

For Immediate Release

Monday 23 May 2022

Melbourne Prize for Music opens entries, heralding support for local musicians

- Prize pool valued at over \$90,000
- Three prize categories provide valuable career development for Victorian musicians
- Three esteemed music sector professionals appointed to 2022 judging panel

From today, Victorian musicians and groups, including performers and composers, can apply for significant career development opportunities by entering Australia's most valuable and sought-after music prize - **the Melbourne Prize for Music 2022 & Awards**.

Valued at more than \$90,000, the Melbourne Prize for Music 2022 & Awards is open to entrants across all genres offering three categories geared towards career development, as well as a public choice award.

Melbourne Prize Trust Executive Director, Mr Simon Warrender said, "the Melbourne Prize for Music 2022 & Awards comes at a time when support for the creative sector is needed."

"We have such a vibrant music sector in Victoria and with the support of our generous partners and patrons, we are delighted to be able to offer this year's program," Mr Warrender said.

"The annual Melbourne Prize supports our writers, sculptors and musicians to celebrate and encourage creativity and to enrich public life - this year our focus is music, which touches us all," Mr Warrender added.

The Melbourne Prize for Music 2022 & Awards include the following categories:

\$60,000 MELBOURNE PRIZE FOR MUSIC 2022 will be awarded to an outstanding Victorian musician or group, including performers and composers, whose body of work has made an outstanding contribution to Australian music and to cultural life. All music genres are eligible for this Prize. **Supported by Principal Patron, The Vera Moore Foundation and The Tallis Foundation.** Finalists in the Melbourne Prize 2022 will receive \$1,000 each, **supported by Federation Square.**

\$20,000 BELEURA EMERGING COMPOSERS AWARD 2022 will be awarded to an emerging Victorian composer to develop their career. All genres of composer are eligible for this Award. **Supported by The Tallis Foundation, in memory of John Tallis (1911-1996).**

\$10,000 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARD 2022 (+ \$1,000 Qantas voucher) will be awarded to a Victorian musician or group, including performers and composers, to fund project/s, travel or other proposals to assist with their music career. **Supported by Dr Alastair Jackson AM.**

\$2,000 CIVIC CHOICE AWARD 2022 will be awarded to a finalist in the Melbourne Prize for Music 2022 with the highest number of public votes. Voting opens on **7 September 2022 and closes at 5pm on 9 November 2022.**

The 2022 judges include three esteemed music sector professionals – **Professor Deborah Cheetham AO**, soprano and composer, **Helen Marcou AM**, co-founder of Bakehouse Studios and SLAM and **Benjamin Northey**, conductor.

KEY DATES:

Entries open: Monday 23 May 2022

Entries close: Monday 11 July 2022, 5pm sharp

Finalists announced: Wednesday 7 September 2022 at melbourneprize.org

Winners announced: Wednesday 9 November 2022 at melbourneprize.org

Winner of the Civic Choice Award 2022 announced: Friday 11 November 2022

For information and to enter or nominate visit www.melbourneprize.org. Entries can be made by the individual musician or group or by nomination.

For more information or for interview opportunities contact Adi Stevens at Royce on 0407411088.

- ENDS -

Progress of the Prize can be followed via our social media platforms:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Melbourne-Prize/165519083499496>

https://twitter.com/Melbourne_Prize

We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which the Melbourne Prize Trust operates, the People of the Kulin Nation, and pay our respects to the elders, past, present and future.

The Melbourne Prize for Music 2022 & Awards are made possible through the generous support of the partners and patrons, many of whom have supported the Prize since its inception in 2005. Please see the full 2022 Partner list below.

The Vera Moore Foundation is acknowledged and thanked for their outstanding support as Major Patron. Thank you to patrons Diana Gibson AO, The Yulgilbar Foundation, the MRB and Scanlon Foundations and prize and awards partners The Vera Moore Foundation, [The Tallis Foundation](#) and Dr Alastair Jackson AM. Thank you to Corporate Partners, the Hotel for the Arts, [Sofitel Melbourne On Collins](#).

The visual identity and design for this year's Prize is the creation of leading Melbourne design studio and Foundation Partner, [PLAYGROUND](#).

The Melbourne Prize Trust is proud to have the **Victorian Government**, through [Creative Victoria](#) and the [City of Melbourne Awards - Arts Excellence Program](#), as Government Partners.

The Melbourne Prize Trust is proud to have [Kutcha Edwards](#) as its Cultural Advisor.

[Fed Square](#) is the Finalist Fee and Events partner and 'home' of the Melbourne Prize. Their generous support from inception of the annual Melbourne Prize is greatly appreciated.

Notes to the editor:

Launched in 2004, the [Melbourne Prize Trust](#) was established to recognise and reward talent, excellence and inspire creative development. The Trust achieves this aim by running the annual Melbourne Prize, which is funded by a collaboration of private and public sector partnerships and patrons. The Melbourne Prize Trust and annual Melbourne Prize were founded by Executive Director, Simon Warrender. [Committee for Melbourne](#) is a founding supporter.

In its 17th year and being one of the most valuable arts prizes of its kind in Australia, the annual Melbourne Prize operates in a three-year cycle, including the Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture (2020), the Melbourne Prize for Literature (2021) and the Melbourne Prize for Music (2022).

Since inception, the annual Melbourne Prize has made available more than \$1.8 million in prizes and awards, artist residencies, equipment grants and an annual public exhibition at Federation Square to Victorian writers, sculptors and musicians.

The origins of the Melbourne Prize Trust date back to *The Magic Pudding* sculpture commission, as part of a children's garden concept, at the [Royal Botanic Garden Melbourne](#) – an initiative of Simon Warrender implemented in 1998 through Committee for Melbourne's Future Focus Group. Miniatures of this sculpture are available for purchase through the Melbourne Prize Trust; a Deductible Gift Recipient and Income Tax Exempt Charity.

All announcements and further information will be available at www.melbourneprize.org

Past recipients - Melbourne Prize for Music & Awards

Melbourne Prize for Music

2019 Deborah Cheetham AO
2016 Kutcha Edwards
2013 Brett Dean
2010 David Jones
2007 Professor Paul Grabowsky AO

Outstanding Musicians Award

2016 Scott Tinkler
2013 Stephen Magnusson
2010 Ben Northey
2007 Genevieve Lacey

Development Award

2019 Mojo Juju
2016 Matthias Schack-Arnott
2013 Kate Kelsey-Sugg
2010 Natalie Bartsch
2007 Julian Langdon

Beleura Emerging Composers Award

2019 Andrea Keller
2016 Kate Neal

Distinguished Musicians Fellowship

2019 - Erkki Veltheim

Thank you to our 2022 partners and patrons

Major Patron



Government Partners



Event Partner and
Finalist/Judges Fees



Melbourne Prize for
Music 2022 Partners



Beleura Emerging Composer
Award 2022 Patron



Professional Development
Award 2022 Patron

Dr Alastair Jackson AM

Patrons

Diana Gibson AO



scanlon
foundation

MRB Foundation

Founding Partners



MinterEllison

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Professional Services



Website Design and Management

PLAYGROUND

The Mighty Wonton

Signage & AV

premiergraphics
architectural & environmental signage



Media Communications

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Trophies



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