

**Submission
No 47**

INQUIRY INTO THE MUSIC AND ARTS ECONOMY IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Mr Jack Colquhoun

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To ignore music within New South Wales is passing up the opportunity to reap the many benefits which a thriving music scene is able to offer. Economically, a thriving nightlife and series of venues around the state would bring a huge amount of both local and international investment. While people go to places like Berlin and London for their music, we have the opportunity to put ourselves on the map as a centre for culture that people all around the world ought to come and see. By investing time and money into this sector, we wouldn't only be looking at an economic gain, but also a huge boost to Australia's culture. Music is far and away the artform absorbed most by everyone around the world. It stimulates conversation, breaks down social barriers and makes people feel good. To ignore such a huge part of everyone's lives will become a price that the government pays for sooner or later.

See below for a list of ways that the government can improve on this:

Significantly increased investment for the contemporary music sector (funding for artists, venues, and top-notch events)

Support for music export

A contemporary music plan for NSW with clearly identified priorities and strategies

Significant support for all-ages activities in NSW – for young bands and young audiences

Better regulation policies that support and foster a thriving live music scene across NSW (regional, metro and everything in between)

Support and recognition for live music venues as cultural institutions and the backbones of our night-time economy

Policies and initiatives that make festivals and venues safe and welcoming spaces for all

Support for programs that work towards the music industry being representative of NSW people – including specific programs for women and GNC artists, regional artists, artists with disability, western Sydney artists and young artists