

Submission to the Senate regarding ABC arts coverage.

My name is Elizabeth Ottey, as an emerging artist in Perth the most remote capital in the country I am seriously concerned in relation to the cuts to the ABC's Arts department and programming. I and others I know rely on the ABC (TV shows such as "art nation" and other arts resources such as ABC and J arts websites) to stay informed and engaged with the arts scene from the rest of the country. Keeping my practice contemporary and relevant to the current arts climate is important.

The removal and cuts of the arts content from the ABC will seriously impact on the cultural landscape of this country; the arts are already under represented in the Australian media. Art is an important part of our nation's story, and needs to continue to be recognized as such. The making of contemporary art should be fostered and promoted by the ABC as it has in the past. With the switch to digital media and more content being screened than ever surely there is room for supporting and archiving this country's cultural achievements.

If the ABC no longer runs arts based content it makes the argument to even have a government funded broadcaster look weak. The commercial channels have zero arts content, this is what sets the ABC apart, gives it its edge, its purpose.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I hope you take my opinion into account.

Regards,  
Elizabeth Ottey,