



### Canberra International Music Festival

is one of Australia's leading art music festivals. Held annually in May and now in its 30th year, CIMF is recognised as a cultural event of national significance, with programming unique to the national capital.

The Festival was founded in 1994 as a community organisation dedicated to supporting emerging musicians. Initially a chamber music festival, CIMF's artistic scope now embraces the full spectrum of contemporary art music, alongside the Western canon and various classical traditions from around the world.

The Festival is proud to contribute to the ongoing development of new music in this country having commissioned around two hundred new works.

We are committed to commissioning diverse voices including Indigenous composers and women composers, both of whom are under-represented in contemporary art music. We also nurture the talents of the next generation of Australian artists, providing exciting opportunities for young composers to create new works

**A Major Lift**, the Festival's commissioning circle, brings together music lovers who support the creation of new Australian music to be premiered at the Festival.

*Support our creators and help keep this vital art form vibrant.*

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*Many thanks to all the fabulous Major Lifters who have contributed to commissioning nineteen new pieces of music by terrific Australian composers over A Major Lift's first five years from 2019-2023.*

*Catherine Hawkins, Founder, A Major Lift, 2023*

### How can I donate?

Your generous donation (minimum \$500) to **A Major Lift** will fund diverse and exceptional Australian composers to create new music.

Your donation is tax deductible and will be recognised in the Festival program and on our website. We respect your privacy and you can choose to remain anonymous.

To donate to **A Major Lift** scan the QR or visit:  
[cimf.org.au/support/commissions](http://cimf.org.au/support/commissions)



You can also donate by direct deposit

Name: Canberra International Music Festival Ltd.  
Public Fund Bank: Bank Australia (Branch: Canberra Centre, Canberra ACT 2601)  
BSB: 313 140  
Account number: 1222 8387

If you would like to hear more about **A Major Lift**, we would love to hear from you.

Contact our Development Officer, Olivia Swift on 02 6230 5880 or [info@cimf.org.au](mailto:info@cimf.org.au).



# Be part of a **majorlift**

for Australian music



CANBERRA  
INTERNATIONAL  
MUSIC  
FESTIVAL

[cimf.org.au](http://cimf.org.au)



## COMMISSIONS

### The first five years - 2019-2023

19 new pieces of music

6 new pieces of music by Indigenous composers

9 new pieces of music by women composers

#### 2019

##### Chris Sainsbury

###### *Bark of the 'Bidjee'*

For violin, flute, guitar, percussion and didgeridoo

Premiered by Véronique Serret, Sally Walker, Callum Henshaw, Bree van Reyk and William Barton on 5 May 2019

##### Jess Green

###### *Sing the Sky*

For solo countertenor

Premiered by Tobias Cole on 6 May 2019

##### Jess Green, Bree van Reyk, Nick Wales

###### *Loure - A Bach Remix*

For violin, piano, percussion, electric guitar, string ensemble and marimba trio

Premiered by Bach Akademie Australia, Véronique Serret, Jess Green, Nick Wales, Bree Van Reyk and Trio SR9 on 3 May 2019

##### Nick Wales

###### *Harbour Dark (Five Bells)*

For string quartet

Premiered by Bach Akademie Australia on 7 May 2019

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*Having the opportunity of a commission through A Major Lift came at a critical point in my career. I was just beginning to see pathways for myself as a composer, and making works for CIMF was a catalyst for me artistically, allowing me to draw on experience as a jazz composer and musician who has collaborated in many art music projects and begin to find my own voice.*

*As well as this, having this prestigious festival listed in my CV has boosted my profile, and helped me secure further commissions such as working with Patricia Piccinini and the NGA. I am truly grateful for the support from CIMF and its donors. These opportunities to work are vital for emerging composers like me.*

*Jess Green, Composer 'Sing the Sky' 2019*

#### 2020

*(premiered in 2021)*

##### Brenda Gifford

###### *Djiribawal (The Elements)*

For ensemble

Premiered by the Australian Art Orchestra and William Barton on 30 April 2021

##### Kate Neal

###### *Fanfare (2020 Beaver Blaze)*

For brass quintet

Premiered by Golden Gate Brass on 30 April 2021

##### Luke Styles

###### *Solder*

For brass quintet

Premiered by Golden Gate Brass on 3 May 2021

##### Bree van Reyk

###### *Replica Garden*

For percussion

Co-commissioned with the Australian National Botanic Gardens

Premiered by Ensemble Offspring on 30 April 2021

#### 2021

##### Christopher Sainsbury

###### *Rain Falls, and After*

For guitar duo

Premiered by Andrew Blanch and Vladimir Gorbach on 9 May 2021

##### Nardi Simpson

###### *Yugal Mudhaybaraay*

###### *(Possum Song)*

With assistance from the Australia Council's Cherry Fund

Premiered by Yuwaalaraay Women and Girls on 2 May 2021

##### Brian Howard

###### *Sentinel*

For mixed ensemble with contraforte

Premiered by Noriko Shimada, Ensemble Offspring, Shefali Pryor, James Nightingale, Miles Mullin-Chivers, and members of Golden Gate Brass on 1 May 2021

#### 2022

##### Eric Avery

###### *Bundian Fiddle*

For violin/voice

Premiered by Eric Avery on 7 May 2022

##### Brenda Gifford

###### *Walimbaya (Return)*

For double bass

Premiered by Benjamin Ward on 7 May 2022

##### Damian Barbeler

###### *Scenes from the Bundian Way*

For two violins, percussion, clarinet, and double bass.

Premiered by Eric Avery, Louise Devenish, Anna McMichael, Jason Noble, Benjamin Ward and conducted by Damian Barbeler on 7 May 2022

##### Kim Cunio

###### *John and Pauline Learn Farsi*

For voice and kamancheh

Premiered by Gelareh Pour on 29 April 2022

##### Solomon Frank

###### *Human's Got Talent*

###### *(Naughty Girlies Unite XD)*

For narrator and ensemble

Premiered by Solomon Frank, Jason Noble, Niki Johnson, Jacob Abela and Ben Ward on 6 May 2022

##### Kate Neal

###### *On Foot*

For clarinet, double bass and violin

Premiered by Benjamin Ward, Jason Noble and Anna McMichael on 7 May 2022

#### 2023

##### Flora and Theo Carbo

###### *Momentually*

For saxophone, guitar, viola, keyboard, double bass and singers

Premiered by Flora Carbo, Theo Carbo, Katie Yap, Donald Nicolson, Jacques Emery and Luminescence Chamber Singers on 1 May 2023

##### Dan Walker

###### *Hillscape*

For electronics and three dancers, with choreography by Ashlee Bye

Premiered by Australian Dance Party on 28 April 2023



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