



Committee Secretary
Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Re: Impact of the 2014 and 2015 Commonwealth Budget decisions on the Arts

Force Majeure is a dance theatre company in residence at Carriageworks in Redfern, Sydney NSW.

We are a dance key organisation of the Australia Council for the Arts and a multiyear funded company with ArtsNSW.

Our work is inspired by contemporary Australian life. We produce stimulating, accessible & original dance theatre that reflects, embraces & challenges society's perspectives. We provide a relevant and diverse experience for audiences locally, nationally & internationally.

Each year Force Majeure produces new work of scale, tours repertoire and supports and trains emerging dance theatre artists. We engage over sixty (60) independent artists annually; this includes dancers, actors, designers and production staff. We also dedicate financial and in-kind support towards the next generation of dance theatre makers. We are committed to ongoing investment in a sustainable artistic practice within our genre.

Force Majeure is currently running at peak capacity and performance. We have completed a smooth transition from our founding Artistic Director to recently appointed director Danielle Micich.

In the past twelve (12) months we have completed a successful national tour to nineteen (19) venues across the country, including ten (10) regional centres, and launched a new work at sell-out seasons in Sydney (as part of the Sydney Festival) and Melbourne (at the Dance Massive Festival). Our work represents the pinnacle of dance theatre in Australia, something acknowledged by both our industry peers and press, and reflected in the critical dialogue our work inspires, our growing audience attendance and the repeat invitations we receive from presenters.



The loss of the planned Australia Council six year organisational funding program will impact dramatically on our capacity to sustainably deliver and grow our program of activity.

We fervently support arms length and peer assessed funding processes. Whilst we welcome the NPEA, this shouldn't come at the expense of the Australia Councils' already stretched budget allocation.

Adequate and dedicated core funding for the small-to-medium sector provides a foundation for us to leverage additional significant support and income.

We also want to record our support for the Australia Councils' significant knowledge and artform experience, research and data. We believe both the entire arts industry and Australian culture benefit if this rich wealth of expertise and information is not only maintained but flourishes.

Sincerely,

Board of Directors, Staff and Artists
Force Majeure
July 16th, 2015