



MEDIA RELEASE

Friday March 9, 2018

THE 13th AMP

BEST ALBUM OF 2017

Sampa The Great wins the 13th Australian Music Prize! Awarded \$30,000 courtesy of PPCA

The 13th AMP is proud to announce **Sampa The Great** as the winner of the 13th Australian Music Prize for her album **'Birds and the BEE9'**.

Sampa The Great will receive \$30,000 courtesy of [PPCA](#) in recognition of her album being voted the best Australian album of 2017 by the AMP panel of expert judges consisting of artists, journalists and retailers.

Born in Zambia and now based in Sydney, rapper Sampa Tembo, aka **Sampa The Great**, has set about making music that combines her natural style and energy with thought-provoking, socially-conscious themes. Sampa found a love for hip-hop at an early age, and following previous releases, **'Birds and the BEE9'** is her debut album.

Sampa the Great said, "I didn't see any of this in my periphery when coming to Australia. It really means a lot to me thank you."

The announcement was made at the **'AMPed Up In Conversation'** lunch held in Melbourne's Town Hall today, where Ed Sheeran's manager Stuart Camp was the guest speaker, sharing an insight into the workings of a global superstar to a captivated room.

Chief Executive Officer of PPCA Dan Rosen said, "On behalf of all at PPCA we congratulate Sampa The Great on winning this year's AMP. It was an honour to present Sampa The Great with the \$30,000 prize money for what was truly a remarkable album and a worthy addition to the growing list of AMP winners that have left their mark on the Australian music scene. Support for local artists has been the cornerstone of PPCA for over 40 years, therefore we are honoured to have been the major prize sponsor of the Australian Music Prize since day one. We hope PPCA's \$30,000 contribution will assist in developing Sampa The Great's career and help take her music to the world."

AMP Judge Mikey Cahill said, "One of our judges summed it up well: The Birds and the BEE9 has an openness to the future. Sampa came to us from Zambia, a petite poet using hip hop and soul to connect and hit the ground gunning, piquing our interest with her debut The Great Mixtape. Then she came through with this extraordinary 13 track record. It's not Turn-Up music, it goes super-deep. We'll still be playing this 50 years in the future; you and your kids will be too."

The 13th AMP judging panel is made up of the following volunteers who give countless hours of their time throughout the year - Dave Faulkner (Chairperson), Chris Berkley, Mikey Cahill, Bryget Chrisfield, Tim Daley, Charles Fisher, Sosefina Fuamoli, Mike Glynn, Alex Grigg, Kate Hennessey, Phil Jamieson, Chris Johnston, Shannon Logan, Noel Mengel, Caitlin Nienaber, Nate Nott, Melinda Schneider, Sarah Smith and Bernard Zuel.

This is the second year in the AMP's history that the event has been held in Melbourne, and with a new partnership with the Victorian Government, the AMP will be calling Melbourne home in 2019 also.

The 13th AMP Shortlist in alphabetical order is:

[Beaches](#) – 'Second of Spring'

[Darcy Baylis](#) – 'Intimacy & Isolation'

[HTMLflowers](#) – 'Chrome Halo'

[Jen Cloher](#) – 'Jen Cloher'

[Jordan Rakei](#) – 'Wallflower'

[Liars](#) – 'TFCF'

[Paul Kelly](#) – 'Life is Fine'

[Sampa the Great](#) – 'Birds and the BEE9'

[The Vampires](#) – 'The Vampires Meet Lionel Loueke'

Sampa The Great's win follows previous AMP winners:

2016 – 'Reclaim Australia' by A.B.Original

2015 – 'Sometimes I Sit And Think, Sometimes I Just Sit' by Courtney Barnett

2014 – 'Raw X Infinity' by REMI

2013 – 'Not Art' by Big Scary

2012 – 'Hyperparadise' by Hermitude

2011 – 'Prisoner' by The Jezabels

2010 – 'Bliss Release' by Cloud Control

2009 – 'Wonder' by Lisa Mitchell

2008 – 'Primary Colours' by Eddie Current Suppression Ring

2007 – 'Devil's Elbow' by The Mess Hall

2006 – 'Moo, You Bloody Choir' by Augie March

2005 – 'Wait Long By The River and the Bodies of Your Enemies Will Float By' by The Drones

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THE
13th **AMP**
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