

I expect the ABC to be a producer of innovative quality programming in all areas. I want:  
the ABC to be less dependent on outsourced programming  
the ABC to be funded and rebuilt so that it has strong specialist units to produce high levels of high quality and genuinely local in-house programming in all program genres on radio, TV and online  
a public broadcaster that is focused on diversity and quality, not ratings

Specifically, I believe the ABC has a responsibility to provide Arts programmes that are not sourced from overseas. I believe the ABC has a responsibility to reflect and encourage the cultural contribution of the Australian people, and that means local actors, writers, technicians, production staff, painters sculptors, musicians and all other creative persons.

The dumbing down and outsourcing of ABC Radio National (which is becoming more and more just a succession of chat shows and repeats) is being echoed in ABC TV.

Combined with the abandonment of in-depth consistent Arts programming, this constitutes in my view a betrayal of the Australian people's right to see the best of its artistic talent represented in its national broadcaster.

I urge you to work towards a national broadcaster that is truly reflective of the country that pays for it, that can truly serve as a beacon to other national broadcasters.

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Dr Juliet Flesch