

## Arts Industry Council (SA) Inc. Annual Report 2009

It is a pleasure to present the Arts Industry Council (SA) Inc. (AIC) Chair's report for 2009. The year was a constructive one for the AIC with a program of activities delivered in pursuit of our aim to be *an independent voice* for the arts in South Australia. The AIC continues to advocate at State and Federal levels for the arts to be recognised as an essential, creative and dynamic force in Australian society.

As a state-based sector-wide representative organisation, the AIC relies on membership fees, fundraising and the voluntary time contributed by its Committee to operate independently. The AIC doesn't seek government funding. Advocacy activities are supported by an Executive Officer who works approximately one day per week for the organisation.

We would particularly like to thank every member of the Committee for their contribution during the year: Carolyn Ramsey (Chair), Phil Callaghan (Deputy Chair), Tricia Walton (Treasurer), Lisa Philip-Harbutt, Anne Levy, Annemarie Kohn, Gaelle Mellis and new members Craig Harrison, Gordon Anderson, Alison Dunn. In 2009, we also regrettably farewelled Barbara Wiseman from the SA Writers Centre as a Committee Member.

Special thanks and acknowledgement must also go to our Executive Officer, Torben Bookman, for his hard work over the last year, maintaining our website, presenting the Fora program and fundraising activities and coordinating meetings.

During the Year the AIC Committee:

- held on 23 October a Fundraising Event at the Rob Roy hotel where we had dinner and guest speaker, Andrew Wallace spoke about the Laneways project in the West End of the City. Organisations who had a table include ArtsSA, Carclew, Adelaide City Council, Arts Asia Pacific, SAYAB, AusDance and Community Arts Network
- held on 12 November a Pre-Election State Arts Platform where Minister Hill and Opposition Leader Isobel Redmond spoke about their governments State Arts platforms and responded to questions submitted through our membership survey
- supported the planning of an *Alternative spaces for arts activities* public fora to be held during the 2010 Fringe in conjunction with Renew Adelaide
- created links with Arts Industry Council Victoria
- created an AICSA Face book page
- met at the South Australian Writers Centre and Carclew Youth Arts and special thanks must go to these organisations for providing their spaces free of charge

Our gratitude goes to all of the speakers and organisers and to Gail Kovasteff, Director of the MRC and the staff of the Mercury Cinema and the Rob Roy Hotel for hosting these events.

We would also particularly like to acknowledge the organisations that donated prizes for our fundraising projects and raffle: State Theatre Company of South Australia, Adelaide Festival Centre Trust, Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, Adelaide Fringe, Feast Festival, Adelaide Film Festival, Australian Dance Theatre, Arts Asia Pacific, AusDance, WOMAdelaide.

In September 2009, AIC met with the Executive Director and staff of Arts SA and provided responses to people seeking consultations regarding policy issues in the arts sector. Notes from these discussions were posted to the AICSA website. Topics included:

- Funding Cuts and Arts Policy
- Metropolitan and Regional Venues
- Private and Corporate Giving/Sponsorship
- Disability Action Plans

The AIC looks forward to continuing to represent the views of the arts to the government, arts funding agencies and political parties, through a variety of means including meetings, forums, newsletters, budget submissions, issue specific representations and consultations.

**Carolyn Ramsey, Chair**

**Phil Callaghan, Deputy Chair**