

# HELPMANN AWARDS 2019

Media Release – For immediate release

2 July 2019

**The Countdown is on to the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Helpmann Awards**

**Arts Centre Melbourne on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> and Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July**

**World first Harry Potter and The Cursed Child performance confirmed!**

**Broadcast LIVE on ABC Comedy Channel Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July 8pm**

Live Performance Australia (LPA) today announced a very special addition to the 2019 Helpmann Awards at Arts Centre Melbourne.

Along with previously announced live entertainment for the 2019 Helpmann Awards, a special performance will be beamed direct from The Princess Theatre for the delight of audiences, on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July.

In a world first, the cast of **HARRY POTTER AND THE CURSED CHILD** will perform an exclusive montage live from the play's Australian home, Melbourne's Princess Theatre.

**Martin Foley MP, Minister for Creative Industries** said, "The Helpmann Awards will celebrate a remarkable year for live performance in Melbourne and Australia."

"This world-first performance and live cross by the Harry Potter and the Cursed Child ensemble further highlights the creative capacity of our state and why Victoria is the cultural and creative capital of Australia.", he continued.

LPA is also thrilled to be continuing its relationship with the ABC who, for the third year running, will be broadcasting the event. Fans of theatre and live entertainment around Australia can watch the 2019 Helpmann Awards LIVE on ABC Comedy Channel at 8pm on Monday July 15<sup>th</sup> with a repeat broadcast on ABC on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> at 10pm. Catch up anytime on iView.

The 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Helpmann Awards will be presented in Melbourne for the very first time on **14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> July** at the Victorian home of the performing arts, **Arts Centre Melbourne**.

## **2019 Helpmann Awards Act I, Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> July**

**Act I** will see the gravitas of Australia's most prestigious live theatre and entertainment awards meet the atmosphere of a **sophisticated jazz lounge**, for an up close, upbeat, exclusive **industry-only night** to remember.

Hosted by the legendary performer, writer, artistic director and national treasure, **Robyn Archer AO**, this special evening will recognise artistic excellence and achievements on stage as well as the creative and



# HELPMANN AWARDS 2019

technical geniuses behind the scenes. Twenty Helpmann Awards will be presented along with the **2019 Sue Natrass Award** for exceptional service to the live performance industry to long standing Artistic Director of La Mama Theatre, **Liz Jones AO**.

The evening's performances will include **The Jack Earle Jazz Trio**, dazzling **Rhonda Burchmore OAM**, the silky soulful voice of **Marcus Corowa**, winner of seventeen ARIAs pop princess **Christine Anu** and the musical theatre leading men **Matt Lee** and **Rob Mills** of **Swing on This**.

Presenters will include industry favourites **Annie Aitken**, **Clare Bartholomew**, **Casey Bennetto**, **Uncle Jack Charles**, **Ako Kondo**, **Matt Lee**, **Ali McGregor**, **Natalie O'Donnell**, **Gareth Reeves**, **Daniel Tobias** and **Anne Wood**.

## 2019 Helpmann Awards Act II, Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July

**Act II** is a **black-tie gala event**, saluting artistic excellence and achievement on Australian stages over the past year including musicals, contemporary music, comedy, opera, classical music, theatre, ballet, dance, physical theatre and cabaret. Hosted by the fabulous dynamic duo of comedian, writer and actor **Susie Youssef** and Artistic Director of State Theatre SA **Mitchell Butel**, twenty-two prestigious Helpmann Awards will be presented. In addition, the **2019 JC Williamson Award** will be presented to the legendary singer songwriter **Kev Carmody**, for his outstanding contribution to the live performance industry.

In addition to the special live cross to Melbourne's Princess Theatre, acclaimed performances will include **Victorian Opera** with their new work **Lorelei** featuring divas **Ali McGregor**, **Dimity Shepherd** and **Danielle Calder**; **The Australian Ballet** with an exquisite new piece from **Aurum** by choreographer **Alice Topp**; the breathtaking **Bangarra** dancers **Beau Dean Riley Smith**, **Rikki Mason**, **Tyrel Dulvarie**, **Ryan Pearson**, **Baden Hitchcock** and **Bradley Smith** in an excerpt from the Helpmann Award winning production **Bennelong**; a special tribute from mesmerizing electronic soul pop duo **Electric Fields**; musical theatre darling **Silvie Paladino**; and to bring the show home will be the sensational **Brent Hill** and the extraordinary kids from the hit musical **School of Rock**. Once again, the Helpmann Awards Orchestra will be led by exceptional musical director **Vanessa Scammell**.

This year's special guest presenters include industry luminaries **Greta Bradman**, **Rhonda Burchmore OAM**, **Joel Creasey**, **Lucy Durack**, **James Egglestone**, **Paul Kelly AO**, **David McAllister AM**, **Kate Miller-Heidke**, **Keir Nuttall** and **Vanessa Scammell**.

The Helpmann Awards are the premier celebration of Australia's vibrant live performance industry. The Awards recognise distinguished achievement and excellence in Australia's live performance sectors including musicals, contemporary music, comedy, opera and classical music, theatre, ballet, dance and physical theatre, presentations for children and young people, regional touring and cabaret.

For further information and a full list of Nominees: [www.helpmannawards.com.au](http://www.helpmannawards.com.au)

Tickets on sale now [www.artscentremelbourne.com.au](http://www.artscentremelbourne.com.au) [www.ticketmaster.com.au](http://www.ticketmaster.com.au)



# HELPMANN AWARDS 2019

## **Helpmann Awards Act II Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2019 Arts Centre Melbourne**

**Gold Pass** A Reserve seating + Souvenir Programme + After Party + Souvenir Ticket \$189\*

**Silver Pass** B Reserve seating + Souvenir Programme \$69\* (\$59\* concession)

\*Subject to availability. An additional handling fee of \$8.55 per transaction is applicable to all online bookings

## **Helpmann Awards Act I Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2019 Arts Centre Melbourne**

INDUSTRY ONLY EVENT

*Events will be Auslan interpreted. Patrons should select Auslan ticket type and collect your ticket from the box office on the day for the final seating location near the interpreter.*

## **2019 Helpmann Awards BROADCAST LIVE on ABC Comedy Channel at 8pm Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July.**

Repeat broadcast on ABC TV on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> July at 10pm. Catch up anytime on iView.

***The Helpmann Awards are proudly supported by the Victorian Government, via its tourism marketing agency, Visit Victoria.***

**ENDS**

**Join the conversation and stay connected with Helpmann's news**

Website: [www.helpmannawards.com.au](http://www.helpmannawards.com.au)

Official hashtag: #Helpmanns

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/TheHelpmannAwards](https://www.facebook.com/TheHelpmannAwards)

Twitter: @HelpmannAwards

Instagram: @Helpmann\_Awards

## **MEDIA ENQUIRIES**

For further information or to arrange an interview with LPA Chief Executive, Evelyn Richardson please contact:

**National & Melbourne - Lucky Star Media**

**Vicky Iliopoulos** M 0410 551 388 E [vicky@luckystarmedia.com.au](mailto:vicky@luckystarmedia.com.au)

**Sonja McGill** M 0407 351 351 E [sonja@luckystarmedia.com.au](mailto:sonja@luckystarmedia.com.au)

**Adelaide – Neil Ward**, Neil Ward Publicity M 0438 095 580 E: [neil@neilwardpublicity.com.au](mailto:neil@neilwardpublicity.com.au)

**Brisbane – Cinnamon Watson**, Cinnamon Watson Publicity

M: 0432 219 643 E: [cinn@cinnamonwatsonpublicity.com.au](mailto:cinn@cinnamonwatsonpublicity.com.au)

**Perth – Lynne Burford**, Lynne Burford Publicity M: 0417 921 038 E: [lburford@inet.net.au](mailto:lburford@inet.net.au)

**Sydney – Ian Phipps**, Ian Phipps Publicity M: 0419 977 649 E: [ian@ippublicity.com.au](mailto:ian@ippublicity.com.au)

