

Media Release

Wednesday, 4 September 2013

For immediate release



Melbourne Prize for Music 2013 Finalists Announced

The finalists in one of Australia's most valuable music awards, the Melbourne Prize for Music 2013, along with the Outstanding Musicians Award 2013 and Development Award 2013, have been announced today.

This year's finalists represent the abundant musical talent in Victoria and cover a wide range of genres. Melbourne is one of the world's most celebrated musical cities, widely acknowledged as the music capital of the southern hemisphere, and the Melbourne Prize for Music 2013 provides recognition and opportunities for Victorian musicians.

The **\$60,000 Melbourne Prize for Music 2013** will be awarded to a Victorian musician, or group of musicians, who has made an outstanding contribution to Australian music and has enriched cultural and public life. **Supported by The Vera Moore Foundation, The Tallis Foundation & Melbourne Prize Trust. The finalists are:**

**Brett Dean
Tony Gould
Mick Harvey
Shane Howard
Wilma Smith**

The **\$30,000 Outstanding Musicians Award 2013** - plus **\$2,500 of Qantas international travel** - will be presented to a Victorian musician, or group of musicians for recent work representing an outstanding example of creativity and skill. **Supported by the late Dame Elisabeth Murdoch AC DBE. The finalists are:**

**Ros Bandt
Grigoryan Brothers
Stephen Magnusson
Gian Slater
Eugene Ughetti
Erkki Veltheim
Bart Willoughby
Ainslie Wills
Julien Wilson
Lisa Young**

The **\$13,000 Development Award 2013** will be presented to a musician or group of musicians, 30 years and under, who demonstrates outstanding musical talent with the potential to develop their professional career. The Award consists of a \$6,000 rrp. music instrument and equipment grant **supported by Yamaha Music Australia Pty Ltd. and \$7,000 cash provided through the Melbourne Prize Trust. The finalists are:**

**Michael Bakrnchev
Helen Croome
Jessica Jiang
Adam Katz
Kate Kelsey-Sugg**

Voting for the \$4,000 Civic Choice Award 2013 commences today at www.melbourneprize.org. A residency with the Faculty of the Victorian College of the Arts and Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, The University of Melbourne is also on offer.

The recipient in each category will be announced on Wednesday, 13 November at www.melbourneprize.org.



The Melbourne Prize 2013 judging panel consists of some of Australia's most respected musical identities including, singer songwriter and Artistic Director, Adelaide Cabaret Festival **Kate Ceberano**, Dean of the University of Melbourne's Faculty of the VCA and MCM **Professor Barry Conyngham**, Pianist, Composer, Conductor and Director of the Monash Academy of Performing Arts **Professor Paul Grabowsky**, Director of Artistic Planning of Melbourne Symphony Orchestra **Huw Humphreys**, and Composer, Producer and Musical Director **Chong Lim**.

Interest in this year's Prize has been considerable. Melbourne Prize Trust Executive Director Simon Warrender has been delighted with both the quality and number of responses.

"The finalists for the Melbourne Prize for Music, Outstanding Musicians Award and Development Award have been chosen from an immensely strong list of entrants across all genres. They are testimony to the creativity and vitality of musical talent in Victoria and the diversity of music genres in our community. Thank you to all entrants this year.

"With the generous support and community investment of our 2013 partners and patrons, the Melbourne Prize for Music 2013 and awards reinforce Melbourne and Victoria's reputation as a centre of opportunity for musicians."

A free public exhibition will be held at Federation Square, Melbourne from 8 to 22 November 2013, which will showcase the finalists in each category. Federation Square is the exhibition and event partner of the annual Melbourne Prize.

For the first time, the **\$4,000 Civic Choice Award 2013** is offered and will be awarded to the finalist with the highest number of public votes. The online voting form is available at melbourneprize.org from today and will close at 5pm on 22 November 2013 at the end of the Federation Square exhibition. Voting will also be possible in the catalogue, which will be available during the November exhibition. Voters will go into the running to win a luxury overnight stay at Sofitel Melbourne On Collins. This Award is generously supported by Readings and the Sofitel Melbourne On Collins.

This year marks the ninth year of the annual Melbourne Prize, which runs in a three-year cycle to benefit and demonstrate the importance of our creative sectors in Victoria in literature, music and sculpture. It is estimated that, including this year's prize and awards, the Melbourne Prize Trust, which runs the annual Melbourne Prize, will have made available more than \$900,000, plus professional development and public exhibition support of the arts since its foundation in 2004.

Mr Warrender added, "Our activities would not be possible without the generous support of our many partners and patrons, many of whom have been with the Prize since inception – all recognise that importance of supporting and developing our arts and culture. We are delighted to have the State Government as a partner through Arts Victoria and the City of Melbourne through its Triennial Grants Program - Arts and Culture."

This year's winners will join an esteemed group of past recipients including, most recently, drummer/percussionist David Jones (Melbourne Prize for Music 2010), conductor Ben Northey (Outstanding Musicians Award 2010), and pianist/composer Natalie Bartsch (Development Award 2010).

For more information, including all the latest announcements on the Melbourne Prize for Music 2013, visit www.melbourneprize.org. You can also keep up to date with news from this year's Melbourne Prize program on social media:

TWITTER: @Melbourne_Prize

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

--- Ends ---



Interviews with Melbourne Prize Trust Executive Director, Simon Warrender, along with finalists and judges are available upon request. For more information, please contact: **Tony Faccenda, Royce Communications, T: 03 8628 9362 / M: 0411 231 433**

Notes to the editor:

Key dates

4 September 2013 - Finalists announced
8 to 22 November 2013 - Finalist Exhibition at Federation Square
13 November 2013 - Recipients announced
29 November 2013 - Civic Choice Award 2013 announced

About the Melbourne Prize

The annual Melbourne Prize is the most valuable prize of its kind in Australia and runs in a three-year cycle, which includes the Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture (2011), the Melbourne Prize for Literature (2012) and the Melbourne Prize for Music 2013. The cycle commences again with the Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2014, which will be the 10 year anniversary of the annual Melbourne Prize.

Since inception the annual Melbourne Prize has made available approximately \$900,000 in prizes and awards, plus artist residencies, equipment grants and an annual public exhibition at Federation Square to Victorian writers, sculptors and musicians.

About the Melbourne Prize Trust

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 partners and patrons. The Melbourne Prize Trust is an initiative of the Committee for Melbourne. The design and brand identity is by Cornwell.

A full list of partners and patrons can be found over the page, and at www.melbourneprize.org.

The origins of the Melbourne Prize Trust date back to *The Magic Pudding* sculpture commission and children's garden precinct at the Royal Botanic Garden Melbourne. The Melbourne Prize Trust is a Deductible Gift Recipient and Income Tax Exempt Charity.

Past Melbourne Prize for Music and awards winners

2010

Melbourne Prize for Music 2010

David Jones *drummer / percussionist*

Outstanding Musicians Award 2010

Ben Northey *conductor*

Development Award 2010

Natalie Bartsch *pianist / composer*

2007

Melbourne Prize for Music 2007

Professor Paul Grabowsky *pianist, composer, conductor*

Outstanding Musicians Award 2007

Genevieve Lacey *recorder virtuoso*

Development Award 2007
Julian Langdon *composer*



The annual Melbourne Prize
Past recipients - 2005 to 2012



Melbourne Prize for Music 2010
David Jones

Outstanding Musicians Award 2010
Ben Northey

Development Award 2010
Natalie Bartsch



Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2011
Bianca Hester

Professional Development Award 2011
Isaac Greener & Lucas Maddock

Civic Choice Award 2011
Isaac Greener & Lucas Maddock



Melbourne Prize for Literature 2012
Alex Miller

Best Writing Award 2012
Craig Sherborne

Civic Choice Award 2012
Tony Birch



Melbourne Prize for Literature 2009
Gerald Murnane

Best Writing Award 2009
Nam Le

Civic Choice Award 2009
Amra Pajalic



Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2008
Alexander Knox

Professional Development Award 2008
Tom Nicholson

VicUrban Award 2008
Louise Paramor

Civic Choice Award 2008
Elaine Miles



Melbourne Prize for Music 2007
Paul Grabowski

Outstanding Musicians Award 2007
Genevieve Lacey

Development Award 2007
Julian Langdon



Melbourne Prize for Literature 2006
Helen Garner

Best Writing Award 2006
Christos Tsiolkas

Civic Choice Award 2006
Henry von Doussa



Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture 2005
Open Spatial Workshop

Professional Development Award 2005
Karen Abernethy

Civic Choice Award 2005
Matthew de Moiser



Government Partners



Founding Partners



Corporate Partners



Exhibition and Event Partner



Melbourne Prize for Music 2013 Partners



Outstanding Musicians Award 2013 Patron

Dame Elisabeth Murdoch
AC DBE

Patrons

Diana Gibson AO

Nathan & Pamela
Jacobson



Development Award 2013 Partners



Civic Choice Award 2013 Partner



Professional Services



Media Communications



Exhibition Signage & AV



Print Partners



IT Services

littleirrepressiblewonton.com
Names24.com.au

Exhibition Consultant

Coleby Consulting

Banners



Trophies



an initiative of the Committee for Melbourne

Design by Cornwell