ARTISTIC POLICY

COMMITMENT: CAT is committed to advancing Tasmanian contemporary art and artists. The program demonstrates creative leadership while responding to current developments in artistic production within the context of the region, and alongside national and international trends.

PROGRAM SCOPE: CAT’s artistic, development and engagement programs evolve around six major gallery-based projects per year that are often supported by or integrated across: studio residencies, public programs, mentorships and professional development activities, commissions, partnered activities and an international strategy.

CURATORIAL FRAME: CAT will understand and respond to the changing needs of contemporary art and artists. The organisation will base projects on a Fast and Slow model. Slow projects will have increased project resources, research, extended presentation frames to stimulate critical reflection and enable deeper engagements. Fast projects will involve curatorial projects that create a dynamic platform for contemporary practices and assist greater numbers of artists to access CAT’s programs.

The annual artistic program will also include:
- Tasmanian artist commission
- Curatorial mentorship
- Studio residencies
- Festival participation
- Courtyard commission

BALANCE: Program decisions will be guided by a balance of local, national and international content. This will be supported with a diversity of art forms, practices and communities involving artists working at different stages of their careers. CAT encourages expressions of interest from diverse communities.

ASSESSMENT: When reflecting on projects the Committee will consider: quality; artistic merit of the project; peer or public response to previous work; evidence of abilities and creative thinking; viable planning and resourcing; partnership confirmations (where applicable); career development; the capacity to increase audience reach and the timeliness of the project.

CRITERIA: Excellence, Contemporaneity, Viability, Timeliness

AUDIENCES: The Committee will consider each individual project’s capacity to strengthen CAT’s Engagement offer.

VALUES: The Committee will be mindful of the Values that underpin the culture of the organisation. These values ensure that decisions and actions at all levels of the organisation achieve CAT’s mission and purpose. Core Values that distinguish us are: leadership, contemporaneity, professionalism, the provision of opportunity, and generosity; our Common Values shared with others are: excellence, integrity, respect and resilience; while our Emergent Values that arise from our work are: autonomy, connectivity/experience and impact.

Compiled: Michael Edwards and Kylie Johnson. Policy review: when the 2024-27 business plan is developed

TOURING PROGRAM: The CAT Touring Program is determined by the CAT Touring Exhibition Committee, comprised of the director or representative of: Academy Gallery, Burnie Regional Art Gallery, Contemporary Art Tasmania, Design Tasmania, Devonport Regional Gallery, Plimsoll Gallery, Queen Victoria Museum & Art Gallery, Rosny Barn & the Schoolhouse Gallery, Salamanca Arts Centre, and the Tasmanian Museum & Art Gallery.