

Submission
No 62

INQUIRY INTO MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES

Organisation: Modern Art Projects (MAP)

Date received: 14 August 2016



www.modernartprojects.org

Modern Art Projects, Inc. Blue Mountains, NSW, submission to NSW Parliament's General Purpose Standing Committee No. 4.

Modern Art Projects Inc. (MAP), Blue Mountains, NSW is a not for profit incorporated association, established in 2013 by a small group of contemporary artists and curators in the Blue Mountains, that has rapidly grown into the premiere contemporary arts organisation in the LGA.

Our organisation are significant stakeholders in the formulation of policy, funding and support for the arts in Greater Western Sydney and as such, respectfully submit the following points for consideration by the Standing Committee:

- That the current geographical parameters for State Arts funding, where the Blue Mountains is included in the Western Sydney region, are highly disadvantageous to Blue Mountains organisations which cater to an entirely different audience to that of Greater Western Sydney, many of whom do not, and can not, travel to places such as Parramatta and other Western Sydney venues.
- That the Blue Mountains is a bridge between Sydney and regional NSW, attracting international audiences to its' art events. Cultural tourism is a significant element of the Blue Mountains arts industry, much more so than in any other area of Greater Western Sydney, and therefore funding submissions from Blue Mountains museums, galleries, arts programs and arts organisations should be considered in light of the unique international profile and geographic location of this World Heritage listed region.
- There is more funding needed to support small grass roots arts organisations, like Modern Art Projects Inc. (MAP) that provide a significant cultural contribution to the region but do not have a permanent premises. MAP's a unique social and cultural engagement program explores a broad range of cultural activities including a multiplicity of contemporary artistic practices, writings on art and culture and the archiving of local histories. Our contemporary art community engagement activities, exhibitions and performances are largely presented through curated programs of one-off events held in private homes and community premises such as churches, schools and halls.