



Media Release

Sunday 15 July 2018

[MEDIA EMBARGO 7.15pm AEST Sunday 15 July 2018](#)

18th Annual Helpmann Awards

Celebrating artistic excellence and distinguished achievement in Australia's live entertainment and performing arts industry

First 20 prestigious 2018 Helpmann Award winners announced tonight, Sunday 15 July from 6pm!

This year, for the very first time, 43 Helpmann Awards are being presented across two nights and two events in Sydney.

This evening, Sunday 15 July, from 6pm the first 20 Helpmann Awards were presented at the 2018 Helpmann Awards Act I, an intimate cocktail hour event the 2018 Helpmann Awards held at the Sydney Town Hall. The winners were announced for the best creative, designer and supporting roles as well as the Awards for Best Presentation for Children, Best Regional Touring Production and Best Special Event in front of an industry A-list crowd.

The list of winners announced during the Helpmann Awards Act I is available from 7.15pm AEST Sunday 15 July

[Click Here](#)

Hosts **Rhoda Roberts AO** and **Michael Lynch CBE AO** were joined by special guest presenters including actor **Mitchell Butel**, director **Neil Armfield AO**, musical theatre stars **Verity Hunt-Ballard**, **Matt Lee** and **Sharon Millerchip**, choreographer **Kelley Abbey**, actor **Peter Carroll**, musical director **Vanessa Scammell** and composer **Max Lambert**.

Wonderful performances included **Chloe Dallimore** and **Amanda Laing** with the *Lyrebird Song* from Monkey Baa Theatre Company's "Josephine Wants to Dance", the Sydney Youth Orchestra Quartet, musical theatre rising star **Georgina Hopson** and dynamic opera duo **Andrew Jones** and **Jenny Liu** singing the Papageno and Papagena duet from Mozart's *The Magic Flute*.

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, regional touring and cabaret.

The Helpmann Awards were established in 2001 by Live Performance Australia (LPA). Chief Executive of LPA, Evelyn Richardson said "We are delighted this year to present 43 Awards over two exciting nights. Two shorter shows enables us to better highlight the artistry and excellence in our dynamic live performance industry. Over the past 18 years the Helpmann Awards have received nearly 11,000 entries and announced over 2,750 Nominees which highlights the scale of the live performance industry enjoyed by 18.4 million people each year in Australia".

The remaining 23 Awards will be presented at **The Helpmann Awards Act II** on Monday 16 July at the Capitol Theatre and will be broadcast on **ABC on Monday 16 July at 9.35pm**. Highlights from tonight's **Act I**, will also be included in the broadcast.

The 2018 Helpmann Awards are supported by the NSW Government, via its tourism and major events agency, Destination NSW.

Helpmann Awards ACT II

Monday 16 July 2018

Capitol Theatre 8pm,

Red Carpet 6 – 7.30pm

The Helpmann Awards 2018 Broadcast Details

ABC TV Monday 16 July 9.35pm.

Catch up anytime on ABC iview.

ENDS

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Website: www.helpmannawards.com.au

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