

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to comment on the draft guidelines made available on your website. With the abolishment of the Strand X Experimental Digital Production Fund – (up to \$20,000 to support a work) where do the experimental crossover art/film practitioners go? If experienced producers will find it hard to nurture an emerging practitioner's narrative short film under the Enterprise stream, then what hope is there for an experimental film maker to make a short or longer form film? Where would the careers of Janet Merewether, James Clayden, Luhsan Tan and Anna Kannava be without this strand?

There is a longer list of filmmakers that I am leaving out, but I will use two recent international examples -

Miranda July and the newly crowned Steve McQueen - both visual artists using the video medium, both turning to filmmaking. And with their first features, both made hugely powerful poetic films that have had cinema releases and box office success. We do have that kind of talent here. Do not discard it.

Donna McRae