



Australian Government



**MEDIA RELEASE**

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## **PPCA AND THE AUSTRALIA COUNCIL ANNOUNCE RECORDING GRANT RECIPIENTS**



***Pictured from left to right: Alex the Astronaut, Justin Marshall with The Putbacks and Emma Donovan, Lachlan Skipworth, OKENYO & Sandy Evans***

PPCA and the Australia Council are proud to announce the recipients of five grants of \$15,000 offered under a partnership between the two organisations.

First launched in October 2013, this is the fifth round of grants. Through the partnership, a diverse range of Australian artists have been assisted in the creation of new sound recordings.

Minister for the Arts, Senator the Hon Mitch Fifield said the Turnbull Government is delighted to again support these grants.

*“The ongoing partnership between the Australia Council and the PPCA builds on the expertise of both organisations to deliver great outcomes for Australian musicians,” he said.*

*“Congratulations to all the successful artists whose work will be supported by these grants.”*

PPCA was delighted to again partner with the Australia Council, drawing on the Council’s extensive expertise managing peer-assessed grant programs for the arts sector.

PPCA Chief Executive, Dan Rosen, said: *“On behalf of PPCA, I would like to congratulate all of the artists who were successful in securing funding. We are extremely pleased to have been able to partner with the Australia Council for a fifth successive year to give local artists an opportunity to create and record their music.*

*“We look forward to hearing the recordings that emerge as a result of this funding and wish all of the recipients the very best over the course of their recording careers. I would like to thank the Australia Council for their ongoing assistance and look forward to our continuing partnership.”*

Australia Council Chief Executive, Tony Grybowski, said: *“The Council is proud of this innovative partnership which has a great track record of supporting diverse and exciting artists to create new sound recordings. This year we saw a particularly strong field of applicants, spanning a wide range of music practices, and look forward to seeing what they produce with the support of these grants.”*

After a rigorous application process, recipients of the fifth PPCA Australia Council grants have been chosen across a range of genres from electronica to contemporary singer-songwriters:

- Australian singer-songwriter and guitarist Alexandra Lynn aka **Alex the Astronaut** will work with Sam Cromack (Ball Park Music, My Own Pet Radio), Daniel Hanson (Ball Park Music), Scott Horscroft and William Bowden to record her debut album.
- **Justin Marshall**, Melbourne percussionist for The Putbacks, will use the funds to help the band and collaborator Emma Donovan produce and record a follow up to their 2014 release *Dawn*.
- Western Australian composer **Lachlan Skipworth**’s debut album brings together a vibrant collection of his recent chamber music. Skipworth will partner with Navona Records in the USA to master the recordings and promote the album through their extensive international networks.
- Zindzi Okenyo aka Sydney artist **OKENYO** will collaborate with producer Lionel Towers (Gypsy and The Cat) on a new EP. OKENYO is signed to Elephant Traks (Urthboy, B-Wise, Hermitude).

- Australian jazz composer, saxophonist **Sandy Evans** will work with an exceptional group of musicians from Australia and India to create an innovative, new 70-minute work *Bridge of Dreams*. Rufus Records (Australia) and Underscore (India) will co-release the recording, and *Bridge of Dreams* will premiere in Australia in early 2019. The CD release funded through this initiative will promote the live performances, give longevity to this ground-breaking intercultural project and be a significant artistic work by culturally and gender diverse artists.

In addition, New York-based, Australia-bred Fascinator aka Johnny Mackay, a recipient of the 2016 PPCA & Australia Council grants, just recently released his second studio album 'Water Sign' on 15 June, released through Spinning Top Records and distributed through Caroline Australia.

PPCA represents thousands of Australian recording artists when their music is used in public. In 2017 PPCA distributed over \$43 million to its registered artists and record labels. Registration for Australian artists is free. Go to [www.pcca.com.au](http://www.pcca.com.au) for further information or contact:

**Adrian Di Giacomo, PPCA - Communications Manager – (02) 8569 1185**

**Brianna Roberts, Australia Council for the Arts – Manager – Media Communications - 0498 123 541**