



THE HON PAUL FLETCHER MP
Minister for Communications, Urban Infrastructure, Cities and the Arts

MEDIA RELEASE

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\$19.5 million boost for Australia’s creative sector to RISE

As Australia’s arts and entertainment sector continues to recover from COVID-19, 63 organisations are set to share in more than \$19.5 million under the sixth batch of grants from the \$200 million Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) Fund — with a strong focus on supporting regional and remote communities.

Minister for Communications, Urban Infrastructure, Cities and the Arts, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP, said the \$19.5 million that will flow to the latest recipients of the RISE Fund is supporting nearly 21,000 jobs in more than 600 locations, more than half of which are located in regional and remote Australia.

“The Morrison Government’s objective, in providing this record level of funding for arts and entertainment, is that as the vaccine rollout continues at a strong pace and states and territories open up, arts companies, promoters and festivals are ready to go,” Minister Fletcher said.

“This is an important stage in the resurgence of Australia’s arts and entertainment sector, with this targeted RISE funding providing an opportunity for venues to reopen to audiences; curtains to rise; and performers to come back on stage to a welcoming roar of applause.”

Amongst the 63 projects being funded, some highlights include:

- \$390,000 for Melbourne Chamber Orchestra to deliver a program of events in regional, outer-urban and metropolitan Victoria with online streaming: including orchestral concerts, chamber music performances and performances for children.
- \$400,000 for Brisbane Powerhouse to deliver Hap Wah Night Market, with high quality handmade objects by Queensland designers and artists, high-impact art and performance, and local produce.
- \$1,000,000 for Gympie Muster to deliver the Gympie Music Muster Revival, showcasing Australian artists at one of the country’s favourite outdoor music and camping festivals.

Member of the Creative Economy Taskforce and Artistic Director of Queensland Ballet, Li Cunxin AO, said the funding is being well-distributed across Australia and there is strong diversity of art forms and support for small to medium organisations.

“RISE continues to be an important mechanism for supporting the recovery of the arts and entertainment sector and thousands of jobs, particularly in regional and remote locations. The funding will assist with mobilising tourism and other industries in regional areas which benefit from events and activities, and which have been significantly affected by COVID-19 impacts,” Mr Cunxin said.

The Morrison Government has now allocated more than \$179 million of the \$200 million RISE Fund, creating 190,000+ job opportunities and expanding cultural and creative experiences for audiences across Australia.

Media contact:

Christine Vanden Byllaardt | 0409 433 357 | Christine.VandenByllaardt@communications.gov.au

Batch Six recipients:**NSW (22 Projects - \$7,093,392 Funding)**

Organisation	Project Name	Funding	Description
GIG BIG	River Sounds	\$25,000	Rescheduling assistance for River Sounds is a two day contemporary music festival located in the eclectic village of Bellingen NSW.
Wollongong Art Gallery	Coomaditchie	\$83,000	An exploration of the history and precarious nature of the local Aboriginal settlement, and the social protests in the early 1960s to save it.
South Coast Writers Centre	South Coast Writers Mentoring, Publishing and Festival Program	\$69,472	An integrated multi-stream emerging writers' program, publication of anthologies of writing, and an annual writers' festival that includes the presentation of new works.
Murray Art Museum Albury	Murray Art Museum Albury Artist Commissions	\$240,000	The commission of four new large-scale works by innovative leading Australian contemporary artists.
The Oyster Group	Midnight	\$500,000	Rescheduling assistance for a new Australian musical with music and lyrics by John Foreman, Anthony Costanzo and Kate Miller-Heidke.
Kristie Jane Tainton	Small Fry Rock	\$99,506	A series of rock shows that parents get to take their kids to.
Georgia Mooney	Georgia Mooney presents Supergroup	\$42,000	An acclaimed live concert series in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane that brings together Australian songwriters for one-off collaboration and storytelling.
The Rubens Music	Valleyways Festival	\$227,600	Celebrating 10 years as a band, The Rubens present "Valleyways", a one day music festival held in Camden, NSW.

TEG Dainty	Guns N' Roses	\$600,000	Rescheduling assistance for Guns N' Roses tour.
The Blue Mountains Folk Music Festival Association	The 25th Blue Mountains Music Festival of Folk, Roots and Blues	\$150,000	Restarting Blue Mountains Music Festival in March 2022 with a cultural music program of Australian artists in a COVID-safe environment.
Newcastle Writers Festival	2022 Newcastle Writers Festival and expanded youth program	\$200,000	Newcastle Writers Festival will return to a live festival after three years and foster the next generation of writers by expanding its Hunter Region youth program.
Ensemble Theatre	National Tour of Black Cockatoo	\$121,204	A 25 venue national tour of Black Cockatoo by Geoffrey Atherden, directed by Wesley Enoch. This is a new Australian work exploring race relations and national identity.
Information + Cultural Exchange	First Nations at the Front	\$481,452	A suite of programs of career development and employment for First Nations creatives in Western Sydney.
Metropolis Touring	Icons Orchestrated	\$403,400	A program of productions touring regional cities. A Symphony Orchestra with guest Australian vocalists perform the songbooks from contemporary music icons.
Lake Macquarie City Council - Arts, Culture and Tourism	Multi-Arts Pavilion Mima Presents	\$160,000	The outdoor stage of the Multi-Arts Pavilion Mima will support and celebrate new works by Australian performers, musicians and artists.
Wonderlick	Wonderlick to regional Australia	\$327,667	Wonderlick celebrates some of Australia's key music artists with a full stable of artists touring regional Australia.

Loudness	Wine Machine	\$824,000	An annual, nationally touring, regionally focused music, food and arts festival set in the most famous wine regions across six states.
Crossroads Live	The Secret Garden	\$956,771	An international, Tony-Award winning musical, returning to Australia for the first time in 25 years in a reimagined interpretation for a new generation.
The Sydney Festival	The Neverending Story	\$600,000	Development and world premiere of an all Australian stage adaptation of The Neverending Story, an internationally revered book by Michael Ende and 1984 Hollywood film.
Outback Music Festival Group	Big Red Bash and Mundi Mundi Bash	\$860,000	Birdsville Big Red Bash and Broken Hill Mundi Mundi Bash are the world's most remote music festivals, celebrating Australian music for travellers of all ages.
Second Sunday Pty Ltd+B54	Night at the Barracks	\$97,320	Rescheduling assistance for a new arts festival at North Head Sanctuary Parade Grounds, Manly. The event will be a first for this historic site.
Love Police Touring	Out On The Weekend Festival 2021 - A celebration of Americana music and lifestyle	\$25,000	Rescheduling assistance for an Americana music festival at Seaworks, Williamstown supporting culture, tourism and the local economy.

QLD (11 Projects - \$3,909,959 Funding)

Brisbane Powerhouse	Hap Wah Night Market	\$400,000	With high quality handmade objects and high-impact art and performance, Hap Wah Night Market will be a month-long event staged twice a year.
Vast Yonder	Brisbane Street Art Festival	\$155,000	An annual 15 day public art festival that combines large-scale mural installations, workshops, and events to activate Brisbane's creative economy.

Australian Romantic and Classical Orchestra	Expanded regional and interstate touring of the Australian Romantic and Classical Orchestra's performance and education programs, digital and online delivery.	\$560,026	The Australian Romantic and Classical Orchestra will present a combination of high quality in-person and online concert performances and education programs throughout 2022 and 2023.
The Children's Book Council of Australia	CBCA Sun Project: Shadow Judging	\$118,225	The CBCA Sun Project: Shadow Judging establishes a new landmark on the Australian literary calendar. Young voices will award their winners from the CBCA Shortlist.
Wonderland Entertainment and Leisure	Wonderland Tour	\$300,000	Wonderland Spiegelent Tour is a spectacle of world class comedy, cabaret, music, theatre, circus and magic featuring Wonderland Spiegelent and the open air theatre.
Woodfordia	Back on the Road - Festival of Small Halls 2022	\$343,306	The presentation of intimate shows featuring high calibre Australian artists through six tours in remote and regional communities across five Australian states.
Nautic Giants	Nautic Giants	\$100,000	An inclusive, contemporary and sustainable music festival with a focus on local talent, youth opportunities, innovative environmental technologies and social accountability.
Kicks Entertainment Productions	Spilt Milk Festival Tour: delivering world-class productions for regional Australia.	\$498,402	A world-class music, arts and food festival experience in under-represented Australian locations.
Everybody NOW!	Moving Communities	\$300,000	A two year program for South-East Queensland engaging audiences and artists in participatory performance making.
Gympie Muster	Gympie Music Muster Revival	\$1,000,000	The iconic Gympie Music Muster will celebrate music and mateship, showcasing Australian acts in a picturesque forest setting.
Queensland Festival and Events	Legends on the Lawn	\$135,000	Legends on the Lawn at Mackay will bring the best in Australian live music to North Queensland for one very special event.

VICTORIA (16 Projects - \$4,300,366 Funding)

Organisation	Project Name	Funding	Description
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R T Event Enterprises	Bringing live music back to regional Australia	\$490,000	The 2022 Red Hot Summer Tour will bring back outdoor live music to seven regional communities in ambient and unique locations across Australia.
Ballarat International Foto Biennale	2021 Ballarat International Foto Biennale - Festival Extension	\$117,700	Rescheduling assistance for the Biennale.
The Village Festival of New Performance	The Village Touring Program 2022 - 2023	\$231,444	The Village Festival Touring Program includes seven events over twelve months in Victoria and provides significant benefits to diverse and regional artists and audiences.
McClelland Sculpture Park+Gallery	Sculpture 22	\$250,000	A one-year multidisciplinary program of newly commissioned art, learning, and digital content projects, delivered in the outer south-eastern suburbs of Melbourne.
Melbourne Bach Choir	Easter at the Melbourne Recital Centre	\$49,000	The expansion of Melbourne Bach Choir's popular annual Easter concert into a mini-festival at Melbourne Recital Centre over two days with an additional two concerts.
H & H Festivals	Bendigo Chamber Music Festival 2022 – Connect. Awaken. Celebrate.	\$40,000	The delivery of a range of activities for the 2022 Bendigo Chamber Music Festival.
Red Stitch Actors Theatre	Red Stitch Diverse Theatrical Program 2022-23	\$550,000	Supporting arts workers to deliver plays, hospitality-partnered readings, a festival and creative developments with metropolitan, regional and online outcomes.
Melbourne Chamber Orchestra	Melbourne Chamber Orchestra 2022-23 Programs	\$390,000	Program of events in regional, outer-urban and metropolitan Victoria with online streaming. Includes orchestral concerts, chamber music performances, performances for children and engagement activities.
Arts Mildura	SemiArid TriState Festival	\$338,945	Multi-arts festival providing exceptional arts and culture experiences in the Australian regional of the Mallee, Murray and Riverland.

Blak & Bright First Nations Literary Festival	Blak & Bright First Nations Literary Festival	\$100,000	A festival showcase of First Nations writers, storytellers and artists across mostly free events, over four days in March 2022.
Melbourne International Festival of the Arts	The Wilds – RISING’s transformation of the Sidney Myer Music Bowl	\$575,000	For its 2022 festival, RISING will transform Melbourne’s Sidney Myer Music Bowl into a winter art park and live music hub for thousands to enjoy.
Live Nation Australasia	The Palace Foreshore Outdoor Arena	\$400,000	A one-month-long outdoor arena and concert series in the iconic St Kilda Foreshore precinct.
David Venn Enterprises	The Wedding Singer - Rescheduled	\$250,000	Rescheduling assistance for The Wedding Singer Musical Comedy to complete its Australian tour.
Australian National Academy of Music	The ANAM Set Festival	\$63,950	Rescheduling assistance for the ANAM Set Festival.
Red Hill Entertainment	Land of Plenty and Goulburn Valley Country Music Festival in October 2022	\$398,727	Expansion of Land of Plenty and Goulburn Valley Country Music Festival for two distinct audiences across one weekend in Shepparton.
Harvey Sutherland	Harvey Sutherland 2022 National Tour	\$55,600	Victorian artist Harvey Sutherland will embark on a national tour in Autumn 2022.

SA (3 Projects - \$1,720,000 Funding)

Adelaide Festival Centre Trust	Adelaide Guitar Festival	\$310,000	A showcase of leading local, national and international artists at the Adelaide Festival Centre alongside South Australian regional roadshows, wellbeing programs, workshops and masterclasses.
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Illuminate Adelaide Foundation	Illuminate Adelaide 2022	\$520,000	A celebration of innovation, music, art, light and technology with an annual program of events by local, national and international artists and companies.
GWB Entertainment	The Lord of the Rings	\$890,000	An epic stage adventure, bringing characters and creatures from the much loved trilogy to life with an award winning creative team and spectacular stagecraft.

WA (5 Projects - \$1,092,798 Funding)

FORM - Building a State of Creativity	Artists of the South of Western Australia (working title)	\$50,000	In collaboration with key regional partners, FORM will present a series of exhibitions from regionally based artists, online and at its Metropolitan hub, The Goods Shed.
Royal Jelly Productions	The Wild Campout	\$100,595	Nestled in the hills near Balingup, Western Australia, the Wild Campout is a boutique music, arts, culture and camping festival held over three days and nights.
Contemporary Dance Company of Western Australia	Co3 Community Engagement & Employment Retention Program	\$635,600	An annual season of contemporary dance and community engagement works, providing continuous employment and income opportunities for artistic and production staff over 15 months.
Concert and Corporate Productions Perth	Bloom sings the Stevie Nicks, Linda Ronstadt, Carole King Songbook	\$155,000	Perth-based nationally-acclaimed musical artist Bloom singing the Stevie Nicks, Linda Ronstadt, Carole King Songbook on a tour of six regional centres in Western Australia.
Abmusic Aboriginal Corporation	Too Mooditj	\$151,603	Too Mooditj is telling meaningful, place-informed stories in bold and rebellious ways through music, visual arts and storytelling artistic outputs.

TAS (3 Projects - \$831,700 Funding)

DarkLab (Dark Mofo)	Dark Mofo	\$400,000	A reimagined Dark Mofo festival that will support Australian artists and industry by presenting large-scale art, feasting, music and COVID-safe experiences in the depth of winter.
Salamanca Arts Centre	Salamanca Arts Centre Audience Expansion Program 2022-2023	\$260,300	The visual and performing art program builds audiences for local artists, promotes the Salamanca precinct, boosts tourism and trade for allied industries.

Tasmanian Youth Orchestra	Reimagining youth music and its contribution to the regional arts sector: TYO 2021-2023	\$171,400	Tasmanian Youth Orchestra will fully embed innovative and efficient practices piloted through the pandemic to increase accessibility, build audiences, create jobs and expand regional arts sector opportunities.
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ACT (1 Project - \$155,521 Funding)

Canberra Comedy Company	Canberra Comedy Festival 2022	\$155,521	To reinvigorate the comedy festival in 2022 with extended festival dates, COVID-safe venues, reduced capacities and flexible performances, while incorporating the re-scheduled 2021 Festival.
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NT (2 Projects - \$422,610 Funding)

Red Hot Arts Central Australia	Desert Festival	\$249,500	Desert Festival is a rural arts and cultural festival that incubates new works, provides performance opportunities, and celebrates art and diversity in Central Australia.
Tangentyere Artists Aboriginal Art Centre	Town Camp Designs : Ceramics	\$173,110	Tangentyere Artists will facilitate ceramics skills development workshops at Yarrenyty Arltere, Ewyenper Atwatye and Anthelk-Ewlpaye Town Camps, resulting in new work for exhibition and sale.