

HELPMANN AWARDS

Media Release – For Immediate Release

28 April 2021

2021 Helpmann Awards Cancelled

Live Performance Australia (LPA) today regretfully announced that the annual Helpmann Awards cannot be presented in 2021 due to the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency, and its impact on live performance venues and productions across the country.

“Due to the impact of COVID on our industry over the past 12 months, it’s not feasible to proceed with presenting the 2021 Helpmann Awards,” said LPA Chief Executive Evelyn Richardson.

“Our industry is only now getting back to work and there is still more to be done to ensure we can fully operate in every state and territory at 100 percent capacity in all indoor and outdoor venues. For our live music sector in particular, some significant challenges remain before it can fully reactivate.

“While we are deeply disappointed to make this decision, we are taking the opportunity to take a step back and reimagine the Helpmann Awards for 2022 onwards.

“Planning for next year’s event will be undertaken shortly and we will have more to say about that in the second half of the year.

“Our priority right now continues to be getting all of our industry across the country fully operational, back on stage and touring.

“We have focused all of our resources on reopening in a COVIDSafe way so that we are part of Australia’s economic and social recovery. We are heartened by the support of patrons and fans across the country who are coming back to our theatres and live music venues. Our aim is to bring back to millions of Australians the pleasure of live theatre and music presented by some of the world’s best creative talent,” Ms Richardson said.

The Helpmann Awards are the premier celebration of Australia’s vibrant live performance industry. These national awards recognise distinguished achievement and excellence in Australia’s live performance sectors including musicals, contemporary music, comedy, opera and classical music, theatre, ballet, dance and physical theatre, presentation for children and young people, regional touring and cabaret.

The Helpmann Awards were established in 2001 by LPA.

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