

## **How is work chosen that receives support from Brown's Mart?**

A Peer Selection panel of three industry peers (chosen by the Executive director in consultation with Brown's Mart's Artistic Reference Team) will assess applications for support for the Shimmer program. Panelist will serve for a maximum of 3 years with a retirement of one member every year.

### Curatorial vision

Artists wishing to develop or produce their work with Brown's Mart need to have a clear vision for their work. This includes being able to demonstrate: WHY they want to create work; WHO the work is being created for; and HOW the work is relevant to a contemporary audience.

Artists will need to show through their applications:

1. A clearly articulated and passionate vision; ideas that are bold, urgent, committed and relevant;
2. Work that promises to engage new and existing audiences within the territory and beyond; Brown's Mart will respond most positively to those applications where the applicant has a clear understanding of who the future audience is for the work;
3. Suitably high standard of practice. Brown's Mart will, where necessary, assist artistic initiators in identifying new potential collaborators and to build strong creative teams for their projects. Brown's Mart will respond most positively to fully assembled creative teams. Brown's Mart is particularly supportive of indigenous artists and their creative visions and aspirations and will assist them to identify other indigenous organisations to support their work;
4. Effective planning: Applicants must be clear about how the work will be realised within available resources; Brown's Mart will respond most positively to those proposals where artists are able to identify opportunities for attracting wider support for the work; and that maximize; the potential of Brown's Mart as a performance site;
5. Opportunities to develop the professional practice and/or profile of NT artists. Brown's Mart seeks to support work that continues to challenge and cultivate the NT artists who create and produce the work; Brown's Mart will, where appropriate, suggest ways to maximize the skills and profile development opportunities offered through its programs.

Brown Mart's Arts Board of Management will decide the level of support for those works recommended by the peer selection panel within the context of the financial and representational interests of Brown's Mart Arts and of the performing arts in the Territory. (Some works matching the curatorial vision above may not receive support, or full support.)

In determining the nature and extent of support, the board may take into account:

- the extent to which the work contributes to the development and practice of performing arts in the NT
- the artists' understanding of the potential audience and the quality of their engagement with Territory audiences
- the contribution the work may make to the diversity of NT performing arts and whether it adds to the rich diversity of cultural practices within the Top End of the Territory.
- the resources/funds required to properly support the work and whether sufficient resources are likely to be available through Brown's Mart or otherwise.
- the nature and shape of Brown's Mart Arts' programs currently and in the future
- artform diversity
- cultural and linguistic diversity
- whether cultural and community protocols have been observed
- what kind of impact the work may have locally, nationally or internationally
- the extent to which the work promotes or enables high quality contemporary performing arts
- the pride and pleasure we give to NT audiences knowing that vital, exceptional work is being created in the Territory by local artists for a local audience.
- The extent to which the work promotes the Brown's Mart venue and the public's positive perceptions of the venue and of Brown's Mart Arts
- consistency with the aims of Brown's Mart Arts and its vision for the practice and development of performing arts
- the extent and nature of support by Brown's Mart Arts (financial and otherwise) and the extent of support required relative to its overall resources and program

Finally, Artists should be aware that:

- Brown's Mart will not produce work that might reasonably be considered to be unlawful in any respect (e.g., by reason of racial vilification or the depiction of child pornography). The decision of the board of Brown's Mart in this respect will be final.
- In any event, the board is likely to require a strong, persuasive artistic rationale for works that may tend to generate extreme offence or upset.
- It is essential that any aspect of work that may attract the above principles be drawn to the attention of the Executive Director at the earliest opportunity.