



**WAM MEDIA RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
[23/04/2010]**

**WAM SONG OF THE YEAR 2010 – LAUNCH WITH NEIL MURRAY**

*You are invited to...* The WAM SONG OF THE YEAR 2010 LAUNCH  
*with special guest - singer songwriter Neil Murray*

*"Lots get written about Neil's words, his authentic links to indigenous Australia, his pioneering journey with the Warumpis. All of this is true enough. But what I like best about his songs is that he writes great chord progressions that groove. They have the right amount of 'edge' and 'soul' to work with the stories that he sings about. And Neil has written many great songs consistently over a long period of time. All power to him."*

**- David Bridie, Singer/Songwriter/Producer**

Having written over 100 songs performed by himself and other artists, Neil Murray was awarded the APRA song of the year in 1995 for *My Island Home*. Originally written for the Warumpi Band, it was later re-recorded by **Christine Anu**. *My Island Home* has become something of an unofficial anthem and featured in the closing ceremony of the Sydney 2000 Olympics.

Neil Murray performs regularly at festivals and live music venues in Australia and overseas. Neil Murray's albums are out through ABC Music. For more on Neil's considerable songwriting achievement, visit [neilmurray.com.au](http://neilmurray.com.au)

In this special session for songwriters, Neil will reflect on his career and give insight into how he writes songs - including explaining how *My Island Home* was written - finding and harnessing the inspiration, the processes, working out what works, and will illustrate points along the way by performing a number of his songs. Neil will be taking questions from the audience, and has prepared a *songwriting help sheet that will be available for all attendees*.

***This is a rare opportunity for songwriters in Perth to gain an insight into the work and methods of a celebrated Australian songsmith.***

**When:** Monday 26 April (ANZAC Day Holiday) - 7:00pm till approximately 9:00pm (bar open from 6:00pm)

**Where:** Empyrean (the old iMax), 12 Lake St, Northbridge

**Tickets:** \$20 on the door, **please register by email** or call WAM on 9227 7962 to ensure your spot is reserved.

**Please register now tickets are selling fast so get in quick to make sure you don't miss out.**

Neil's lyric book *Native Born* is now available from WAM, and will be on sale at the event next Monday. These retail for \$25 each - and **we will give away one copy of this book on the night from the list of pre registrations received by Friday April 23!**

**Please note that u18's are welcome to attend.**

**OFFICE ::** 1st Floor, 58 James Street Northbridge WA 6003 | **MAIL ::** PO Box 171, Northbridge WA 6865  
**T ::** +61 8 9227 7962 | **F ::** +61 8 9328 7711 | **W ::** [wam.asn.au](http://wam.asn.au) | **E ::** [wam@wam.asn.au](mailto:wam@wam.asn.au)  
**N ::** [myspace.com/musicwa](http://myspace.com/musicwa) | [facebook.com/musicwa](http://facebook.com/musicwa) | [twitter.com/musicwa](http://twitter.com/musicwa)

The WAM Song Of The Year is presented by WAM and the Mental Health Commission of WA. **Entries are open now, and close on Monday 26 July.** **Entry Forms** are now online and will also be available at the launch.

- ENDS -

For further media information, please contact:

**Daphne Tan** – Project Officer, WAM Song Of The Year

p: +61 (0)8 9227 7962

e: [daphne@wam.asn.au](mailto:daphne@wam.asn.au)