

MEDIA RELEASE

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MIPI SUPPORTS BUDDING SINGER SONGWRITERS THROUGH FRETTFEST

MIPI has pledged support for budding Queensland singer songwriters through the Fretfest “Find of the Year” competition. Fretfest was recently launched in Brisbane by the Queensland Minister for Education, Training and the Arts Rod Welford who referred to Fretfest’s proven track record in finding new musical talent such as Pete Murray, Bobby Flynn, Rob Longstaff or Sarah Watson – all past Fretfest participants.

MIPI is providing all Fretfest entrants with Fact Sheets about protecting their rights and is running a number of seminars to educate entrants about copyright and the importance of balancing the protection and promotion of their work.

MIPI General Manager, Sabiene Heindl stated “Fretfest is an incredible opportunity for Queensland based singers and songwriters to gain valuable experience in the music industry. MIPI’s proud involvement in the “Find of the Year” competition ensures that entrants will have access to important information on how copyright protects their music and how to strike a balance between protection and promotion in an increasingly difficult environment for young musicians. With Australians illegally file sharing an estimated one billion songs per year, it becomes imperative for emerging artists to understand how best to protect their work to ensure that they can rely on their passion for a livelihood.”

The 2007 Fretfest series is being held in four age categories with a different age group profiled each month in the Queensland Performing Art Centre’s (QPAC) prestigious Cascade Court: Under 18’s, 18-25 years olds, 26-39 year olds and 40 and over. The “Find of the Year” will be announced at a Grand Final concert at QPAC’s Playhouse Theatre on 17 November 2007.

Further details on Fretfest can be found at www.fretfest.com and www.foty07.com.

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About MIPI

Music Industry Piracy Investigations Pty Ltd (www.mipi.com.au) is an organisation that provides investigative and intellectual property right enforcement related services to the Australian music industry and engages in anti-piracy education in Australia. MIPI members include Sony BMG, Universal Music, EMI Music, Warner Music, APRA I AMCOS and many small Australian music labels.