

artwork

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Development and Change
featuring the Great Debate
'Bureaucracy is killing activism'



C O M M U N I T Y A R T S N E T W O R K S A I N C



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CAN is a non-profit, membership based organisation that promotes cultural development by supporting community arts.

CAN

- works towards a society in which cultural diversity, artistic expression and human dignity are valued and supported
- promotes and supports excellent processes and practices in community arts
- advocates for community cultural development and community arts
- supports artists, artworkers and communities in work which supports these aims.

COMMUNITY ARTS

Arts practice and creative expression are at the heart of a community's vitality. People have always come together to sing, tell stories, enact rituals, to celebrate, to mourn and to mark significant events in their lives. Besides being able to see great art, people need to actively participate in these activities. This is what is meant by the term community arts, it might be a new name but it is not a new idea.

LOCAL CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

It is through the things we do together as groups and communities that we gain a sense of collective identity, a sense of place and a sense of belonging. When we value these things a positive concern for our social well being follows and we begin to take charge of our present and shape the future to meet our aspirations.

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Cover: *Goldilocks Dream* by Sharon. In the *Can* exhibition at the old Pentridge Prison (see article page 15). Photo: Sally Marsden.

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Brooke Agars and Jo Zealand from *No Strings Attached Theatre of Disability* celebrating Community Arts Network SA's 20th birthday at the Great Debate

'BUREAUCRACY IS KILLING ACTIVISM': THE GREAT DEBATE

1 Cath Cantlon opens for the affirmative claiming bureaucracy is swamping the lives of artists.

4 Andrew Donovan closes for the negative claiming activists are infiltrating the bureaucracies.

THE DISCUSSION CONTINUES

8 Stephen Spence responds to the Great Debate and considers the future of activism in the arts.

IN FOR THE LONG HAUL

15 Sally Marsden, Melbourne artist, explores a fundamental shift in her understanding of her work in communities.

DISABILITY CULTURE

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TWO COMMUNITIES AND TWO PROJECTS FOR CHANGE

26 Margy Timmermans and the River of Life in far north Queensland.

30 Elizabeth Dean on sewing banners and fighting fires in Tasmania.

Apology

In Artwork Issue 47 in the article 'Indigenous IT' by Nicola Joseph Cameron Goold's name was inadvertently miss-spelt. This was in no way the fault of the author and Artwork would like to apologise for any confusion or inconvenience that may have occurred.

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