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MONDAY OCTOBER 21, 2019**



*Amy Shark, 2019 Queensland Music Awards Performing Artist. Image by Bianca Holderness.*

## **The Queensland Music Awards launch new *Emerging Artist Of The Year* Award for 2020 plus \$24,000 Songwriting Prize**

The 2020 Queensland Music Awards (QMAs), produced by **QMusic** and taking place on **Tuesday 3 March 2020 at The Fortitude Music Hall**, has unveiled an exciting new Major Award category with the ***Emerging Artist Of The Year*** Award.

Open to all early-career Queensland musicians, entries are open now and close midnight, Thursday 24 October 2019.

The ***Emerging Artist Of The Year*** Award will recognise the valuable contributions made by Queensland's newest musicians. Artists with up to five years professional songwriting experience and with a modest body of artistic work will be automatically eligible for the Major Award on submission to a self-nominating category.

The winner of the ***Emerging Artist of the Year*** will receive a **Noisegate Producer Package** valued at \$2905.

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They will also receive a one-on-one session with a leading booking agent, manager and publicist as well as a QMusic one-on-one session and an invitation to attend the 2020 Amplify Songwriting Retreat. ([Ts&Cs](#))

“QMusic has introduced the **Emerging Artist of the Year Award** to showcase our commitment to supporting and developing emerging artists in our local music industry,” said QMusic CEO and QMAs Executive Producer Angela Samut.

“We support the careers of artists at every stage in their careers and with this new Emerging Award, we endeavour to identify new and exciting talent in Queensland and to be able to work with them in putting in place career pathways to help them achieve success.

“As well as the winner, QMusic will be reaching out to the five runners up for the **Emerging Artist of the Year Award** and place them in a QMusic *Ones to Watch and Listen* initiative providing them with opportunities as well as highlighting their work through our QMusic playlists and video storytelling.”

“We’re extremely excited to partner with QMusic and the QMAs to celebrate the best artists from across Queensland,” said Jack Ball, Hit105 Content Director/Head of Content Hit Queensland.

“The Hit Network reaches more than 1million Queenslanders across the state and we can’t wait to hear and support the next wave of Queensland artists to take on the world.”

The **Song Of The Year** promotional prize, provided by the event’s media partners **The Music** and **Hit Network** will be returning for its third year and increase to \$24,000 in 2020 providing in kind media support to the recipient.

Brisbane-based singer songwriter **Clea** took home this year’s Pop Award and Song of the Year Award with her song *Dreaming* and received a plaque on the Fortitude Valley’s **Walk of Fame**.

QMusic is also thrilled to announce the QMAs judging panel will be the event’s largest panel of music and media professionals in its nine-year history when the former QSong Awards became the QMAs. Queensland musicians will have their music heard by key operators within the **Australian and international** music marketplace.

New judges joining the QMA’s and hailing from international waters include A&R Consultant/Manager **Hosh Gureli** (US) who has worked in the music industry for 25+ years, holding track credits with artists such as Swedish House Mafia. **Sub Pop Records** Publicist and A&R, **Bekah Zietz-Flynn** (USA) also joins the judging panel.

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Queensland-based judges include writer and producer **Kon Kersting** (Tones And I, Mallrat, Tia Gostelow) and **Splendour In The Grass/Falls Festival** Managing Director **Elise Huntley** who's coming up on 30 years in the music industry.

Further judges include **prominent music industry executives**, festival programmers, booking agents, A&R, radio personalities and tastemakers representing an outstanding breadth and depth of experience.

The eighth annual **QMAs** will take place at **The Fortitude Music Hall** on **Tuesday 3 March 2020**. Tickets will be available purchase early next year with an early bird offer to all QMusic members.

Songwriters (and filmmakers) across Queensland are encouraged to enter their songs in the QMAs and the [Billy Thorpe Scholarship](#) by **midnight Thursday 24 October** via the [QMAs website](#).

For more details, entry information and a list of previous winners, visit [www.queenslandmusicawards.com.au](http://www.queenslandmusicawards.com.au)

For all media enquiries, please contact Carlia Fuller on – [carlia@qmusic.com.au](mailto:carlia@qmusic.com.au) or (07) 3257 0013

Highlights from the 2019 QMAs can be watched [here](#).

**#QldMusicAwards**

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[www.queenslandmusicawards.com.au](http://www.queenslandmusicawards.com.au)

**ARE YOU A QMUSIC MEMBER? [Join today.](#)**

**2020 Queensland Music Award Judges include (with more judges to be confirmed):**

*Bekah Zietz-Flynn (USA), Publicist & A&R Sub Pop*

*Alicia Sbrugnera, As Head of Music Culture & Editorial for Spotify ANZ*

*Sahara Herald, Tour Director / Frontier Touring Company*

*Hosh Gureli, A&R Consultant / Manager Primary Wave (Toni Braxton, Whitney Houston, Swedish House Mafia, Audien)*

*Brett Murrehy, WME Head Of Asia Pacific For Music*

*Evan Davis, Managing Director of Talent Secret Sounds*

*Elise Huntley, Managing Director / Splendour in the Grass and Falls Festival*

*Konstantin Kersting, Producer (Tones And I, The Jungle Giants, Mallrat)*

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Alethea Beetson, *First Nations Producer of BIGSOUND / Artistic Director of Digi Youth Arts*

Matty Newton, *Senior Curator / Label Relationships Manager Amazon*

Meg Williams, *Director Inertia Label Group*

Craig Hawker, *Head of A&R / Creative Sony ATV (Thelma Plum, Empire of The Sun, Hermitude, Stylz Fuego, Angus & Julia Stone)*

John Mullen, *Head of A&R and Executive Producer of Dew Process (Mumford & Sons, Mallrat, Tkay Maidza)*

Julia Davis, *Founder & CEO New World Artists*

Mark Myers, *The Middle East / Producer (Emma Louise, Greta Stanley)*

Joc Curran, *Co-promoter Laneway Festival / Founder The Zoo / Founder The Hidden Lanes Festival*

Justin Katerberg, *Owner Vitalic Noise (Hermitude, Miami Horror, Bag Raiders, Goldroom)*

Coulter Reynolds, *Artists Manager Reynolds Management (The Killers, Sir Sly)*

Uda Widananpathirana, *Publicist Inertia Music / Programmer Dark Mofo*

Sasha Chifura, *Foreign Echo (Tkay Maizda, Tobiahs, UV Boi)*

Adam Booth, *Calibre Management / A&R Sony ATV (360, Chillinit, Adrian Eagle)*

JC (John Collins), *Artist (Powderfinger) / The Triffid / Fortitude Valley Music Hall*

Brie Jorgensen, *Artists Manager Look Out Kid / Barely Dressed Records (Courtney Barnett, Sarah Blasko, Seeker Lover Keeper)*

Heather O'Brien, *A&R Manager of EMI Music Australia (Troy Sivan, The Avalanches, Alison Wonderland)*

Andrew Stone, *Artists Manager Chugg Entertainment (Sheppard, Lime Cordiale)*

Mark Gibbons, *Head Programmer The Fortitude Music Hall / The Triffid / The Outpost*

Ally Cole, *A&R Manager Island Records*

Adam Kreeft (CAN), *Agent The Feldman Agency (Last Dinosaurs, Dune Rats, CERES)*

Yasmin Vought, *Producer/Programmer of Rage ABC*

Tim Price, *Director Collision Course / The Faction*

Lauren Baxter, *The Music Brisbane Editor*

Maya Janeska, *Project Manager, Artists Services & Development Believe Digital*

Kaylah Tyson, *Artist (Kaylah Truth)*

Martine Cotton, *Music Industry Inside Out*

John Willsteed, *Artist (Go Betweens) / QUT Senior Lecturer*

Sam Wald, *Agent WME (Gang of Youths, Gordi, Leisure, Golden Features)*

Thomas Granger, *Head of Artists Management Audiopaxx (LDRU, Elk Road, Pacific Avenue)*

Rachel Johnston, *Video Artist / Creative Director (Angus & Julian Stone, Nicki Minaj, Bernard Fanning)*

Lynette Irwin, *Director of Absolute Events*

Andrew Tuttle, *National Team Leader of Writer Services APRA AMCOS*

Christina Thiers, *A&R Manager Warner Music (Gang of Youths, I Know Leopard, These New South Whales)*

Amy Ciancio, *Akacia (Alex Lustig, Enschway, Jackal, DNMO, Cabu)*

Tom Inglis, *Owner HSF Artists Services*

Shelley Liu, *Booking Agent Vita Artists (Milan Ring, CLYPSO, Dro Carey)*

Jane Slingo, *Director Electronic Music Conference / Artists Manager (Set Mo, Sampology)*

Johnno Keetles, *National PR & Media Manager Universal Music*

Brett Wood, *Music Industry College Principal*

David Ohayon, *Yunizon Records France*

Marly Luske, *Alchemix Studio Owner & Producer*

Christian Pillot, *Hot Sunday Records / Colour Castle*

Joe Nemer, *Tour Coordinator at Illusive*

Simon Wright, *Director Learning and Public Engagement GOMA*

Trad Nathan, *Director Crowbar*

Tyler McLaughlin, *Artists Manager (Bobby Alu) / The Sound Pound*

Luke Byatt, *Futuremag Music / Streaming Manager TMRW Music Group*

Claire Morrissey, *State Promotions Manager Sony Music*

Rob Carrol, *Good Intent PR / Manager (Astral People, A.GIRL, Bootleg Rascal)*

Dan Condon, *Double J*

Gavin Boyd, *Label Owner Soul Has No Tempo (Jordan Rakei, Sampology)*

Sarah Hamilton, *Client Manager Ditto Music*

Sean Vandenberg, *Head Creative Director of Entertainment Foxtel*

Angela Kohler, *A&R Sony Music*

Siobhan Kranz, *Head of Partnerships and Campaign Strategy Mushroom Group*

Harry Young, *A&R Manager Dew Process*

Jordanne Chant, *Dinosaur City Records*

Ali Tomoana, *Co-founder/Director Soul Has No Tempo*

Joe Alexander, *Bedroom Sucks*

Thomas Parer, *Founder of Shandy*

Dan Rennie, *989FM*

Joey McGahey, *Owner Hysteria Media*

Dom Miller, *Agent New World Artists*

Alex Rozynski, *Associate Producer QPAC*

Fred Leone, *CEO of Impossible Odds*

Casey O'Shaughnessy, *Senior Agent Select Music*

Katie Rynne, *Senior Agent Village Sounds*

Fiona Priddey, *Publicist Inertia Music*

Sullivan Patten, *Next Wave Festival / Dark Mofo / UXS*

Rachel Maria Cox, *Manager Sad Grrrls Club / Artist Rachel Maria Cox*

Brodie Popple, *Agent New World Artists*

Caitlin Crawley, *Publicist Habit (Gang of Youths, Middle Kids, The Strokes)*

Megan Rowland, *Team Leader Creative Development, Creative Arts at Sunshine Coast Council*

**2020 QMA Self-Nominating Categories**

**Self-Nominating Categories & Awards**

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Schools (grades 6 - 12), Pop, Rock, Heavy, Singer Songwriter / Folk, Blues / Roots, Soul / Funk / R'n'B, Country, Hip-Hop / Rap, Electronic / Dance, Jazz / Popular World, Indigenous, Video (for filmmakers only), Regional, Remote

**Major Awards**

Emerging Artist Of The Year (NEW), Song Of The Year, Album Of The Year, Billy Thorpe Scholarship, Export Achievement Award, Grant McLennan Lifetime Achievement Award.

**People's Choice Awards**

Metro Venue Of The Year, Regional Venue Of The Year, Festival Of The Year.

**Acknowledgements**

Highest Selling Single, Highest Selling Album.

*The 2020 QMAs is produced by QMusic.*

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