



**MEDIA RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
10th October, 2018**

INAUGURAL AUSTRALIAN WOMEN IN MUSIC AWARDS WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The inaugural *Australian Women in Music Awards (AWMA)* have been presented at a star-studded ceremony at a packed-out Brisbane Powerhouse.

The night was an electrifying celebration of the leadership, achievements and musicianship of some of our most outstanding women in Australia's music industry. The event featured sensational live performances from **Kate Ceberano, Katie Noonan, Kween G, Merenia Marin, Adalita, Lou Bennett (Tiddas), Sophie Koh, Zoe Hauptmann, Gordi, Ancestress, Emily Wurramara** and a show-stopping reunion performance by **Do Re Mi** featuring musical icons **Deborah Conway** and **Helen Carter**.

For the first time in Australian music history, the AWMA's have recognised the outstanding contributions of women across all areas of the Australian music industry. Fourteen **AWMAs** were presented at the ceremony - each assessed by a specially-convened Jury Council comprised of industry professionals and practitioners of the highest calibre.

Musical pioneer, **Helen Reddy**, was also the very first inductee into the AWMA honor roll last night, in recognition of her remarkable achievements not only as a singer/songwriter over the last 4 decades, but also for her indelible contribution to the women's movement. Reddy's Grammy-winning song '*I Am Woman*' has been universally-recognised as the unofficial anthem for women's rights and female empowerment since the 1970's.

"Congratulations to all of tonight's winners and finalists and a huge heart felt thank you to everyone who has believed in AWMA and the possibility for change. This evening we have celebrated and acknowledged the value of women across all areas of the Australian Music Industry. I am proud that AWMA has created a powerful platform to build a meaningful conversation about inclusivity, diversity and equality". said AWMA founder and director, Vicki Gordon.



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INAUGURAL AUSTRALIAN WOMEN IN MUSIC AWARDS WINNERS

APRA AMCOS Songwriter Award

Recognises a female songwriter or composer who has made extraordinary impact nationally and/or internationally in the past 12 months.

WINNER - Gordi (Sophie Payten)

SHEBAH Music Leadership Award

Recognises a female CEO, Managing Director, Label Manager, A&R Director, Artist Manager or Publisher making significant impact in music industry leadership.

WINNER - Jen Cloher

SSI Diversity in Music Award

Recognises individual artists or female-driven musical collaborations for their contribution to advancing a culturally diverse and inclusive music industry.

WINNER - Mission Songs Project

AWMA Studio Production Award

Recognises a female sound engineer or producer who has made contributions of outstanding significance in the studio recording environment.

WINNER - Anna Laverty

Canon Australia Music Photographer Award

Recognises a female music photographer currently working in the field and to acknowledge her body of work.

WINNER - Wendy McDougall



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Spotify Creative Leadership Award

A curatorial award recognising excellence in creative programming and/or content creation from a woman working in a music festival, live performance/venue or media setting to champion female artists.

WINNER - Zoe Hauptmann

CICADA International Breakthrough Artist Award

Recognises a female artist who has had a significant breakthrough impact nationally in the past 12 months.

TIED WINNERS - Camp Cope and Amy Shark

Twitter Australia Artistic Excellence Award

Recognises exceptional creative achievement from a female artist/musician across any genre.

WINNER - Ngaiire

Canon Australia Film-maker Award

Recognises a female music videographer, clip-maker or film-maker currently working in the field and to acknowledge her body of work.

WINNER - Claudia Sangiorgi Dalimore

AWMA Live Production Award

Recognises a female working in a live production or touring environment making significant impact in her field: Includes Tour Management, Live Sound, Lighting, Backstage and Roadcrew

WINNER - Robyn Jelleff

The Calile Hotel Musical Excellence Award

Recognises exceptional musicianship from a female musician across any genre.

TIED WINNERS - Lydia Davies and Nerida Tyson-Chew



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QUT Creative Industries Faculty Educator Award

Recognises an individual who has made a significant and lasting contribution to the field of music education and/or to empowering Indigenous female artists in remote and regional communities.

WINNER - Dr Anita Collins

CAAMA Auriel Andrew Memorial Award

Recognises a true pioneer of Aboriginal women in music.

WINNER – Deborah Cheetham AO

Industry Observer Lifetime Achievement Award

Presented to a female artist or musician who has made outstanding artistic contribution to the field of recording and/or live performance during her lifetime.

WINNERS - Renée Geyer, Patricia 'Little Pattie' Amphlett, Margret RoadKnight

Queensland Minister for Women, Di Farmer said the awards showcased the enormous depth of talent women continued to bring to the music industry and praised award recipients for their achievements.

“Women make up almost half of Australians with a music **qualification** and half of those studying music – yet only one-fifth of songwriters are women,” she said.

“Women hold only 28 per cent of senior and strategic roles in key industry associations, and female artists earn less in general than their male counterparts.

“I congratulate the Australian Women in Music Awards committee for their work towards encouraging more girls and women in to the music industry”.

Queensland Minister for the Arts Leanne Enoch said the Queensland Government was committed to supporting the arts and nurturing the state’s creative talent.

“The Queensland Government has invested in initiatives to showcase the work of female musicians, including the Carol Lloyd Award, which was established with Queensland Government support to nurture emerging



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singer-songwriters.

“I am proud that Queensland has hosted these inaugural awards, shining a well-deserved spotlight on the many talented women in Australia’s music industry”.

Tourism Industry Development Minister Kate Jones said Brisbane was the perfect location to host these inaugural awards, “This event reinforces Brisbane’s reputation as a world-class events and music host”.

www.womeninmusicawards.com.au

Australian Women in Music Awards has been made possible with support from the Queensland Government as the Principal Partner, Major Partner Canon, Strategic Partner Tourism Events Queensland and others.

-ENDS-

For further information, images and interview requests:

KABUKU PUBLIC RELATIONS

(02) 9690 2115

Belinda Dyer: Belinda@kabukupr.com.au | 0415 686 014

Emma Jones: Emma@kabukupr.com.au | 0411 474 359