

If the Government wants informed opinion then DO NOT let the ABC AXE ITS TV ARTS UNIT please

**Deborah Gower**

### **What Australians stand to lose if the ABC is allowed to axe its TV Arts Unit**

- The weekly national conversation on free-to-air TV about culture and a range of art forms across metropolitan and regional Australia will cease. Australians particularly in regional and remote areas will only receive limited exposure to our cultural richness.
- Ongoing coverage and reportage of Australia's diverse creative output will be lost, which amounts to hundreds of artists, performances and exhibitions each year and affords vital exposure for these performers and helps promote our arts industry.
- The stories behind the following art forms, and many others, won't be told on a national stage:

- Architecture
- Contemporary art forms
- Dance
- Design
- Installation art
- Music forms
- Opera and musical theatre
- Painting
- Photography
- Sculpture
- Street art
- Theatre
- Visual art forms

- TV Arts coverage produced free of commercial influence and considerations, as well as subject to the ABC's editorial policies.
- An invaluable national archive of TV Arts owned by the ABC in perpetuity will not be added to. When Margaret Olley died recently the ABC was able to screen a documentary made by the Arts Unit, which it owned the rights to - that will not be possible in future.
- Arts needs a specialist unit to draw upon more than 50 years of TV arts programming, that has the knowledge of the people, the performers and the trends of our ever-changing and diverse art industry both at home and on the international stage.