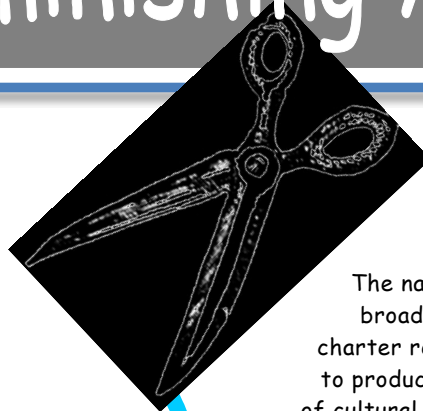


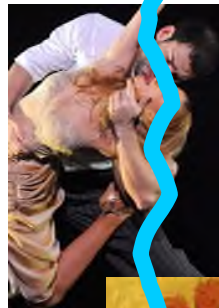
The ABC's diminishing Arts

**Unless you act NOW,
gone by the end of
this year
will be:**

- **Art Nation**, the ABC's sole TV arts magazine program, and *Collectors*.
- **the ABC TV arts unit.**
A team of specialist arts programmers is critical to the ABC's capacity to create and commission quality arts programming. Without an arts unit, the ABC's role as the nation's cultural archivist, a chronicler of our greatest artistic achievements, will be seriously diminished.
And who will be left to advocate for arts programming within a public broadcaster that is increasingly directing its limited resources to populist programs produced by private production houses with an eye to commercial sales after first screening on the ABC?
- **Artsworks and The Book Show.**
Arts and *The Book Show* will be merged into a new Radio National program called *Arts and Books*.
The Age estimated that if RN's proposed changes to its 2012 schedule proceed, RN will reduce its arts programming by 16.5 percent to become under 19 hours a week, excluding music programs.



The national public broadcaster has a charter responsibility to produce "programs of cultural enrichment" and to "encourage and promote the musical, dramatic and other performing arts in Australia".
Don't let arts on the ABC continue to be downgraded or the opportunities provided by online and new channels become an excuse to marginalise the arts from mainstream audiences.



Contact:

- ▶ The ABC Chairman
Steven Skala AO, A/g ABC Chairman, GPO Box 9994,
Sydney NSW 2001
Phone 13 9994
Via www.abc.net.au/contact/complain.htm

Write:

- ▶ Letters to the media.

Recruit:

- ▶ Recruit the support of arts organisations in the community to write and to request meetings with the ABC Board's chairman.

Friends of the ABC (Vic) Inc.

GPO Box 4065, Melbourne 3001 ■ Phone (03) 9682 0073 ■ www.fabc.org.au
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