



## **Sandi Thom, James Mercer, Daniel Jones & Angus McDonald confirmed for Song Summit Sydney (S<sup>3</sup>)**

**22 January 2008:** British singer/songwriter **Sandi Thom**, The Shin's songwriter **James Mercer**, Savage Garden's **Daniel Jones** and Sneaky Sound System's **Angus McDonald** are confirmed as guest speakers at the inaugural Song Summit Sydney.

Sandi, James, Daniel and Angus will be joining US songwriting heavyweights **Jimmy Webb** and **Paul Williams** and local artists - **Dann & Jon Hume** (Evermore), **Rai Thistlethwayte** (Thirsty Merc), **Josh Pyke**, **Melanie Horsnell**, **Eric Chapus** (Endorphin) - at the event to be held at the Hordern Pavilion and Royal Hall of Industries, Moore Park, from 3-5 April 2008. They will feature in several discussion panels and other networking forums at S<sup>3</sup>. Sandi, James, Daniel and Angus are great additions to the already stellar S<sup>3</sup> line-up.

"For me it's always about the music first, writing the songs and then delivering them to people. I am really looking forward to Song Summit Sydney: to sharing my experiences and learning from others," said Sandi.

Sandi famously came to the world's attention with her *21 Nights in Tooting* tour – three weeks of concerts that she sent out to audiences worldwide via the Internet. Her single "I Wish I Was a Punk Rocker" topped the Australian charts for a record-breaking 12 weeks.

James Mercer is the front man and chief songwriter for US indie-rock band The Shins. The band's third album, *Wincing the Night Away*, was released on January 23, 2007. It debuted at number 2 on the Billboard 200 album chart with 118,000 copies sold in its first week. The album is also nominated for a 2008 Grammy award in the category of Best Alternative Music Album.

Critics have described him as "a great songwriter, crafting classic pop-rock melodies that leap across octaves and twist in unexpected directions.... He's one of indie rock's finest lyricists" (Entertainment Weekly). According to the New York Times, "James Mercer, the head Shin, has established himself as one of indie rock's best songwriters, delivering wry lyrics that are inevitably outshone by his melodies, which are gently infectious and immediately recognizable."

\*\*\*

### **Register Now!**

Register online at [www.songsommit.com.au](http://www.songsommit.com.au) and follow the prompts for secure online booking and payment. For as little as \$150\*, you can attend one full day of S<sup>3</sup> sessions, workshops, and showcases and get entry to the exhibition. \$260\* secures a full, 3-day pass. (\*Early bird, member price. See website for details.)

APRA|AMCOS, together with the NSW Government is proud to present this unique event dedicated to the art and craft of songwriting, taking place 3-5 April 2008. S<sup>3</sup> will gather together music creators, managers, publishers, technicians, marketers, lawyers and deal makers for three dynamic days of learning, networking, workshops and, of course, performances.



Whether you're just starting out or trying to get your music to the next level, S<sup>3</sup> will provide you with crucial networking, educational, retail and cultural opportunities. S<sup>3</sup> will span all genres of music and each facet of the music life-cycle; from creation, through promotion to distribution.

\*\*\*

#### NOTES FOR EDITORS

For more information about Song Summit Sydney or to arrange an interview contact APRA|AMCOS Communications at [comms@apra.com.au](mailto:comms@apra.com.au) or (02) 9935 7900

#### About Song Summit Sydney

- Song Summit Sydney will be held from 3-5 April 2008 at the Hordern Pavilion and Royal Hall of Industries.
- The event includes a conference programme, retail exhibition and showcases.
- Over 800 songwriters, composers, music publishers and other music industry professionals are expected to attend the event.
- It will span **all genres** of music and each facet of the music life-cycle from inspiration and creation through to marketing and distribution. It will cover both the art and the business of original music-making.
- The **conference programme** will feature more than 35 presentations, panel discussions and workshops featuring celebrated creators and recognised industry experts from Australia and abroad. Topics will include the art of song-writing, new technologies, copyright, publishing, music licensing and international perspectives.
- The **retail exhibition** will feature representatives from international and national music organisations, music retailers, distributors, merchandisers, manufacturers, venue owners, recording studios, music education institutions, technology companies, record companies and music publishers.
- The **showcases** will include local and international singer/ songwriters, and will run throughout the entire event. Performers will be hand picked by a panel of industry representatives and music peers and are sure to deliver a dynamic and inspiring range of performances.
- Song Summit Sydney will be a carbon-neutral event.

The **Australasian Performing Right Association Limited** was established in 1926 and now administers the performing and communication rights of 50,000+ composer, songwriter and music publisher members in Australia and New Zealand. Public performances of music include music used in pubs, clubs, fitness centres, shops, cinemas, festivals, whether performed live, on CDs or played on the radio or television. Communication of music covers music used for music on hold, music accessed over the internet or used by television or radio broadcasters.

The **Australasian Mechanical Copyright Owners Society (AMCOS)** collects and distributes mechanical royalties for the reproduction of its members' musical works for many different purposes. These include the manufacture of CDs, music videos and DVDs, the sale of mobile phone ringtones and digital downloads, the use of production music and the making of radio and television programmes. Since 1997, APRA has managed the day-to-day operations of the AMCOS business.

(ends)