VCA Music Theatre

New Australian Music Theatre Project -2016

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

VCA Music Theatre is seeking submissions for the development of new Australian music theatre works.

This programme provides STAGE ONE support for the development of two new Australian music theatre projects and STAGE TWO support for further development and a sung reading of one of those two projects.

All submissions will be shortlisted by the Head of Music Theatre and the Music Theatre Faculty. An Industry Panel of up to five members will select TWO projects from the shortlist for STAGE ONE development.

IN STAGE ONE (February 22-26, 2016): Both creative teams will be present to work with VCA Music Theatre students for one week on the development of the project. This is a process focused week with no showing at the end. Both creative teams will be required to submit a new draft of the project by the beginning of May. During STAGE ONE each project will receive:

- A $5000 fee for the writer/composer team to be present during the week’s development.
- An accompanist for one week.
- A dramaturg for the development week plus three follow-up meetings before the submission deadline in May.

At the conclusion of STAGE ONE, Music Theatre staff will select one project only to move on to STAGE TWO.

IN STAGE TWO (September 19-25, 2016): One project will receive a week of rehearsal/development with third year students to be followed by a script-in-hand, moved/sung reading on Sunday, September 25. The reading will be presented in one of VCA’s studio theatres but without production elements. The reading will be for an audience made up of both general public and industry professionals, with the aim of attracting commercial producers who may be able to assist in the further development of the work. During STAGE TWO the project will receive:

- A $3000 fee for the writer/composer team to continue developing the work and to be present during rehearsals.
- A Director for the rehearsals and to facilitate a post-reading debrief (this may be the dramaturg, or the director from Stage One or someone else selected by VCA Music Theatre staff)
- A Musical Director/Accompanist for rehearsals, to provide musical dramaturgy, to play for the reading, and to contribute to a post-reading debrief.
- A dramaturg to support the development between June and September, and during rehearsals and to contribute to the post-reading debrief.

(NB in both stages of development, the creative team carries no responsibility for the assessment of students.)

ELIGIBILITY:

To be eligible for selection in the New Australian Music Theatre Project:

- The Writing/Composing Team must be Australian citizens or residents
- The work must be original, or an adaptation from another source with an original score
- You must own the rights (including adaptation rights) to the work submitted
- It must be a new work that has not previously been produced (works that have previously received a reading or a creative development workshop are eligible)
- It must not be a work that is based around or tailored to a particular artist
- Other than the Writing/Composing Team, the work must not come with an attached creative team (Director/Music Director/Choreographer)
- You must be available to participate in both STAGE ONE (February) and STAGE TWO (September) of the project.
- Work that has previously been submitted to this program must have been substantially redeveloped to be eligible
WHAT YOU NEED TO SUBMIT:

PLEASE ONLY SUBMIT THE MATERIAL AS REQUESTED. SUBMISSIONS THAT DO NOT FOLLOW THESE GUIDELINES MAY BE RETURNED.

- Title of the Project (may be a working title only)
- Primary Contact Person (name, email address, phone contact)
- Names, titles and 50 word bios of all members of the Writing/Composing Team. (one A4 page only)
- One paragraph synopsis of the project’s story (up to 100 words)
- Brief overview of the history and development of the project (up to 300 words)
- One page synopsis of the songs and story of the project (one A4 page only)
- One page Character Breakdown (one A4 page only)
- Script/Scene sample (up to 10 A4 pages) DO NOT SUBMIT A FULL SCRIPT
- Song/Music samples (up to 3 songs on MP3 plus sheet music) DO NOT SUBMIT A COMPLETE RECORDING OR SCORE

PLEASE SUBMIT ALL WRITTEN MATERIAL AS ONE WORD OR PDF DOCUMENT ALONG WITH SEPARATE MP3 FILES FOR SONGS.

Projects at concept stage are eligible providing you can meet the script and song submission requirements. This may be work-in-progress material from the project being submitted or, if necessary, samples from previous work that can be used as a reference point and as an example of style.

There is no limit on the style or genre of the work. Projects may explore the broader possibilities of Music Theatre. They may contain spoken or sung-through material and are not required to not be in linear or traditional formats.

NB:
- Shortlisted works will be invited to submit a complete script or outline and a complete score and/or recording
- The Writing/Composing Team retains full ownership of the work
- Any monies offered during this process will be awarded to the respective project(s) and not to individuals regardless of the number in the creative team (book writer, composer, lyricist etc).
- Copyright owners will be expected to agree to make the following acknowledgement in any future licensing agreements or productions - Originally developed with the support of the Victorian State Government, through Arts Victoria and the Victorian College of the Arts.

TIMELINE:

November 3rd, 2015 Submissions open
December 11, 2015 Submissions close
December 18, 2015 Stage One Projects Announced

February 22-26, 2016 Stage One – Creative Development and Dramaturgy
March 1 – May 6, 2016 Stage One – continued development, writing and dramaturgy
May 6, 2106 Stage One Projects Resubmission Deadline
May 27, 2015 Stage Two Project Announced

September 19-24, 2016 Stage Two – Rehearsal Week
September 25, 2016 Stage Two – Moved/Sung Reading

SUBMISSIONS MUST BE MADE BY EMAIL, NO LATER THAN 5pm, DECEMBER 11, 2015 to:

Margot Fenley, Head of Music Theatre
Faculty of VCA & MCM, The University of Melbourne
newwork-musictheatre@unimelb.edu.au

(please use only WORD, PDF and MP3 formats)

Any further enquires can be made by email to newwork-musictheatre@unimelb.edu.au