

For Immediate Release

Wednesday, 9 November 2022

## Winners announced in coveted Melbourne Prize for Music 2022 & Awards

- Prize pool of over \$90,000 provides valuable career development for three Victorian musicians.

The winner of one of Australia's most valuable and sought-after music awards has been announced today at Fed Square.

Valued at \$60,000, the **Melbourne Prize for Music 2022** recognises an outstanding contribution to Australian music and our cultural life and provides the recipient with career development opportunities. **Supported by Major Patron The Vera Moore Foundation, and The Tallis Foundation.**

**The Melbourne Prize for Music 2022 winner is MISSY HIGGINS** [www.missyhiggins.com](http://www.missyhiggins.com)

This year's winner joins impressive alumni, including Professor Deborah Cheetham AO (2019), Kutcha Edwards (2017), Brett Dean (2013), David Jones (2010), Professor Paul Grabowsky AO (2007).

Melbourne Prize Trust Executive Director, Mr Simon Warrender said, "We are delighted with the response this year and the support we have had from the music sector. I would like to congratulate the finalists and winner and express my thanks to all entrants. This year's activities would not have been possible without the generous support of our partners and patrons – thank you one and all."

Melbourne Lord Mayor, Sally Capp said, "Music is intrinsically part of Melbourne, with live music filling our streets and music venues every single day. We're a city that has launched global music careers for decades, and this year's Melbourne Prize winners cement our legacy. Thank you to the Melbourne Prize Trust for supporting future stars, and recognising their incredible tenacity in the face of extraordinary pressures over the past two years."

**LIZA LIM** [www.lizalimcomposer.com](http://www.lizalimcomposer.com), **MINDY MENG-WANG** [www.mindymengwang.com](http://www.mindymengwang.com) and **JIM WHITE** [www.jimwhitedrums.com](http://www.jimwhitedrums.com) are the finalists in the Melbourne Prize 2022 and receive \$1,000 each, supported by Fed Square.

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

**Judge's Statement:** "The range and diversity of entries this year made the process of judging as overwhelming as it was exciting. The response to the 2022 prize and awards, each of which offer the recipient direct assistance with their music careers, is testament to the resilience of the Victorian music sector. **Missy Higgins**, **Annie Hui-Hsin Hsieh** and **Jessica Hitchcock** are remarkable talents and inspirations of personal achievement and commitment to their music. Each has made a unique and substantial contribution to Australian music and in turn our cultural life. Congratulations to the three finalists in the Melbourne Prize for Music 2022 and thank you to the many entrants this year across all three categories, as well as the local music sector for supporting this initiative. Music is an essential part of all our lives and well-being and enriches our community and we want to see the sector thrive in years to come."

**ANNIE HUI-HSIN HSEIH** [www.anniehuihsinhsieh.com](http://www.anniehuihsinhsieh.com) is the winner of the \$20,000 **Beleura Emerging Composers Award 2022** to develop her music career. **Supported by The Tallis Foundation, in memory of John Tallis (1911-1996).**

**JESSICA HITCHCOCK** [www.jesshitchcockmusic.com](http://www.jesshitchcockmusic.com) is the winner of the **\$10,000 (plus \$1,000 Qantas voucher) Professional Development Award 2022** to fund project/s to assist with her music career. **Supported by Dr Alastair Jackson AM.**

The winner of the **\$2,000 Civic Choice Award 2022** will be announced at [www.melbourneprize.org](http://www.melbourneprize.org) on November 11.

## KEY DATES:

**Winners announced:** 6.30pm Wednesday 9 November 2022 at [melbourneprize.org](http://melbourneprize.org)

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

For information visit [www.melbourneprize.org](http://www.melbourneprize.org)

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](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 most generous support as Major Patron.

Thank you to our Prize and Awards partners **The Vera Moore Foundation**, [The Tallis Foundation](#) and **Dr Alastair Jackson AM**.

Thank you to patrons **Diana Gibson AO**, **Lady Southey AC**, **The Yulgilbar Foundation**, **The MRB Foundation**, **The Scanlon Foundation** and **30 Ten Art Studio**.

Thank you to Corporate Partners [Sofitel Melbourne On Collins](#), *the Hotel for the Arts*.

The visual identity and design for this year's annual Melbourne Prize is the creation of leading Melbourne design studio and Foundation Partner, [PLAYGROUND](#). Thank you to CEO Sally Dobell, Creative Director Adit Wardhana, Kim Hankin and designer, Ezekiel Crawford.

[Fed Square](#) is a Foundation Events Partner and 'home' of the annual Melbourne Prize and have provided the finalist and judge's fees. Their generous support from inception is greatly appreciated.

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.

Thank you to [Committee for Melbourne](#) for providing the office for the [Melbourne Prize Trust](#) and to our founding and operations partners listed below.

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

Thank you to [The Mighty Wonton](#) for our IT support and website development.

## 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 18th 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 (2023), the Melbourne Prize for Literature (2024) and the Melbourne Prize for Music (2025).

Since inception, the annual Melbourne Prize has made available over \$2 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 and the project group, 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](http://www.melbourneprize.org)

## Past recipients - Melbourne Prize for Music & Awards

### Melbourne Prize for Music

2019 Professor 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.

Design by **PLAYGROUND**

Major Patron



Government Partners



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  
Lady Southey AC



MRB Foundation



Event Partner and Finalist/Judges Fees



Founding Partners



MinterEllison

Creative Partner

**PLAYGROUND**

Corporate Partner



Professional Services



Website Design and Management

**PLAYGROUND**  
The Mighty Wonton

Signage & AV



Media Communications

**ROYCECOMM.**

Print Partners



Rothfield

Banners



Trophies

