

# AWMA

AUSTRALIAN  
WOMEN IN  
MUSIC  
AWARDS

## 2023 Program



BRISBANE 26–27 SEPTEMBER 2023  
CONFERENCE | FIRST NATIONS WOMEN'S MUSIC SHOWCASE  
AWARDS CEREMONY, CONCERT & PARTY

VANESSA AMOROSI • SARAH MCLEOD • VIKA & LINDA  
BECCY COLE • DAMI IM • HOT BROWN HONEY  
SAMIRA EL KOUSSA • CANDICE BANKOVACKI  
VÉRONIQUE SERRET

**CONFERENCE PROGRAM**  
**TUESDAY 26 SEPTEMBER**  
HOTEL X, 458 BRUNSWICK ST  
FORTITUDE VALLEY  
DOORS OPEN AT NOON

**CONFERENCE CONVENOR** Yumi Stynes – Feminist television & radio presenter, podcaster & author

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## FORUM 1 – THE VOICE

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**The changing significance of First Nations women's voices in music and the arts.**

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### FACILITATOR

**Toni Janke** – Singer/Songwriter, Consultant Toni Janke Productions

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### PANELLISTS

**Nartarsha Bamblett (Queen Acknowledgements)**

Educator, Dancer and Curator

**Deline Briscoe** – Songwoman, Vocalist with Briscoe Sisters

**Karina Hogan** – Journalist @ABC, Podcast & Documentary Producer

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2023 is an historic year for First Nations people with the upcoming referendum to change the Constitution to recognise First Nations people by establishing a national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice.

First Nations women in the music industry have been using their voices for many years to speak up about various issues that affect First Nations people. Panellists share their thoughts about a national Voice, the impact of the referendum on First Nations people, the future of Australia and the ever-evolving and changing significance of First Nations women's voices in music and the arts.

## FORUM 2 – BEYOND THE HYPE

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**Is the music industry just paying lip service to diversity?**

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### FACILITATOR

**Athesia** – Haitian French Canadian/Australian multilingual entertainer and jazz singer-songwriter

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### PANELLISTS

**Zela Margossian** – Australian pianist of Armenian heritage

**Vyviene Abla** – Director and Executive Producer of Vyva Entertainment

**Gloria Kolya** – Singer, songwriter and dancer based in Gadigal/Sydney

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During this open and honest discussion, industry-leading women deconstruct the buzz around diversity within the arts, share stories and explore questions like "Does diversity go beyond appearances?" and "Is there space for non-English, non-Western music in our mainstream?".

Join us as we explore who decides what Australia's music looks, feels and sounds like and how we can move beyond the hype when it comes to diversity.

## FORUM 3 – ACCESSIBLE ALL AREAS

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**Is the future of music accessible to women living with disability?**

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### FACILITATOR

**Eliza Hull** – Musician, Writer, Disability Advocate

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### PANELLISTS

**Maddie Little** – Festival Director, Undercover Artist Festival, Access Consultant, Actor, Singer

**Tanya Batt (BATTS)** – Disabled Musical Artist, Advocate

**Elly May Barnes** – Disabled Musical Artist, Advocate

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What is it like being a musician living with disability? How do we have better representation without being tokenistic? As the world of technology continues to expand, we have a unique opportunity to improve access and inclusion in the music industry for women living with disability in Australia. Currently, disabled musical artists struggle to even get through the door!

This panel brings together musicians living with disability, and accessibility consultants. They will discuss the barriers that musicians face, the ways venues, labels and festivals can improve accessibility and representation for artists and audiences, and how technology can improve accessibility for everyone.

## CONFERENCE PROGRAM (CONTINUED)

WEDNESDAY 27 SEPTEMBER

HOTEL X, 458 BRUNSWICK ST

FORTITUDE VALLEY

DOORS OPEN AT 9:30AM

### FORUM 4 – BREAKING METAL BARRIERS

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**The evolution of women in the heavy music scene.**

**FACILITATOR**

**Ebony Story** – Music journalist

**PANELLISTS**

**Candice Bankovacki** – Vocalist, Crave Death

**Tiana Speter** – Owner & Editor, The Soundcheck

**Emmy Mack** – Vocalist, Redhook

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The heavy music scene is an inclusive space, but does that extend to women?

Women have had to prove they are strong enough to handle this genre – strong enough to hold their own in the pit at a gig, strong enough to captivate and hold a crowd's attention, strong enough to scream as well as any man, strong enough to be accepted at the table and the list goes on.

How can we learn from other women's struggles and successes to ensure more equitable opportunities?

### IN CONVERSATION WITH VANESSA AMOROSI

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**FACILITATOR**

**Yumi Stynes**

Feminist television & radio presenter, podcaster & author

**Vanessa Amorosi**

Multi-platinum Australian singer-songwriter & recording artist with combined album/single sales of over two million worldwide.

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This far into her stellar career, Australian artist Vanessa Amorosi is one of the most exciting singers on the planet. Her song writing and dynamic vocal range have seen the artist sell over two million records worldwide.

She has released seven commercially and critically acclaimed studio albums, rising to fame in 1999 with the release of her debut Gold single "Have a Look". The following year she achieved international success with her five-times Platinum debut album "The Power", released on the independent record label Transistor Music, performing her hit single "Absolutely Everybody" at the Closing Ceremony of the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney which became the unofficial anthem of the games, achieving Top 5 in 23 European countries including the United Kingdom and Germany.

2009 saw the release of her platinum-selling album "Hazardous". The first single to be released, "This Is Who I Am" debuted at #1 on the ARIA singles chart and achieved Double Platinum sales. Vanessa had the honour of recording duets with superstar Mary J. Blige and American rock band Hoobastank the same year.

She was back in the charts with her fourth Top 10 album, "City Of Angels", debuting at #1 on the ARIA Australian Albums Chart, #7 on the ARIA Album Chart and #1 on the Independent Music Charts. "City Of Angels" was released through Vanessa's own Record Label "Scream Louder Records" and her small dedicated team, achieving Top 10 with its first release.



FIRST NATIONS WOMEN'S MUSIC SHOWCASE  
SISTER YOU ARE A QUEEN  
TUESDAY 26 SEPTEMBER  
WHAT'S GOLDEN, THE TIVOLI, BRISBANE  
DOORS OPEN 7PM

*Sister*

YOU ARE A  
*Queen*

GLVES • JEM CASSAR-DALEY • KAWEYOVA  
KRISTAL WEST • MEGAN SAMARDIN • SUGA CANE MAMAS  
BRISCOE SISTERS • THE MERINDAS

MCs – DIZZY DOOLAN & HOPE ONE

**AUSTRALIAN WOMEN IN MUSIC  
AWARDS CEREMONY, CONCERT & PARTY  
WEDNESDAY 27 SEPTEMBER  
THE TIVOLI, BRISBANE  
DOORS OPEN FROM 7PM**

**AUSTRALIAN WOMEN IN MUSIC AWARDS CEREMONY, CONCERT & PARTY**

Join MCs Yumi Stynes & Nartarsha Bamblett (Queen Acknowledgements) for the presentation of the fourth annual Australian Women in Music Awards Ceremony, Concert & Party – a music event like no other.

Performances by:

**VANESSA AMOROSI  
SARAH MCLEOD  
VIKA & LINDA  
BECCY COLE  
DAMI IM  
HOT BROWN HONEY  
SAMIRA EL KOUSSA  
CANDICE BANKOVACKI  
VÉRONIQUE SERRET**

Concert tickets include access to the after-show party.

**AWMA CREATIVE TEAM**

Program Director  
Ceremony Director  
Music Director  
First Nations Curators

**Vicki Gordon  
Gina Hall  
Zoe Hauptmann  
Dizzy Doolan & Toni Janke**

**AWMA HOUSE BAND**

Bassist  
Keys  
Guitar  
Drums

**Zoe Hauptmann  
Sarah Belkner  
Kat Ayala  
Lozz Benson**

**AWMA IS PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY**

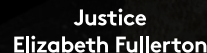
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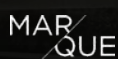
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**PRODUCTION PARTNERS**



**LEGAL COUNSEL**



**MERCHANDISE PARTNERS**



We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this Country and pay our deep respect for their worldview, connection to Country and healing knowledge.