

Angie Bexley

5 December 2011

This is a submission for the **Inquiry into the future use of the Fitters' Workshop in the Kingston arts precinct.**

I would like to express my support for the use of the Fitters' Workshop for the purpose of the **Megalo Print Studio.**

Megalo is the most important arts organisation in Canberra supporting international collaboration and building networks with overseas print-making artists. Being based in the Fitters' Workshop would extend its relevance and scope for communicating important cross-cultural collaboration beyond artistic audiences to the academic community including, but not limited to, scholars in the fields of asian art, society, culture, politics and history.

Canberra, as our nation's capital, is becoming known for contemporary new art that both **educates and creates critical debate** (the rationale behind all good artwork). Being situated within the Fitter's Workshop will facilitate the development of this space to reach its full potential in the years to come.

Megalo was critical in the formation of the International print-making collective, Culture Kitchen –of which I am a member- by providing **financial and logistical support.** Through this support, Culture Kitchen was able to develop an **ongoing collaboration with East Timorese and Indonesian artists** through a number of projects and consisted of a number of large-scale relief prints on lino and paper. The project have been featured in the list of national and international exhibitions below.

Projects Exhibited with Megalo financial and linguistic support:

Thresholds of Tolerance (2007). Research School of Humanities in conjunction with ANU School of Art, Australian National University, Canberra

Recovering Lives (2008) in conjunction with ANU School of Art, Australian National University, Canberra

International Print Symposium (2008), National Gallery of Australia, Canberra

Recovering Lives Across Borders (2008) Dili, East Timor

The Local and the Global (2007). Griffith Arts School, Brisbane

Megalo Residency Show (2008, 2009) Canberra

Melbourne International Human Rights Film and Art Festival (2007) Melbourne

Collective Conscience (2008) Melbourne International Human Rights Film and Art Festival, Melbourne

Publications resulting from the exhibitions listed above with Megalo support:

Bexley, Angie (2007) We Refuse to Become Victims. **Inside Indonesia**. Available at: <http://www.insideindonesia.org/edition-90-oct-dec-2007/we-refuse-to-become-victims-2110604>

Bexley, Angie (2008) Drawing on Tolerance. In Panorama. The **Canberra Times**. 22 November

Bexley, Angie with David Williams and the artists (2007) Of Collectives, Prints and Politics: We Refuse to become victims. In the **Thresholds of Tolerance Catalogue**. Available at: http://www.anu.edu.au/hrc/research/ThresholdsofTolerance/Thres_Tol_cat.pdf

Bexley, Angie (2008) In Turner, C & Williams, D, eds, 2008, **Recovering Lives Catalogue - School of Art**, Australian National University, Canberra, Australia.

Bexley, Angie (2008) Let's Work Together": The Power of Print in Timor-Leste. In **Asia Foundation News from the Field**. Available at: <http://asiafoundation.org/in-asia/2008/11/19/lets-work-together-the-power-of-print-in-timor-leste/>

Dr Angie Bexley

Postdoctoral Fellow

Nordic Institute of Asian Studies

Copenhagen, Denmark, 2300

and Visiting Fellow, Anthropology, Australian National University, Canberra 0200

on behalf of **Culture Kitchen**

(Julian Laffan , Canberra, Bernie Slater, Canberra Jon Priadi , Canberra and Indonesia, Bayu Widodo, Indonesia and Gembel Art collective, East Timor)