

6 March 2023

Letter in Support of Chamber Made

Dear Panel Members,

I write in support of Chamber Made's application for funding for *Listening Acts*, a project that brings our two organisations together to commission ten new Australian works and provide a platform for artists working across artforms.

Ainslie and Gorman Arts Centres (A+G) are twin heritage listed arts centres situated in the heart of the ACT. We run creative development programs and capacity building projects for artists and cultural practitioners, alongside presentation opportunities. A+G is committed to showcasing original, experimental and contemporary multi-form work as well as providing exceptional experiences for artists and audiences.

Chamber Made is renowned for providing artists with the opportunity to explore, develop and present new work at the edges and intersections of artform. Our partnership for *Listening Acts* is built on our shared belief in encouraging and guiding artists, providing a space for them to take risks in creating new performance. This project brings together a group of exceptional Australian artists to each extend their own practice while learning from one another. We are as excited by this process as by sharing the outcomes with our audiences.

As part of our collaborative relationship with Chamber Made, A+G will support two ACT based artists across the development period of *Listening Acts* with the following:

- a development fee of \$500 ex GST for each artist
- in-kind venue use of our Pod studios for onsite development
- up to 50 hours of producer support and mentoring from the A+G programs team
- reasonable use of in-house technical equipment where necessary

Upon completion of the development phase, we will begin discussions with Chamber Made about presentation of *Listening Acts* to Canberra audiences in 2025.

I hope that the Australia Council recognises the value of this shared endeavour and supports this application for *Listening Acts*.

Your Sincerely,



Carly Davenport Acker
CEO Arts Capital / Director Ainslie and Gorman Arts Centres



CITY OF MELBOURNE

Multi-disciplinary Arts Panel
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2 March 2023

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Dear Panellists,

City of Melbourne's new festival Now or Never enthusiastically supports Chamber Made's application for funds to develop *Listening Acts*, an ambitious project that brings together some of Australian most exciting artists to create performance works and installations.

The first of its kind for Melbourne, Now or Never will explore visions of the future, where advanced technology converges with creativity in sensory immersion and cross-artform experiences. Now or Never honours more than 2000 years of unbroken spiritual, cultural and political connections to Aboriginal land, and uses the city as its stage to showcase Melbourne as an innovative place to learn and play, where daytime ideas and creative programming intersect with late-night culture, digital immersive experiences and music.

At the heart of this new annual event is support for Australian artists and connecting their work with the people who inhabit the City of Melbourne – as residents, visitors, workers, students. As we begin to reinhabit the city and reawaken our senses to its sounds, smells, sights, recognising the quality and diversity of sound is vital in leading us to explore different ways of understanding ourselves, our environment and each other. Chamber Made has drawn together an exceptional cohort of artists from a variety of artforms for *Listening Acts*, each with a practice that touches on the intimate and loquacious act of listening. We are excited to see how these artists, through various performance and installation works, explore what it is to listen – perfectly or imperfectly – and fuse technology and art to generate acoustic diversity.

Chamber Made's work in recent years – focusing on redefining artform boundaries and producing works that emerge from a deep collaborative dialogue across artform disciplines – combined with this exceptional team of artists, makes for a truly thrilling artistic proposition. Led by three highly accomplished women in the arts – Jo Porter, Tamara Saulwick and Kylie McRae – I can think of no company better placed to succeed in this ambitious undertaking.

The City of Melbourne is supporting the 2023 development of this work with a \$20,000 grant. Following this development, we will look to final commissioning and presentation within our August 2024 Festival.

We urge you to support the development of this collection of new works, which we are confident will have a resounding impact on audiences and artists.

Yours sincerely,

Annette Vieuxseux
Executive Producer | Now or Never
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SCIENCE GALLERY MELBOURNE
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Australia Council for the Arts

6 March 2023

Dear Assessment Panel,

On behalf of Science Gallery Melbourne, I am very pleased to write to you in support of *Listening Acts*, Chamber Made's exciting new curated series of short works by some of Australia's most exciting artists. The work promises to break new ground across the visual, sonic and performance disciplines in interrogating what it means to listen.

Exploring the collision of art and science, and playing a vital role in shifting our understanding of science, art and innovation, Science Gallery Melbourne is part of the Global Science Gallery Network pioneered by Trinity College Dublin, and committed to delivering world class educational and cultural experiences. Since opening our doors in 2021 we have partnered with Melbourne artists and producing companies to program performance works across the Gallery spaces.

Chamber Made is at the forefront of contemporary multi-disciplinary arts practice in Melbourne and Australia. The company constantly produces innovative new works that provoke, challenge and inspire audiences, and, after almost 35 years at the forefront of artistic innovation, continues to redefine our concepts of contemporary arts presentation. We are excited by the premise of bringing together a group of artists working with different artforms and mediums, and with diverse neurological, physical, cultural and gender experience, to explore the multifarious ways we listen listening, through the intersecting of art and technology.

I am delighted to be able to offer this expression of support and am convinced that this is a program that deserves to be made, seen and supported. Along with the City of Melbourne, we are considering supporting the final development and presentation of this work in late 2024. I urge you to join us in supporting *Listening Acts* to allow this outstanding new collaborative program to come to fruition.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tilly Boleyn".

Tilly Boleyn | Head of Curatorial (she/her)
Science Gallery Melbourne

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