

NEWS ANNOUNCEMENT – 14 FINALISTS ANNOUNCED – June, 2018

The Best have been chosen for the 2018 Australian National Piano Award

The Australian National Piano Award presents some of the highest calibre pianists from around Australia in this prestigious classical piano competition staged every two years in Shepparton, Victoria.

Fourteen finalists aged between 21 to 30 years have been chosen by international adjudicators, Lance Coburn (Ireland), Joanna MacGregor (London) and Gerard Willems (Sydney). Their role is to listen to every note played in this fast-paced inspirational series throughout the week of September 3 – 8.

These sensational musicians are striving to win up to \$68,000 in cash and prizes. The Australian National Piano Award showcases the pianists' passion, talent and charisma on stage. The audiences are engaged and can get involved by voting for their favourite pianist leading up to the Grand Finals, and it is recorded and aired by Radio 3MBS.

Performing over 33 recitals from rounds one, two, the semi-finals leading all the way to the Grand Finals – the 2018 Pianists are:

New South Wales

Vatche Jambazian (30yrs)
James Guan (27yrs)
Enrico-Sergio Mainas (21 yrs)
Robbin Reza (23 yrs)
Hank Xiang (26yrs)
Alexander Yau (22yrs)
Jeremy So (27yrs)

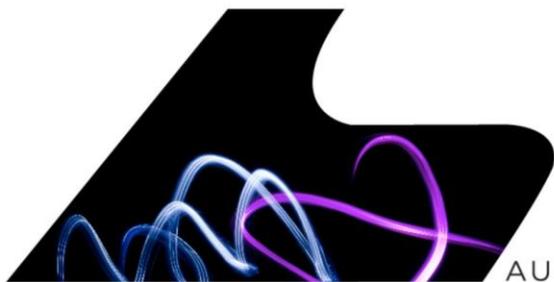
Queensland

Longjie (Roger) Cui (29yrs)
Oliver She (27yrs)
Rachael Shipard (21yrs)

Victoria

Berta Brozgul (28yrs)
Timothy Chiang (30yrs)
Joshua Hooke (25yrs)
David Soo (25yrs)

“The Australian National Piano Award (ANPA) was conceived 26 years ago and the philosophy was to provide Australian pianists with a professional platform to showcase their talent and propel their careers. This Award has since grown in stature and is now considered one of the nation's premier classical piano competitions. Recent winners Tony Lee (2016), Alex Raineri (2014), Daniel de Borah (2012), Jocelyn Ho (2010) and Jayson Gilham (2008) continue to enjoy sold out concerts – solo recitals, chamber music and in concerto appearances here and overseas, including releasing their own C.D.'s”, said President, Darryl Coote.



Set in regional Victoria at the Eastbank Centre, Shepparton – the musicians *battle it out* day and night, covering masterworks by Chopin, Beethoven, Bach, Schubert, Debussy and many others. Their repertoire is filled with variety as they approach with the pinnacles of the Baroque, Classical, 19th Century Romantic French Impressionist eras, as well as music written after 1950.

The Award attracts high profile sponsors, patrons and supporters – including the Greater Shepparton City Council, The Commonwealth of Australia’s Department of Communication & the Arts and the Governor of Victoria.

From start to finish, the musicians are given a warm country welcome, synonymous with the people of Shepparton, who are very proud to host this hot contest and major event every two years.

Recitals at the Eastbank Centre, Shepparton – 3 to 8 September, 2018

When:	Monday 3 Sept	1pm – 3.30pm & 7.30pm – 10.30pm
	Tuesday 4 Sept	1pm – 3.30pm & 7.30pm – 10.30pm
	Wednesday 5 Sept	1pm – 3.30pm & 7.30pm – 10.30pm
	Thursday 6 Sept	1pm – 3.30pm & 7.30pm – 10.30pm
	Friday SEMI FINALS	12noon – 5pm (5 finalists perform)
	Sat. GRAND FINALS	7.30pm – 11pm (3 finalists perform)

Tickets: Monday - Friday: \$10 per session

Saturday Grand Final \$30 Adults, \$20 concession, \$10 students

Book: Tickets and packages at Riverlinks reservations: 03 5832 9511

Visit: www.australianpianoaward.com.au to read the news about the musicians who they are, what times they ‘battle’ it out and more!

Facebook.com/australianpianoaward;

Instagram.com/austnationalpianoaward; [Twitter.com@AustPianoAward](https://twitter.com/AustPianoAward)

For media interviews with the pianists, the judges and the people behind the scenes - please contact: Nicola Archer, Nicola Archer Communications on 0419 002 769 or nicola@nicolaarcher.com