



## THE HON PAUL FLETCHER MP

Minister for Communications, Urban Infrastructure, Cities and the Arts

### MEDIA RELEASE

30 July 2021

#### **\$40 million boost for Australia's creative sector to RISE**

Australia's creative and entertainment sector has received a major boost, with the Morrison Government announcing that \$40 million will be shared by 82 leading organisations across the country, under the fourth 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 this \$40 million in funding is especially important during such a difficult period for the sector.

"Demand for RISE funding has been significant since it opened last year. The latest funding will be allocated immediately to create more than 56,000 employment opportunities across the country," Minister Fletcher said.

"RISE has been critical in supporting Australia's live performance venues and events during an unprecedented time of widespread disruption from the pandemic."

Creative Economy Taskforce Chair and Museum of Contemporary Art Director, Liz Ann Macgregor OBE, said the funding is a crucial lifeline for the sector to continue delivering events.

"RISE is rebuilding confidence and assisting arts and entertainment businesses to provide audiences with cultural and creative experiences nationwide. The strong demand for the program is indicative of the importance of this investment," Ms Macgregor said.

"The funding is also invaluable for the broader economy, generating employment and economic activity for other industries such as hospitality and tourism."

In this new batch of projects, the RISE Fund is supporting festivals such as the Adelaide Fringe, and the Sounds West Festival to implement COVID-safe measures and infrastructure including signage, tracking and hand sanitiser stations.

Almost one third of the projects funded to date have been provided funding for COVID safe measures and infrastructure.

Australia's premier Blues festival *Bluesfest* will receive \$2.4 million, the highest amount of RISE funding ever delivered, to reignite the festival with an all Australian line-up following consecutive COVID-19 cancellations in 2020 and 2021.

In March 2020, the Morrison Government announced the RISE Fund would receive an extra \$125 million, building on an original commitment of \$75 million.

To date, the Government has allocated \$140 million of the \$200 million RISE Fund, creating more than 145,000 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.

The full list of Batch Four recipients and further information on the RISE Fund is available at:  
[www.arts.gov.au/covid-19-update](http://www.arts.gov.au/covid-19-update)

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**Batch Four recipients:**

NSW

Organisation	Project Name	Funding	Description
Bluesfest 2021 Pty Ltd	Bluesfest 2021 - The October Edition	\$2,400,000	Bluesfest will be reignited with an all Australian line-up between 1st - 4th October 2021 – following consecutive COVID-19 cancellations in 2020 and 2021.
Chugg Music Pty Ltd	The Squeeze Music Festival (2022)	\$600,000	A live music festival tour showcasing multiple Australian performers hosted throughout the country with a focus on reaching regional locations and audiences.
TEDxSydney Ltd	TEDxSydney 2021-2023 Event Series	\$700,000	A series of TEDxSydney cultural events (curated mix of talks, performances and films) spanning two years featuring Australia's emerging thinkers, leaders, artists and innovators.
Squabbalogue Independent Music Theatre Incorporated	Touring and Co- production Development	\$850,000	The development of new Australian works of music and non-music theatre, working collaboratively with regional presenting partners to create productions specifically for regional touring.
Art Byron Ltd	Art Byron	\$170,000	Art Byron is a platform for contemporary art - showcasing local and internationally acclaimed artists to celebrate creativity, culture, and diversity to a regional audience.
Words on the Waves	Words on the Waves Writers' Festival June 2022	\$75,000	Annual destination festival featuring diverse author conversations, workshops, kids' events and literary experiences. The festival will attract visitors and create employment for authors and businesses.
Sydney Improvised Music Association Inc	NSW Regional Touring Network for Contemporary Music	\$207,600	Establishment of a Regional Touring Network in NSW providing employment for musicians, venues, hospitality and technical staff, supporting sustainable touring circuits in NSW.

Moshcam Pty Ltd	World Stage	\$360,000	Leveraging its global video streaming platform, Moshcam will showcase to the world the live performances of Australian artists filmed over 2 years.
CiCADA International Ltd	Australian Women in Music Concert Series	\$150,000	A unique concert series to showcase the extraordinary talent of Australian female artists, musicians and music practitioners in a safe, high profile, public context.
Handsome Tours Australia Pty Ltd	A More Perfect Union	\$406,195	A More Perfect Union is a music festival curated by Sydney's Gang Of Youths and produced by Handsome Tours.
Seymour Centre	Seymour Centre's Artistic Program: Sept 2021 - Nov 2022	\$496,339	Seymour's 2021-2022 artistic program will employ artists to deliver performances throughout 16 months of multi-genre productions and events.
Lost Paradise Glenworth Valley Pty Ltd	Recovering 'Lost Paradise': Re-Starting a sell-out Festival in Regional NSW	\$496,473	Lost Paradise will deliver a world-class, live-music festival to patrons in regional NSW, while providing critical income to performing artists and associated industries.
Adrian Bohm Presents Pty Ltd	Just for Laughs Comedy Festival	\$350,389	Just For Laughs is Australia's biggest fully-curated comedy festival, held at major venues across Sydney with TV broadcasts nationwide, promoting emerging and established Australian comedians.
Museums & Galleries of NSW	Community Outreach for Barbara Cleveland 'Thinking Business' Regional Tour	\$125,490	Museums & Galleries of NSW will support regional galleries to re-engage with audiences through community outreach programs aligned with the nationally touring Barbara Cleveland 'Thinking Business' exhibition.
Viral Ventures (Australia) Pty Ltd	The Immersive Theatre Experience	\$350,000	The project will launch two new immersive experience/performance hubs in Sydney and Brisbane, providing ongoing employment for performers and artists over 18 months, reactivating city centres.
Australian World Orchestra	Australian World Orchestra 2022 concert series, education and upskilling program.	\$485,500	Australian World Orchestra's 2022 concert series' throughout Australia, featuring Australia's finest classical musicians, incorporating an upskilling, development program for the next generation of artists/arts workers.
Word Travels	Story Week: Incubate - Create - Celebrate	\$396,504	The project will see Story Week expanded to a national program that will employ writers to deliver live and online literature activities and performances, including workshops and poetry slams.

Poetry In Action	Poetry in Action: Creating Art and Artists for the Future	\$380,000	Poetry In Action will employ, train and upskill artists; develop a revolutionary mainstage show; perform educational theatre shows; and conduct a community-based Indigenous literacy program.
Sound West Ltd	2021 Sound West Festival	\$375,000	A pioneering new five-day music and digital/technology festival in Western Sydney employing and upskilling artists, forging career paths, activating venues and platforming diverse talents.
Illawarra Performing Arts Centre Ltd. trading as Merrigong Theatre Company	Spiegelent Wollongong, 2022 and 2023	\$436,732	Spiegelent Wollongong 2022 and 2023 will restart this diverse, popular performing arts festival, bringing to life the Wollongong Arts Precinct.
Writing NSW	National digital hub for writers	\$222,000	Writing NSW will establish a new digital hub for writers, providing high-quality, research-based information and services for writers of all backgrounds, abilities and geographical locations.
The Merchants of Bollywood Pty Ltd	The Celebration of Swing	\$497,250	A concert production, taking audiences on a musical journey through the history of big band swing music of the early 1930s in the USA.
Love Police Touring Pty Ltd	Out On The Weekend Festival 2021 - A Celebration of Americana Music and Lifestyle	\$90,000	Love Police Touring will present 'Out On The Weekend' 2021 edition, an Americana music festival at Seaworks, Williamstown supporting culture, tourism and the local economy.
The Trustee for Empire Touring Trust	Empire Touring Festival Series	\$1,542,000	Empire Touring Festival Series, comprising Wildflower, Spring Loaded & Sunset Sounds, celebrates Australian music for all ages, in over 20 destination locations throughout the nation.
SIX Joint Venture	SIX The Musical	\$900,000	Six Tudor queens take the microphone to reclaim their identities, taking 500 years of historical heartbreak into a pop-queen celebration of 21st century girl power.
TEG Live Pty Ltd	TEG LIVE Summer Series	\$900,000	TEG Live Summer Series sees two major music icons KISS and Keith Urban bringing their individual world class live concert tours to Australia.
Pride In The Parkland Pty Ltd	Pride In The Parkland	\$397,328	Pride In The Park is a new annual outdoor music & art festival for LGBTQIA+ audiences & allies making its way across Australia in 2021.

National Institute of Dramatic Art	NIDA Connect	\$690,024	NIDA Connect partners with organisations in regional Australia to provide new access to world-class creative industry training for diverse local artists and aspiring young people.
Century Venues Pty td	Sydney Guitar Festival and Metro Weekly Music Program	\$674,800	Live at the Metro and Sydney Guitar Festival is a celebration of music for the young and young at heart.

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There Is A Free Lunch Pty Ltd	Good Things Festival	\$889,599	The Good Things Festival in 2021, creating economic activity, jobs and performance opportunities for Australian artists and audiences.
Gumball Enterprises Unit Trust Trustee Gumball Enterprises Pty Ltd	Cosentino Deception NSW/QLD/TAS 2021 Tour	\$523,700	Cosentino's 'Deception' is a world-class production bringing death-defying escapes, mind-boggling stage illusions and cutting-edge street magic to theatres across regional Australia.
Lorne Sculpture Exhibition Inc	2021 Lorne Sculpture Biennale	\$131,910	Lorne Sculpture 2021 is a vibrant festival celebrating the best of Australian and international sculpture.
The Australian Ballet School	Butterfly Tour - The Australian Ballet School	\$200,000	Butterfly is a new production, commissioned to demonstrate the skills of The Australian Ballet School's emerging artists, inspiring audiences with a new Australian work.
Creative Production Services Group Pty Ltd	Kaleidoscope	\$650,714	Kaleidoscope is a large-scale installation artwork that immerses the audience in a multi-dimensional structure that evokes a sense of awe and wonder.
The Archie Roach Foundation	The Archie Roach Foundation Stage at Port Fairy Folk Festival	\$400,000	In 2022, the Port Fairy Folk Festival will launch the Inaugural Archie Roach Foundation Stage, curated by Archie Roach and his local Gunditjmarra community.
TEG Dainty Pty Ltd	Guns N' Roses	\$750,000	Iconic rock band, Guns N' Roses back on stage and touring across Australia.
Imagination Workshop Pty Ltd	Rescheduled tour of Roald Dahl and The Imagination Seekers	\$178,637	A national tour of "Roald Dahl and The Imagination Seekers" through regional and metropolitan Australia.

Sensible Antixx	Sensible Antixx Presents; Sensible Soiree's	\$82,700	Sensible Antixx presents "Sensible Soiree's." Hosted at live music venues, the community minded events will showcase diverse line ups of Melbourne's creative sectors.
Museum Of Play and Art Melbourne Pty Ltd	Museum of Play and Art (MoPA) Melbourne	\$277,578	This project will create exhibitions to bring MoPA, the celebrated museum where children and families learn to play through the creative arts, to a new Melbourne location.
MMF Pty Ltd	Reactivating the Meredith Music Festival and Golden Plains Festival 2021/22.	\$651,000	Reactivating Meredith Music Festival and Golden Plains Festival in 2021/22 to celebrate the 30th and 15th year anniversary milestones, respectively.
One World Entertainment Pty Ltd	Under The Southern Stars	\$1,000,000	Under The Southern Stars - a national, one day live music festival held in stunning locations throughout Australia.
Wangaratta Festival of Jazz Inc	Wangaratta Festival of Jazz & Blues Artistic Program	\$121,421	The project will boost the Wangaratta Festival program to include multiple venues, artists, & community engagement enabling continuation of support for Australian artists and attracting broad audiences.
Red Hill Entertainment Pty Ltd	UNIFY Gathering 2022	\$557,500	Restarting the UNIFY Gathering festival, a 3-day, camping festival in Tarwin Lower in January 2022 following cancellation in 2021 due to COVID-restrictions.
PSV Enterprises (Aust) Pty Ltd as trustee for Finders Keeper Entertainment Group Unit Trust	Ultra Music Week – Australia	\$500,000	A week bringing together Australian and Asia/Pacific artists and workshops, culminating in ULTRA Melbourne, where audiences will enjoy the best in Electronic Dance Music.
The trustee for Seventh Tipple Trust	The Tote Rocks 40	\$274,576	A multi-pronged accessible program celebrating The Tote's unique ongoing contribution to Australian music whilst directly investing in employment and viability of musicians and related economies.

Casino Promotions Pty Ltd	Shake Rattle 'n' Roll	\$208,600	Shake Rattle 'n' Roll is a spectacular stage production featuring an all-Australian cast of performers including award-winning Latin Ballroom dancers from 'Dancing With The Stars'.
Illusive Presents Pty Ltd	Immersive Cinema	\$451,446	The project will reinvent the film and theatre experience, blurring the line between performance and audience. The audience will step into the world of their favourite movie.
The Hills Are Alive Group Pty Ltd	NYE on the Hill 2021	\$178,200	Restarting the NYE On The Hill in Gippsland in December 2021, following cancellation due to COVID-19 in 2020.
Australian National Academy Of Music Ltd	The ANAM Set Weekend	\$73,700	The 'ANAM Set Weekend' harnesses the collective impact of new Australian music over a two-day Festival.
Live Nation Australasia Pty Ltd	National anniversary tour	\$1,092,760	A national anniversary tour of an Australian Band.
Memetica	Giant Steps in Far North Queensland	\$44,704	A year-long process of community training and performance in Far North Queensland, growing the reach and impact of giant characters Janggaburru and the Bush Turkey.
Wildlands Music Festival Pty Ltd	Future-proofing Wildlands: Queensland's largest contemporary youth music festival	\$459,160	Wildlands will expand and adapt to deliver a multi-day, multi-city music and arts festival.
Festival X Pty Ltd	FestivalX	\$1,037,690	FestivalX one-day festival tour performing in Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth.

## WA

Perth International Jazz Festival Inc	Perth International Jazz Festival	\$612,813	Perth International Jazz Festival looks towards its 2021 & 2022 festivals at a number of venues throughout Perth and commencing its regional expansion in WA.
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Fremantle Biennale Inc	First Lights	\$965,055	"First Lights" is a place-responsive, Aboriginal-led story-telling project and choreographed drone light show, to be delivered across 2021 - 2023.
The Trustee for Sloan Family Trust	Wave Rock Weekender, Edition 16 (2021) and 17 (2022)	\$350,000	Wave Rock Weekender, a remote annual music, film, art and camping festival centred around Wave Rock in Hyden, WA, in 2021 and 2022.
Origin Fields	Origin Fields 2021/2022	\$672,556	Origin Fields will present their annual New Year's Eve Festival as a 3 day festival event.
The Trustee for the Factory Festival Trust	Factory Summer Festival	\$800,000	With innovative and creative experiential activations and live music, a reimagined Factory Summer Festival will showcase and support Australian artists and industry across Australia.
Awesome Arts Australia Ltd	25 Years of Pure Awesome!	\$87,000	A spectacular large-scale family event in the heart of Perth, featuring the West Australian Ballet, celebrating 25 years of the Awesome International Arts Festival.
Gascoyne in May Inc	CREALITY/ CRE8/Gascoyne Travelling Arts Festival	\$195,000	CREALITY is a Travelling Arts Festival which will build substantial & enriching engagement opportunities for all six communities of the Gascoyne.

#### ACT

National Folk Festival Ltd	The National Folk Festival Reimagined	\$900,000	Find your HOME / Find your FAMILY / Find your FOLK. The National Folk Festival reimagined in its 30th year in Canberra.
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#### NT

NT Writers' Centre Inc	Reimagining NT Writers' Centre's Year-Round Activities	\$98,451	To support the strength and recovery of the NT literary sector from the impacts of COVID-19, the NT Writers' Centre will present reimagined year-round programming.
The Trustee for Manapan Furniture Trust	Manapan Djama Gumumandji, Putting Together Work and Enterprise	\$300,000	An immersive exhibition of the Yolngu people through art, artefacts, and historical photographs at the Museum Art Gallery of the Northern Territory.



**QLD**

Capricorn Film Festival Inc	film+art=#capfilmfest 2022	\$83,910	Capricorn Film Festival is Central Queensland's premiere film arts destination event situated in the picturesque Yeppoon, providing a heightened cinema experience to locals and tourists alike.
Sound Australia (Qld) Pty Ltd	Savannah in the Round	\$625,350	Savannah in the Round is a multi-day music, camping & cultural festival held at Kerrabee Park Rodeo Grounds, Mareeba (Cairns & Great Barrier Reef region).
Brisbane Philharmonic Association Inc	A concert series and regional tours featuring acclaimed harpist Emily Granger performing with Brisbane Philharmonic Orchestra and Queensland Youth Orchestra.	\$102,000	A concert series by Brisbane Philharmonic Orchestra in collaboration with Queensland Youth Orchestra encompassing regional touring formulated around the acquisition of a new Concert Harp.
Circa Contemporary Circus Ltd	Circa Cairns	\$600,000	Circa Cairns leverages Circa's global reputation to establish the first professional circus ensemble in Cairns accelerating the cultural and economic revitalisation of Far North Queensland.
Dead Puppet Society Ltd	The Wider Earth	\$238,635	Design and development work to tour the critically acclaimed visual theatre production The Wider Earth through regional Australia from February - April 2022.
Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC	QUAMPI Arts and Culture Centre Opening program development	\$610,000	The development of exhibitions, product lines and cultural heritage content in preparation of the QUAMPI opening March 2023.
Vast Yonder Pty Ltd	Yonder	\$150,000	Yonder Festival is a three day immersive multi-arts festival experience in the rolling hills of Mary Valley, Queensland, taking place in November 2021 and 2022.
Jungle Love Festival Pty Ltd	Jungle Love 2022: Queensland Artists in Focus	\$260,200	Jungle Love will continue their regional festival and create work opportunities for emerging artists from diverse backgrounds to deliver new, original works to new audiences.

Metro Arts Ltd	MAVA Program: A catalyst to transform the careers of contemporary visual artists post-COVID.	\$400,000	MAVA Program invests in visual artists to build their capacity through innovative use of digital and public engagement opportunities to create sustainable career pathways.
Ash Sounds Pty Ltd	Falls Music and Arts Festival 2021/22	\$1,475,000	Now in its 28th year, Falls Music and Arts Festival is an outdoor music festival that generates millions in regional economic benefits in three states.
Jet Black Cat Music	Nine Lives Festival	\$74,163	Nine Lives Festival is a celebration of music, community and inclusivity taking place annually in Meanjin (Brisbane) presented by Jet Black Cat Music.

#### SA

Gravity & Other Myths Pty Ltd	Develop, Diversify, Endure - A collaboration and audience diversification initiative	\$800,000	Through the realisation of strategic projects, Gravity & Other Myths will expand and diversify its audience reach and creative portfolio ensuring economic growth and long-term company sustainability.
WOMADelaide Foundation Ltd	WOMADelaide 2022	\$1,200,000	WOMADelaide's 30th anniversary will celebrate cultural and creative diversity from some 600 Australian artists. The program will include significant artists from across the festival's illustrious history.
Rural City of Murray Bridge + Murray Bridge Regional Gallery	Murray Bridge Silo Art	\$88,500	Commissioning of a large-scale mural of regional significance on a silo as the centerpiece for a broader program of mural works in the town.
State Opera South Australia	Major Opera Production	\$369,000	Major Opera production to be announced in October.

Adelaide Fringe	Adelaide Fringe 2022	\$1,000,000	Australia's largest multi-category arts festival, will support venues and artists to present COVID-safe experiences, including outdoor venues, digital innovations, industry collaborations and site-specific works.
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**TAS**

Roar Film Pty Ltd	Unshackled	\$195,000	A musical exploration of Tasmania's convict diaspora performed by a cast of eminent storytellers, digital artists, songwriters and musicians.
City of Hobart	City Pilots	\$120,000	A public art program supporting creative practitioners from any discipline to explore temporary, creative ideas for Hobart's real life and online public spaces.
The Theatre Royal	The Rocky Horror Show	\$180,000	The Theatre Royal and John X Presents will present Tasmania's first commercial musical: Richard O'Brien's The Rocky Horror Show.