



## **THE HON PAUL FLETCHER MP**

Minister for Communications, Urban Infrastructure, Cities and the Arts

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

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#### **An extra \$5 million for Victoria's creative sector to RISE**

The Morrison Government is helping the Victorian arts sector get back on stage, with 18 organisations across the state to share in more than \$5 million under the second 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 latest RISE funding will begin to flow immediately to creative sector organisations throughout Victoria, which are seeking to restart, re-imagine or create new cultural and creative activities.

“The Arts and entertainment sector is pivotal to Victoria’s identity, supporting cultural expression, community and social wellbeing, along with significant employment and economic benefits for the state,” Minister Fletcher said.

“That is why we’re excited to see more than \$5 million flow immediately to rejuvenate the sector, which will support 18 innovative projects and create more than 3,100 job opportunities across Australia.”

One of the largest grant recipients in Victoria is Agency Projects Trust, who will receive \$785,000 in funding to partner with 25 Indigenous Art Centres, to transform their community collections and galleries into interactive and immersive experiences.

“This is an exciting community-owned and operated project that will empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists, culturally and linguistically diverse artists, and artists with disability to create unique and energising arts and cultural experiences to attract larger and new audiences to their centres,” Minister Fletcher said.

Peking Duk Touring will receive more than \$90,000 in funding to perform in 15 regional centres throughout Australia in 2021 to audiences of over 20,000 attendees.

“This grant is directly supporting Australia’s energetic contemporary music scene and will in turn provide work for crew, suppliers, managers, agents, promoters and production companies throughout the country and support affiliated industries that rely upon live touring” Minister Fletcher said.

On 25 March the Government announced the RISE Fund will be boosted with an extra \$125 million to support around 230 projects and up to 90,000 jobs, building on an original commitment of \$75 million.

In November 2020 more than \$60 million in funding was announced under Batch One of the Fund.

The successful Victorian projects listed below are part of 61 projects funded under Batch Two of

RISE. The full list of Batch Two recipients will be announced in the coming weeks at:  
[www.arts.gov.au/covid-19-update](http://www.arts.gov.au/covid-19-update)

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Organisation	Project Name	Funding	Description
Nicholas Clark Management Pty Ltd	Nicholas Clark Management 2021/2022 COVID-safe Touring Program.	\$387,697	Five productions of innovative work for families, touring to 38 regional and metropolitan venues in five states.
Peking Duk Touring Pty Ltd	Peking Duk Australian Regional Tour	\$91,500	Peking Duk Australian regional tour.
Stella Rose Productions	Tim Ferguson - A Fast Life On Wheels. Melbourne season 2021	\$25,000	Tim Ferguson's Multiple Sclerosis has put him in a wheelchair. But MS won't stop Australia's busiest comedian, screenwriter, movie-maker, author and comedy writing teacher.
Melbourne Jazz Limited	Melbourne International Jazz Festival 2021	\$177,755	Australian artists performing in 120 events across 30 venues at the Melbourne International Jazz Festival 2021.
The Trustee for Agency Projects Trust	Addressing the digital divide for remote Indigenous Art Centres	\$785,000	Agency will partner with Indigenous Art Centres to transform their community collections and galleries into interactive and immersive experiences.
Kids Promotions Pty Ltd	KIDS LIFE - Live Interactive Family Entertainment	\$411,679	Innovative and reimaged offering of the annual calendar of LIVE touring concerts targeted to preschool children and their families.
Kadimah Jewish Cultural Centre and National Library	Kadimah Yiddish Theatre	\$220,000	The creative development and production of Australian theatre works.
Melbourne Writers Festival Inc	Melbourne Writers Festival 2021 - Hybrid and COVID-safe	\$100,000	Combines the large-scale, live festival events with the newly developed digital capabilities learned by the Festival in 2020.
A Thoughtful Spot	Lior & Domini Forster - Animal in Hiding	\$191,950	A collaboration between critically acclaimed singer/songwriter Lior, together with emerging artist, Domini Forster.
The Brickman Exhibitions (Aust) Pty Ltd	Brickman Jurassic World	\$668,416	A unique artistic exhibition — immersive scale re-creation of Jurassic World scenes in LEGO® bricks.
Photo Australia Ltd	PHOTO 2022 International Festival of Photography: Bringing art to the streets of Melbourne	\$290,000	Commissioning ten Australian artists to create site specific works to be presented at iconic locations in central Melbourne and regional Victoria.

Theatre Works Limited	Resurgence - Reactivating the independent sector	\$290,000	Resurgence Initiative offers three targeted programs to restart, invest in and sustain the independent sector.
Velodrome Events Pty Ltd	Reunion Park	\$441,948	A transformation of Melbourne's iconic 'Burnley Circus Site' into Australia's first COVID safe, bespoke, Winter friendly outdoor live music and performing arts venue.
Remix Summits PTY Ltd	REMIX Summit Sydney 2021	\$99,030	REMIX will provide online summit access, develop year round online community support, including online courses and extending REMIX Academy. REMIX is located in Victoria and the Summit held in Sydney.
Good Life Music Festivals Pty Ltd	Lost City u18s Music Festival	\$290,000	Annual large-scale outdoor festival where teens are entertained with two stages of DJ's and live music.
Victorian Opera	Victorian Opera Digital Outreach	\$276,783	An opera connecting regional, national, and international audiences with live performances, speaking to Australia's First Nations heritage through operas both new and old.
Melbourne Street Eatz Pty Ltd	Melbourne Street Eatz Reloaded	\$205,676	A celebration of music, food, arts and entertainment uniting and inspiring local and surrounding communities.
Essential Theatre Incorporated	The Dream Laboratory	\$91,722	Immersive theatrical experience created for The Palais Theatre, inspired by Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream".