

Submission to the enquiry for the FUTURE USE OF THE FITTERS WORKSHOP,
KINGSTON VISUAL ARTS PRECINCT

Ms Amanda Bresnan, Chair, Standing Committee on Education, Training & Youth
Affairs, ACT Legislative Assembly

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I am an artist printmaker based in Canberra. If you go to the National Gallery of Australia today, you will notice a whole wall of my prints hanging in the contemporary Australian art section. At the Art Gallery of NSW my work is on display presently in the Dobell Drawing Prize, earlier this year my work was exhibited at the British Museum. This may sound boastful, but this is not my intention, (I attach a short cv) I simply want to make the case that I am an artist printmaker who is recognised nationally and internationally and none of this would have been possible without Megalo.

About 30 years ago, at Studio One Community Access Print workshop, which subsequently morphed into Megalo, I commenced my training and my career. Megalo is a national treasure which at the moment languishes in the away from the centre location at Watson. I was delighted when the Labor Government announced that it would be re-located to Kingston (actually the old Studio One was originally located around the corner in Kingston) to the Fitter's Workshop. Studio Glass artists and printmakers share much in common and it makes perfect sense for the two nationally significant workshops to be located side by side. While I am a great supporter of choral music, they are not part of the visual arts and it would be a tragic lost opportunity to waste this space on a rehearsal hall.

I strongly urge your committee to endorse the ACT governments decision to locate Megalo in the Fitters Workshop.

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