



Media Release – For immediate release

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Budget delivers for live music but fails to commit to a bold vision for live performance and creative industries more broadly

The Morrison Government has delivered a major live music package but failed to deliver any new investment to Australia's much larger \$2.5 billion live performance industry.

Live Performance Australia (LPA) Chief Executive, Evelyn Richardson welcomed the Australian Music Industry package and said, "This is a significant and well overdue investment in Australia's live music industry and we are pleased to see the Government recognise the economic and cultural importance of our music sector which is worth close to \$1 billion locally plus cultural exports of \$6 billion.

"The \$30.9 million package announced in the Budget will support the domestic live music scene through supporting live music venues and providing critical investment for indigenous music, a women in music mentor program and exports.

"The package also addresses some key issues faced by the live music industry that emerged during the House Standing Committee on Communications and the Arts' inquiry into factors contributing to the growth and sustainability of the Australian music industry.

"However, we are disappointed that the Government has not done more to leverage the significant economic and cultural value of all live performance or the creative industries more broadly. It's now some four years since the Catalyst fiasco and with the exception of the Live Music package, we have yet to see any meaningful policy initiatives or plan for the future.

"LPA put forward a number of proposals to Government in its Budget submission to support new Australian content, drive industry development and job creation for our \$2.5 billion live performance industry.

"Each year more than 23 million people attend a live performance in our capital cities, regional centres and country towns. Live performance promotes Australian talent and creativity across a range of genres, and is a major driver of our visitor and night time economy, attracting visitors from interstate and overseas to see performances or attend festivals.

"It's time for the Morrison Government to commit to a broader, bolder vision and some significant long term, strategic policy initiatives that support its future growth," Ms Richardson said.

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About LPA

LPA is the peak body for Australia's live performance industry. Established 100 years ago in 1917 and registered as an employers' organisation under the *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009*, LPA has over 400 Members nationally. We represent commercial producers, music promoters, major performing arts companies, small to medium companies, independent producers, major performing arts centres, metropolitan and regional venues, commercial theatres, stadiums and arenas, arts festivals, music festivals, and service providers such as ticketing companies and technical suppliers. Our membership spans from small-medium and not-for-profit organisations to large commercial entities.

LPA has a clear mandate to advocate for and support policy decisions that benefit the sustainability and growth of the live performance industry in Australia.