



## THE HON PAUL FLETCHER MP

Minister for Communications, Urban Infrastructure, Cities and the Arts

### MEDIA RELEASE

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## **\$20 million to support Australia's creative sector to RISE**

Australia's creative and entertainment sector has received another major boost, with the Morrison Government announcing that \$20 million will be shared by 63 leading organisations across the country, under the fifth batch of grants from the \$200 million Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) Fund.

Minister for Communications, Urban Infrastructure, Cities and the Arts, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP, said the RISE Fund continues to provide immediate funding to support during an especially difficult period for the sector.

“This latest \$20 million of funding is creating a pathway to recovery that will support nearly 23,000 jobs in more than 560 locations, more than half of which are located in regional and remote Australia,” Minister Fletcher said.

“As the vaccine rollout continues at a strong pace, with 60 per cent of Australians 16 and over now having received at least one dose, it is important that our arts and entertainment sector is primed to get activity restarted just as soon as public health requirements allow. The National Plan clearly sets out the key benchmarks for opening up at 70 and 80 per cent vaccination levels.

“As those benchmarks come into sight, funding under RISE has a critical role in catalysing the restart of activity. RISE funding, under this round and previous rounds, has been allocated to an extensive range of projects, across all states and territories, and across many different forms of arts and entertainment.

“The Morrison Government's objective, in providing this record level of funding for arts and entertainment, is that as states and territories open up, arts companies, promoters and festivals are ready to go. We want to see venue doors thrown open to audiences; we want to see the curtains going up; and we want to see performers coming on stage to a welcoming roar of applause.”

Chris Saines CNZM, Creative Economy Taskforce member and Director of the Queensland Art Gallery and Gallery of Modern Art (QAGOMA), said the RISE Fund is providing essential support for getting shows back on the road.

“This funding is providing much-needed hope and confidence for the arts and entertainment sector to plan and deliver projects across the nation, providing momentum to recover from the pandemic and sustaining livelihoods,” Mr Saines said.

Among the fifth batch of grants, the RISE Fund is granting:

- An extra \$400,000 for Melbourne Digital Concert Hall – to continue supporting the future of Australia music, building on the success of their livestream events which have already raised more than \$1.5 million for the industry during the pandemic.
- \$2,000,000 for Sculpture by the Sea – to deliver its popular exhibitions over the next two years at Bondi and Cottesloe in a COVID safe way.
- \$65,000 for The Holy Holy band – to support their return to a national tour across regional Australia following a lengthy hiatus imposed by COVID-19.

- An extra \$730,000 for Brickman Exhibitions – to deliver a national tour to some of Australia’s most prominent exhibition spaces and regional locations. The exhibition includes unique LEGO® Brick artistic sculptures combined with a program of hands-on create-and-learn activities.

The RISE Fund enables artists and organisations to develop significant COVID-safe measures, including upgrades to protocols and infrastructure, minimising the risk of exposure to COVID-19 for audiences.

The Government has now allocated \$160 million of the \$200 million RISE Fund, creating more than 167,000 job opportunities and expanding cultural and creative experiences for audiences across Australia.

The Morrison Government is investing more than \$1 billion into the arts and creative sector in 2021-22.

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**Batch Five recipients:**

**NSW (19 Projects - \$7,304,618 Funding)**

Organisation	Project Name	Funding	Description
Vanfest Pty Ltd	Vanfest 2022	\$668,700	A regional-based music and arts festival, designed to support and strengthen youth culture and regional tourism, held in Forbes NSW.
Twyford Hall Inc	The Twyford Premiere Season	\$91,910	Support for artists to perform in the Theatre Twyford to promote it as a key destination for artists and audiences in South East NSW.
Yours and Owls Events Pty Ltd	Yours and Owls Festival 2022	\$700,000	A major Australian music festival that occurs annually in Wollongong, NSW.
RGM Productions Australia	Round the Twist - The Musical	\$948,479	The development, Brisbane world premiere, and national tour of the live musical adaptation of the iconic Australian television show, Round the Twist.
Ordinary Group Pty Ltd	Smoke & Steel	\$84,000	A series of monthly live music events, featuring touring musicians, visual arts and in-house development workshops for emerging artists.
West Darling Arts Inc	Gawler Laneway Arts and Music Festival (GLAMFest)	\$300,583	The activation of an historically significant laneway in Broken Hill’s CBD through a curated program of visual arts, digital art projections, community arts and live music.

Nathan Michael Cavaleri	Nathan Cavaleri - Northern Territory and Western Australia Tour 2022	\$101,983	World renowned musician Nathan Cavaleri brings his moving stories and live show to rural communities to connect with and inspire those struggling with mental health.
Neil Gooding Productions Pty Ltd	LEAP	\$486,750	LEAP is an innovative, new theatrical experience which fuses remarkable choreography, classical and rock music, and spectacular lighting, created by leading young Australian creatives.
Pink Salt Productions Pty Ltd	Big Country Festival	\$250,000	In May 2022, Big Country Festival will host Australia's biggest country music stars in a family friendly, experience filled event in the scenic surrounds of Berry, NSW.
Australian Publishers Association	Australia Reads Project	\$300,000	New initiatives by Australia Reads, a book industry-wide collaboration connecting writers and readers nationwide.
Australian Theatre Live	Sydney Festival Digital - National Tour	\$392,000	A national cinema and streamed online tour of filmed live performances digitally captured at the 2022 Sydney Festival.
Sculpture by the Sea Inc	Sculpture by the Sea Exhibitions and Public Programs	\$2,000,000	Sculpture by the Sea Exhibitions for Bondi and Cottesloe and year-round school outreach education programs.
Regal Cinema Building Ltd	Newcastle International Film Festival: Bringing Audiences Back	\$180,491	Newcastle International Film Festival (NIFF) is the first of what has been designed to become an annual event to entice regional audiences back to the cinema.
Critical Stages Touring	Alphabetical Sydney: All Aboard	\$198,822	Creation of a new musical for young audiences, adapted from the popular and acclaimed children's book by Hilary Bell and Antonia Pesenti, that has been designed to tour.

FORM Dance Projects Inc	FORM Dance Projects - Championing Australian independent dance artists	\$278,000	Commissioning 2022, a new Australian dance production by director, Meryl Tankard, and composer, Elena Kats-Chernin, for the Sydney Festival and, development of FORM Dance Projects' digital platform.
The Red Room Company Ltd	Poetry Month Reimagined 2022-2023	\$198,000	Reactivating the literary sector through the expansion of Poetry Month, an initiative engaging over 120 poets and other artists across forms and public audiences nationally.
Potts Entertainment	Potts Entertainment Presents Imogen Clark's Holiday Hootenanny	\$12,900	Imogen Clark's Holiday Hootenanny brings together a diverse collection of renowned musicians for a unique collaborative performance celebrating Australian music.
Gulargambone Community Enterprises Co-operative	Billboard Street Art	\$32,000	Installation of three billboard size panels mounted on engineered frames with surfaces for invited street artists to paint murals at the next festival.
Dancing Giant Productions	Dog Man: The Musical	\$80,000	A humorous new Australian production for ages six and up, based on the international bestselling series by Dav Pilkey, with song, dance, puppetry and hijinks.

**VIC (15 Projects - \$6,143,897 Funding)**

Westbound Productions Pty Ltd	Riverboats Music Festival	\$152,000	Riverboats Restarted - a large scale regional celebration of Australian music and culture on the paddlesteamers and inland waterways of the iconic Echuca-Moama region.
Melbourne Art Foundation	Melbourne Art Fair Indigenous Art Centre Program	\$199,950	Melbourne Art Fair prioritises representation of First Australian artists, supporting Indigenous owned art centres to ethically exhibit and sell art in a fair of regional significance.

Foreman Productions Pty Ltd as trustees for Australian Pops Orchestra Trust	2021-2023 Aussie Pops Orchestra Concert Series	\$787,250	180 musicians across three states: This two year series features leading artists with a symphony orchestra, celebrating diversity of Australian talent, from popular classics to classic pop.
Festival of Jewish Arts and Music	Festival of Jewish Arts and Music - Two year program of major events	\$124,500	The presentation of a two year series of commissioned events centred on cultural celebration, inter-cultural connection and commemoration.
TEG Van Egmond Pty Ltd	Teeny Tiny Stevies - Australian Tour	\$697,899	Teeny Tiny Stevies is a world-class, ARIA award winning family entertainment live music act that performs songs to keep kids and parents alike entertained.
Melbourne Fringe	Melbourne Fringe: Artistic Futures	\$996,650	An artist commissioning, presentation and support program, enabling communities to create work and connect with audiences, while developing their skills and creating employment opportunities.
Strawberry Music Group Pty Ltd	Strawberry Fields Festival 2021	\$398,183	Regional festival showcasing emerging Australian talent and sustainable design initiatives in a scenic riverfront location.
The Brickman Exhibitions (Aust) Pty Ltd	Brickman Exhibitions	\$733,000	Brickman exhibitions are unique artistic experiences. Combining painstaking work and dazzling artistic expression, the exhibitions will captivate a variety of diverse audiences.
David Venn Enterprises Pty Ltd	Cruel Intentions - '90s Pop Musical	\$380,000	Based on the Hollywood film comes a new off-Broadway jukebox musical featuring some of the best music hits from the 1990s. The ultimate nostalgia fix.
Aeroplane Agency Pty Ltd	Restarting STBS Tour – Bringing live music back to regional Australia	\$300,000	The STBS Tour Bus is going on the road. A weekend series of gigs and educational music workshops, touring across regional Australia in SA, VIC, and QLD.

Helen Bodycomb and Martin Paten in association with Eastern Beach Art House	Soirée on a Sunday	\$25,415	Soirée on a Sunday will be a series of music, physical theatre and literary events delivered at Eastern Beach Art House, Geelong.
Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery	Front Beach, Back Beach	\$300,000	A public art event, commissioning Australian artists/collectives to respond to key sites and stories that have shaped the Mornington Peninsula.
Finucane & Smith Unlimited	Finucane & Smith's Desert to the Sea Tour 2022	\$400,000	Finucane & Smith's Travelling Dance Hall 2022 tour.
Chunky Move Ltd	Chunky Move 2022 key projects	\$249,050	New presentations and partnerships by esteemed Victorian dance company Chunky Move celebrating diversity and providing exemplary experiences for First Nations youth participants and Australian audiences.
Melbourne Digital Concert Hall Pty Ltd	Melbourne Digital Concert Hall – supporting the future of Australian music	\$400,000	Funding will keep Melbourne Digital Concert Hall going in 2022-23, enabling them to connect Australian artists with the world, empower regional performers and safeguard the sector.

#### QLD (12 Projects - \$2,376,434 Funding)

Granite Belt Art & Craft Trail Inc	Granite Belt Art & Craft Trail	\$80,000	A three day art event showcasing the talents of artists and artisans in the scenic Stanthorpe region.
Paroo Shire Council	Outback River Lights Festival	\$225,000	A new illuminated arts festival for Paroo, articulating Cunnamulla's connection to water, cultural heritage and the essence of the Outback.
Belloo Creative	Boy, Lost - a stage production of Kristina Olsson's award-winning memoir.	\$87,554	The world premiere of Boy, Lost, alongside a foyer installation for community engagement.
Cluster Arts Pty Ltd	CIRCFest22 Brisbane	\$352,000	A bold and ambitious project to firmly establish Brisbane's reputation as a global leader in circus and physical theatre.

8x8 to educate	8x8	\$7,850	Art exhibition creating a platform for local artists to present their works in a Gallery setting that is available to all in the community.
More Than Mime Theatre	Living Statue Laneway: Training and Performance Project	\$33,000	A professional development program in mime and living statue, culminating in performances at Brisbane Festival. Project director, Frans Vogels, is a world champion in the field.
Big Things Arts & Entertainment	Gurindji Freedom Day Festival	\$461,000	An iconic annual Indigenous festival held in the remote heart of the NT. Three days of music, culture, arts and more.
The Condensery Somerset Regional Art Gallery	'Things I want to say' exhibition and engagement program	\$32,185	Examining contemporary identity through the work of emerging artists, the exhibition and engagement program provides young people with vital access to creative endeavour and opportunity.
Kin Music Pty Ltd	Australian Vocal Ensemble (AVÉ) - National tour 2022	\$107,000	AVÉ is a vocal quartet and will undertake a concert tour of regional Australia in early 2022 working with regional conservatoriums and community choirs.
Brunswick Street Venue Pty Ltd	Stream On	\$370,845	Featuring a program of Australia's best-loved artists, Stream On will enable the creation of a world-class platform for Australian performers to reach new audiences.
shake & stir theatre co Pty Ltd	shake & stir 2022 (Brisbane) main stage season	\$400,000	In 2022, shake & stir will present their targeted youth and education season of new and existing works at QPAC, Brisbane.
A.W Butt & J.K Rasmussen	Granite Belt Art & Craft Trail	\$220,000	Country Circus Roadshow takes Queensland's home-grown world-class circus performers to regional Queensland. A smorgasbord of talent for the whole family.

**SA (7 Projects - \$1,869,427 Funding)**

Generations in Jazz Inc	Generations in Jazz	\$350,000	An internationally recognised music event fostering future generations of Australian jazz performers in regional SA.
Sweet Reason Pty Ltd	Mountain	\$60,000	The development and creation of a new theatrical work by award winning writer, Kit Brookman, created in collaboration with leading performer, Andre Jewson.
Chamber Music Adelaide Inc	On The Terrace	\$80,000	Presenting On The Terrace 2021-2022, a free public event of intimate performances by chamber musicians in SA's unique cultural heritage buildings.
Slingsby Theatre Company Ltd	Slingsby goes national: 2022 touring activity	\$317,000	Slingsby will tour three productions across Australia; 'Emil and the Detectives', 'The Boy Who Talked to Dogs' and 'Songs for Those Who've Come Across the Seas.'
Glenn Skuthorpe	Glenn Skuthorpe - Moon Rising Tour 2022	\$35,440	A regional and metropolitan tour to support the release of Glenn Skuthorpe's seventh studio album. Glenn will be offering singer/songwriter workshops along the tour route.
Flying Penguin Productions	Oleanna	\$78,122	Flying Penguin Productions will present a season of the acclaimed play Oleanna by David Mamet in 2022 at the Space Theatre, Adelaide.
GWB Entertainment Pty Ltd	An American In Paris	\$948,865	A unique partnering between GWB Entertainment and The Australian Ballet to produce and tour an Australian production of the fabled An American in Paris.

#### WA (5 Projects - \$1,776,949 Funding)

Gregory Hamlyn and Joy Hamlyn	Gatsby Skyline Showcase of Entertainment and Arts	\$621,600	A showcase of original artists in regional WA, providing their venue, Gatsby Skyline, with weekly shows throughout a two year period.
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Macro Music Pty Ltd	Out of the Woods - Music and Arts Festival	\$787,424	A new three day boutique camping festival delivering all-Australian multi-genre music, production, culture and art to regional South West WA.
Bunbury Fringe Inc	Bunbury Fringe 2022	\$80,000	Bunbury Fringe is a curated eight day festival presenting diversity through performance, activities and experiences, creating opportunity for regional audiences and artists.
Theatre Kimberley Incorporated	The Shorebird Quest 2022	\$126,725	The redevelopment of the beautiful and highly successful Shorebird Quest production, featuring giant illuminated puppets performed on the mudflats of Roebuck Bay.
Country Music Club of Boyup Brook WA Inc	Boyup Brook Country Music Festival	\$161,200	The Boyup Brook Festival is a re-imagined COVID-safe festival showcasing WA's best musicians across the breadth and diversity of Australian County Music.

#### TAS (4 Projects - \$540,994)

Beaker Street Ltd	Beaker Street: A reimagined festival and expanded year-long program of engagement and events	\$282,800	A state wide, year round festival of art and science in lutruwita/ Tasmania, diversified and expanded to reach more audiences, more often.
The Trustees of the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery	Twist	\$153,000	A major exhibition and associated programming that explores Dickensian themes that resonate with Tasmania's colonial past, with a contemporary and quirky twist.
DRILL Performance Company Inc	2022 Major Performance Season – Dissolving Labels	\$40,000	A youth dance performance, collaboratively developed between young people and artists working in dance, visual art, experimental sound and theatre.
Holy Holy	Holy Holy National Tour	\$65,194	A full list of shows across regional Australia following a lengthy hiatus imposed by COVID-19.

#### ACT (1 Project - \$327,000 Funding)

<p>Australian Library and Information Association</p>	<p>Online Story time creating value for families and creators</p>	<p>\$327,000</p>	<p>Families will beam Australian library story times direct to their lounge rooms with Australian authors, illustrators and publishers who will gain from greater engagement and new revenue sources.</p>
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