



bUzz

Music Board, Australia Council
Young and Emerging Artists' Initiative

Closing Date: 1 March 2004

Embargo Date: 10 June 2004

bUzz 2004 round 1 – Assessment Report

bUzz is the Music Board's small grants program for young and emerging artists, supported through the Commonwealth Government's Young and Emerging Artists Initiative. This is the third year that the Music Board has offered this initiative and there is no doubt it has become an important avenue for supporting young and emerging artists and providing flexible support for young music/sound artists and arts workers.

Applications to the first round of bUzz for 2004 were assessed on Tuesday 11 May 2004 by a four-member panel – Music Board Chair Dr. Graeme Koehne (SA), Board member Fr. Arthur Bridge (NSW) and participating advisors Kylie Burtland and Andy Rantzen (both from NSW). The Music Board then formally endorsed the recommendations of the panel.

There are two rounds for this initiative in 2004 with a total budget of \$120,000. For the first round, the panel approved grants totalling \$59,989.

How your proposal was assessed

The assessment panel looked at all the proposals in relation to the three criteria:

- how it will help you develop as a professional artist
- the quality of the artists and their music, and
- the merit of the project and evidence of thorough planning.

The applications were ranked from the highest score down and funding was given to the projects that rated highest against these criteria.

How many people applied?

| bUzz 2004– round 1 | Proposals received | Proposals approved | Success rate | Amount requested | Amount approved |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1 March 2004 | 59 | 27 | 45.8% | \$138,495 | \$59,989 |

Competition for bUzz grants remains high, and in this round many interesting and high quality proposals were unable to be supported. The panel commented on the high standard of applications and the increasing diversity of musical genres and styles, ranging from dance/electronica to classical. Panel members faced a difficult task in choosing the best applications from a very strong group, and were pleased to support several mentorships within the mix of creative and developmental applications.

Who were the successful applicants?

| Client Name | Application Title | State | Amount |
|-------------------------------|--|-------|-----------------|
| Aurora Jane | the printing and pressing of a 7-track EP and promotional postcards | NSW | \$2,469 |
| Barnes, Michael | a contribution toward a new Big Band jazz composition by Michael Barnes | OS | \$1,500 |
| Borsboom, Alesa | the recording and production of a debut full-length album by Alesa Lajana | QLD | \$2,500 |
| Briscoe Sisters | a contribution towards recording an EP and producing a music video to promote the Briscoe Sisters | QLD | \$2,000 |
| Calandra, Bianca | the development of new songs in collaboration with other musicians for a new album | NSW | \$2,500 |
| Culture Connect | the recording and manufacture of an album by Darwin hip-hop group Culture Connect | NT | \$2,500 |
| Daina | the presentation of a concert by Latvian youth Choir Daina to celebrate the group's 20th anniversary | VIC | \$1,500 |
| Doecke, Melissa | assistance towards advanced study in flute performance at the Royal Academy of Music | ACT | \$2,500 |
| Dr Octopus | participation in the Atlantis music conference, Georgia USA | QLD | \$2,000 |
| Eyelash Records | the manufacture and release of a vinyl sampler of Australian dance/electronica artists | NSW | \$2,500 |
| Fragnito, Joseph | attendance at the second World Marimba Festival in Belgium in August 2004 | SA | \$2,500 |
| Heaney, Bethany | a contribution to the recording of a demo CD with producer Monius for distribution to radio stations | NSW | \$2,000 |
| Hot Rubber Glove | a contribution towards the recording of an album with UK dub producer Mad Professor (Neil Fraser) | QLD | \$2,000 |
| Hunt, Anthony | a mentorship with internationally renown organ virtuoso Thomas Heywood | SA | \$2,000 |
| Kizmet | a mentorship with producer/engineer Anton Hagop to develop new music recordings | QLD | \$2,500 |
| Lim, Patrick | a mentorship in vocal studies and music theatre in New York with emerging artist Anthony Hunt | SA | \$1,500 |
| Moxham, Amanda | attendance at the Early Music Summer School focusing on French Baroque music in Innsbruck, Austria | VIC | \$2,500 |
| Sunwrae | a contribution toward recording and manufacture of an album by Sunwrae contemporary music ensemble | VIC | \$2,000 |
| Tapered Edges | the completion of recordings, mastering and pressing for a debut album by the band Tapered Edges | NSW | \$2,500 |
| Taylor, Zoe | a contribution towards advanced study in opera at the Royal Northern College of Music | NSW | \$2,000 |
| The Farinkle/Pugowski Quartet | a tour of south-eastern Australia by Sydney jazz group the Farinkle/Pugowski Quartet | NSW | \$1,520 |
| Tragic Delicate | the recording of a full-length album of new material by Tragic Delicate for release in 2005 | WA | \$2,500 |
| Ughetti, Eugene | a collaborative project to commission, perform and record three new solo percussion works | VIC | \$2,500 |
| Urban, Tashka | the recording and marketing of a debut album by singer/songwriter Tashka Urban | NT | \$2,500 |
| Waiter | a contribution towards professional artists fees for mixing a debut full-length album | TAS | \$2,500 |
| Windsor, Grant | the manufacture and distribution of a jazz piano trio album of original compositions | WA | \$2,500 |
| Zorbas, Claudia | a professional recording session for violinist Claudia Zorbas with orchestral accompaniment | WA | \$2,500 |
| Total | 27 Projects | | \$59,989 |

Feedback for the future

If you were not successful this round, please don't be discouraged. There is strong competition for any funding opportunity, including bUzz, and the fact that you applied is an important step. We encourage you to keep working towards finding outlets for your creative projects, whether through your own networks, community or youth organisations, local, State/Territory or Federal sources of support.

Some tips to consider when putting together an application:

- Read the guidelines carefully and check the starting date for projects – many funding organisations, including the Australia Council, do not support projects that have already started.
- Supporting letters – although these are optional, supporting letters can strengthen your application by indicating that your project is well planned and that key artists such as musicians, producers, engineers or mentors have confirmed their involvement. Supporting letters may also comment on your development as an emerging artist and highlight the merit of your project.
- When selecting support material, sound quality is very important – CDs are preferred to video, as the sound quality on the latter may be poor. Recordings that can be played on a stereo are preferable to those only playable on a computer.
If submitting home-burned CDs, please check them before submitting them as a small number of CDs received are not playable.
- If you are unsure about anything, speak to the Youth Music Officer or other music staff about your proposal before you submit it.

Other opportunities

For other sources of funding, you may want to contact your local council or State/Territory arts department. Contemporary music organisations and industry associations are also a good point of contact for opportunities happening in your area.

The Noise festival, an Australian Government initiative managed by the Australia Council, is offering opportunities to young artists again in 2004. Check out their website at:
<http://www.noise.net.au/>

If you were successful in bUzz this round then you cannot apply to bUzz in the future. Other opportunities exist in the Music Board's main grant categories:
<http://www.ozco.gov.au/boards/music/>; music@ozco.gov.au; 02 9215 9104; 1800 226 912.

The next closing date for bUzz is 16 August for projects starting after 1 December 2004. If you would like to discuss your ideas before submitting a proposal to the second round of bUzz, please contact the Youth Music Officer, on (02) 9215 9127 or music@ozco.gov.au.

Thanks again for your interest in bUzz and for all the hard work that went into your proposals to the 1 March 2004 round of bUzz.

Lia Kemp
Acting Youth Music Officer

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