



The Bells ring for Australian Jazz Talent

As the winners share prize money of \$35,000

Nominations are open for the most prestigious awards in Australian Jazz.

The Australian Jazz Bell Awards, dubbed 'The Bells' in honor of the Australian jazz pioneer Graeme Bell AO MBE, have established themselves in just eight years as a high point on the Jazz calendar.

'The Bells are now the most coveted Jazz Awards in the nation,' Albert Dadon AM, Chairman of the Australian Jazz Awards, said. He said The Bells' significant prize money, \$35,000, would be judged by a panel of respected Australian and international figures in Jazz and shared among the winners in seven categories.

'The recognition of your peers that The Bells bring is something that you can't put a price on,' he said, 'but the financial reward is tangible: it acknowledges the professionalism of Australia's Jazz artists. And the successful musicians, the cream of our Jazz community, are grateful for these Awards. They help musicians dream of, and initiate, future projects.'

Nominations for the Australian Jazz Bell Awards 2010 close on February 10.

Albert Dadon is Chairman of the Jury panel, which includes Australian and international Jazz critics and key figures in the industry - John McBeath, Michael Tortoni, Adrian Jackson, John Shand, Laurence Donohue Greene and Martin Jackson - who will choose the seven winners from three shortlisted nominees in each category.

The winners will be announced on April 15 at the most glamorous presentation ceremony in Australian Jazz.

The Awards categories are:

- **The Bell Award for Best Australian Jazz Vocal Album** (For a CD led by or featuring a vocalist)
- **The Bell Award for Best Australian Contemporary Jazz Album**
- **The Bell Award for Best Australian Classic Jazz Album**
- **The Bell Award for Best Australian Jazz Song of the Year**
- **The Bell Award for Best Australian Jazz Ensemble of the Year** (Based on recordings and/or live performances and achievements within the past year).
- **The Bell Award for Young Australian Jazz Artist Of The Year** (For musicians up to and including 25 years of age)
- **Graeme Bell Hall of Fame** (Recognising outstanding artistic achievement, and contribution to Australian Jazz)

For further information and to download the nomination forms: www.bellawards.org

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