Australasian Performing Right Association (APRA) and the Australian Music Centre (AMC) are proud to announce the finalists for the inaugural ART Music Awards to be held at Sydney Theatre, Walsh Bay on Tuesday, May 3rd. The ART Music Awards play a critical role in acknowledging the achievements of performers and composers in the genres of contemporary art music, jazz and experimental music.

The finalists across the nine categories are a distinguished list of both established and emerging artists, covering composition, performance, and outstanding contributions by individuals and organisations in Australian music, music education and music in a regional area.

CEO of the Australian Music Centre, John Davis said, “The range of activity represented not only by these finalists, but also more broadly in the nominations lodged for the Art Music Awards, is truly astounding, and demonstrates the vibrancy and energy of contemporary Australian creative practice in music and sound.”

In the category of WORK OF THE YEAR: INSTRUMENTAL composer Damien Ricketson is a finalist for his beautifully crafted and remarkable work, Fractured Again, a striking mixture of live performance with conventional and non-conventional instruments, installation and video art. The work is also a finalist in the Experimental Music category. Also within this category is Paul Stanhope for his composition String Quartet No. 2 – written for the Pavel Haas String Quartet, as part of his activities as Musica Viva Australia’s featured composer in 2010.

In the category of WORK OF THE YEAR: ORCHESTRAL, finalist Andrew Ford clearly demonstrates his compositional expertise in complementing the poetry of the text by Tim Winton in the piece A Dream of Drowning. The imaginative, major work Chronicles by West Australian composer James Ledger has been included in the finalists list with its excellent craftsmanship and finely balanced textures. Also included is Elena Kats-Chernin’s work Golden Kitsch written especially for percussionist Claire Edwardes and inspired by the youthful energy of the Sydney Youth Orchestra who commissioned the work, and Christopher Gordon for his work Lightfall for Horn and Orchestra, a finely crafted work which explores the broad range of the horn.

In the category of WORK OF THE YEAR: VOCAL/CHORAL finalist Andrew Schultz has captured and developed the drama of Kenneth Slessor’s great World War Two poem Beach Burial in his composition. Composer Paul Stanhope is a two-time finalist with his composition Deserts of Exile, an eerily beautiful piece with subtle lines, space and counterpoint. And the last finalist in this category is Helen Gifford with her moving chamber opera Iphigenia in Exile, setting a text by Richard Meredith. Unperformed for 25 years, this work was produced by Chamber Made Opera, Speak Percussion and Aphids in 2010 and released as perhaps the first iPad opera, made available through iTunes.

In the new category of WORK OF THE YEAR: JAZZ the composition Ashes to Ashes by West Australian composer Johannes Luebbers stands out as an intelligent work with a new sound and strong emotional content. Winner of the 2009 APRA Professional Development Award in Jazz is composer Sean Foran, going from strength to strength with his eerily beautiful composition That Which Is Not Fleeting. Composer Stuart Hunter is the last finalist in this category with The Gathering, a composition that makes an immediate statement and provides a strong foundation for each soloist.
In the category of **PERFORMANCE OF THE YEAR**, finalists **Clocked Out** and **Speak Percussion**, with their performance of Anthony Pateras’s *Refractions*, engaged in an experimental compositional style partnering uncompromising artistry within a compelling public presentation. The performance of *From the Hungry Waiting Country* (composer Elliott Gyger) by **Halcyon** was deemed a virtuoso performance with clarity and precision that reached out to the audience.

**Jane Sheldon** (soprano) and **Ensemble Offspring with Roland Peelman (conductor)** are finalists in this category for their performance of *The Origin Cycle* (by composers Elliott Gyger/Kate Neal/Barry Conyngham/Rosalind Page/Elena Kats-Chernin/Nicholas Vines/Paul Stanhope/Dan Walker). *The Origin Cycle*, organised to coincide with the bicentenary of Charles Darwin in 2009, featured commissions of eight compositions varying in styles and textures and creating suggestive connections between the evolution of species and the evolution of musical styles. The performance of *Kalkadunga Man* (by composers William Barton/Ross Edwards/Sarah Hopkins/Rosalind Page/Dan Walker) by **The Song Company** and **William Barton (soloist)** is an imaginative work that brings together these unlikely collaborators. It is a sonic and visual experience of the Australian landscape as seen through the eyes of William Barton.

The finalists for the **AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE BY AN ORGANISATION OR AN INDIVIDUAL** include **Clocked Out** for their 2009/10 Annual Programs and their exploration of many facets of contemporary music practice. Leading classical music ensemble, **the Southern Cross Soloists** is included for the successes of their 2009/10 Programs. **Jane Sheldon** and **Peter Godfrey-Smith** are highlighted for the organisation of *The Origin Cycle* Project across five major cities around the world. And **Way Out West** is highlighted for their development of Australian jazz through releasing innovative new work and touring nationally and internationally.

The finalists for the **AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN MUSIC EDUCATION** include the **Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre** for their 2010 Composer-in-Focus program which featured composer Ross Edwards. **The Australian Voices** for the Young Composers’ School, a program that displays a long-term and meaningful commitment to the development of Australian composers. The **Ku-ring-gai Philharmonic** for commissioning a new work, *Hide and Squeak* by Damian Barbeler and their commitment to music education for young children with the 2010 Kids Proms concerts. And finally **Cat Hope** for her continuing contribution to music education in Western Australia.

The finalists for the **AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN A REGIONAL AREA** are **Arts in the Valley** for the 2009 Festival held in Kangaroo Valley, NSW, the **Four Winds Festival** for the 2010 Festival in Bermagui, NSW, **Tura New Music** for their 2009/10 Regional Program in W.A., and the **Hunter Singers** (NSW) for commissioning and performing Australian choral music in 2010.

**And in the brand new category of the AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN EXPERIMENTAL MUSIC** the finalists are West Australia’s **Cat Hope** for Decibel’s 2009/10 Annual Programs, the **Fractured Again** Project (composer/concept by Damien Ricketson), and Melbourne artists **Madeleine Flynn** and **Tim Humphrey** for *Constellation*: an exhibition with performance interruptions and **epi-thet**: a sound installation activated by the audience.

An additional category is awarded at the discretion of the Board of Directors of APRA and AMC for **Distinguished Services to Australian Music**. This will be announced at the Awards ceremony on 3 May.

**2011 ART MUSIC AWARDS**  
Sydney Theatre, Walsh Bay  
Hosted by Julian Morrow
For media who would like additional biographical information please go to: http://www.apra-amcos.com.au/apraawards/artmusicawards/medialogin.aspx
   • username: artmusic
   • password: art123
       [both case sensitive]

For further information please contact:
Viv Fantin – viv@fantincomesalive.com.au / Ph 02 6687 1965

For complete list of finalists please see below

FINALISTS FOR 2011 ART MUSIC AWARDS

Work of the Year: Instrumental

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Composed by</th>
<th>Performed by</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fractured Again</td>
<td>Damien Ricketson</td>
<td>Ensemble Offspring</td>
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<tr>
<td>String Quartet No. 2</td>
<td>Paul Stanhope</td>
<td>Pavel Haas Quartet</td>
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Work of the Year: Orchestral

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Composed by</th>
<th>Text:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Dream of Drowning</td>
<td>Andrew Ford</td>
<td>Tim Winton</td>
<td>West Australian Symphony Orchestra Teddy Tahu Rhodes (Soloist), Paul Daniel (conductor)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Title: Chronicles
Composer: James Ledger
Performed by: West Australian Symphony Orchestra
Paul Daniel (conductor)

Title: Golden Kitsch
Composer: Elena Kats-Chernin
Performed by: Sydney Youth Orchestra, Claire Edwardes (soloist)
Publisher: Boosey & Hawkes (ASCAP), sub published by Hal Leonard Australia Pty Ltd

Title: Lightfall for Horn and Orchestra
Composer: Christopher Gordon
Performed by: Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Robert Johnson (soloist), Richard Gill (conductor)

Work of the Year: Vocal

Title: Beach Burial
Composer: Andrew Schultz
Text: Kenneth Slessor* published by Angus and Robertson
Performed by: Sydney Philharmonica Choirs and Orchestra
Brett Weymark (conductor)

Title: Deserts of Exile
Composer: Paul Stanhope
Text: Jabra Ibrahim Jabra published by University of California Press (NM)
Performed by: Choir of Trinity College Cambridge
Stephen Layton (conductor)
Iphigenia in Exile
Composer: Helen Gifford
Text: Richard Meredith
Performed by: Aphids, Chamber Made Opera, Speak Percussion

Work of the Year: Jazz

Ashes to Ashes
Composer: Johannes Luebbers
Performed By: Johannes Luebbers Dectet

That Which Is Not Fleeting
Composer: Sean Foran
Performed By: Misinterpretato and Topology

The Gathering
Composer: Stuart Hunter
Performed By: Stuart Hunter (piano), Simon Barker (drums), Cameron Undy (bass), Matthew Keegan (sax), Julien Wilson (sax), James Greening (trombone/pocket trumpet)

Performance of the Year

Performer: Clocked Out and Speak Percussion
Title: Refractions
Composer: Anthony Pateras
Performer: Halcyon
Title: *From the Hungry Waiting Country*
Composer: Elliott Gyger
Text: Vincent Buckley/William Hart-Smith/Gwen Harwood/
A.D. Hope/Mark O’Connor/Elizabeth Riddell/
Randolph Stow

Performer: Jane Sheldon (soprano) and Ensemble Offspring
Roland Peelman (conductor)
Title: *The Origin Cycle*
Composers: Elliott Gyger/Kate Neal/Barry Conyngham/Rosalind Page/
Elena Kats-Chernin/Nicholas Vines/Paul Stanhope/Dan Walker

Performer: The Song Company and William Barton (soloist)
Roland Peelman (director)
Title: *Kalkadunga Man*
Award for Excellence by an Organisation or an Individual

Clocked Out: 2009/2010 Annual Programs

Jane Sheldon and Peter Godfrey-Smith: The Origin Cycle Project

Southern Cross Soloists: 2009/2010 Annual Programs

Way Out West: Developing Australian jazz music through releasing innovative new work and touring nationally and internationally

Award for Excellence in Music Education

Cat Hope: Contribution to Music Education in Western Australia

Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre: Composer-in-Focus 2010 with Ross Edwards

Ku-ring-gai Philharmonic: Commissioning Hide and Squeak by Damian Barbeler and the 2010 Kids Proms concerts
The Australian Voices: Young Composers' School

Award for Excellence in a Regional Area

Arts in the Valley: 2009 Festival in Kangaroo Valley, NSW

Four Winds Festival: 2010 Festival in Bermagui, NSW

Hunter Singers: Commissioning and performing Australian Choral Music, NSW

Tura New Music: 2009/2010 Regional Program, WA

Award for Excellence in Experimental Music

Cat Hope: Decibel's 2009/2010 Annual Programs

Fractured Again Project: Damien Ricketson (Composer/Concept), Ensemble Offspring (Performers), Elaine Miles (Installation Art), Andrew Wholley (Video Art), Paul Gough - Pimmon (Electronic Music), Bob Scott (Sound Design), Matthew Marshall (Lighting Design).

Madeleine Flynn and Tim Humphrey: Constellation. an exhibition with performance interruptions and epi-thet. a sound installation activated by the audience

END