Australian Music Centre

artist profile - biography guidelines



The following information is provided to assist our artists, by outlining the required style, format and submission method for online biographies and so ensuring a consistency of style across all biographies.

Responsibility for keeping biographies, photos and contact details up-to-date resides with the artist. The Contribute system is the current mechanism for updating biographies and other details.

If no biography is provided by an artist, the Australian Music Centre will compile a biography from information lodged in the artist's biographical file – from other biographies, CVs and/or articles – when priorities in workflow allow for this to occur.

Credo

Length 40 words **Style** 2 – 3 Sentences

- The purpose of a composer credo is to summarise a composer's aesthetic viewpoint, compositional style, or attitude towards their compositional output. It should not include information about commissions, honours or performances of works. E.g.:
 - Hyde said of her music: I feel my music can be a refuge for what beauty and peace can still be omnipresent...the triumph of good over evil. I make no apologies for writing from the heart.
 - * Hyde's special awards included the OBE (1981), AO (1991), International Woman of the Year (1991-92) for service to music, bestowed by the International Biographical Centre, Cambridge, and Hon. F.Mus.A. (1995).
- While composer credos are not a mandatory aspect of a composer's biographical data, the AMC strongly
 encourages composers to include this information as it assists in the promotion of composers and their
 work in the online environment.

Biography

Length 350 – 400 words **Style** prose

- The Australian Music Centre follows spellings in the Shorter Oxford Dictionary. Please refer to the Australian Government's Style Manual (formerly Australian Government Printing Service [AGPS]) Style Manual] for information pertaining to punctuation, grammar etc. Biographies that do not conform to these guidelines will be edited so they appear in accordance with the house style.
- Titles of books, musical works, etc. should appear in *italics*. Italics can also be used, sparingly, for emphasis and foreign words. **Bold type** is not accepted.
- Biography should be written in **third person**. Composers should, ideally, be referred to by their **surname**. After feedback from artists we're now also allowing bios that refer to artists by their first name but please be consistent.
- **Single inverted commas** should be used for quotes and not competitions, names, etc. (see Style Manual for guidance).

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- Biographical text should be **no longer** than 400 words. Biographies which exceed this limit will be edited accordingly.
- Please ensure permission is obtained if your biography is copyright protected, before submitting.
- Please ensure that you provide details about the biography author and also the rights holder for your biography.

Information to include

- ✓ Statements about aesthetic viewpoint or attitude towards your compositional output
- ✓ Statements about influences and compositional style
- √ Names of 1-2 works which the composer believes to be representative of their style
- ✓ Awards and other honours received

Other Information might include

- ✓ Date of birth, place of birth
- ✓ Education: institutions; degrees, diplomas, etc. gained; teachers; informal training such as private composition lessons and private study
- Composition-related non-musical interests, non-composition-related musical interests (e.g. amateur conducting)
- ✓ Other artform practices (e.g. visual arts, dance)
- ✓ Names of a few commissioners (no more than eight)
- ✓ Significant performers of works
- ✓ Other relevant information (e.g. relevant employment, life experiences)

Do not include

- Complete or near-complete lists of works, whether separate or within the body of the text
- × Long lists of commissions
- Numerous links to external websites (performers, organisations, festivals). Links to your own websites will be included at the top of the biography as requested consider keeping this list relatively short.
- Long sections on philosophical, political or environmental beliefs. If relevant to composition, please keep to a moderate length
- Long lists of awards received—limit to four or five which the composer considers to be of greater importance than the rest
- × Press quotes
- Performance dates, unless truly significant

Photo

- The AMC reserves the right to crop images.
- Please ensure permission is obtained for any copyright protected images, before submitting.
- Please ensure that you provide details about the biography author and also the rights holder for your biography.

Last updated: May 2016