



WAM MEDIA RELEASE

EMBARGOED UNTIL 13 OCTOBER 2011

Keywords / Metadata: *song, writing, songwriting, competition, award, soty, band, act, west, australia, schools, all-ages, regional, indigenous, Blues, Roots, Country, Electronic, Dance, Experimental, Heavy, Metal, Jazz, Pop, Rock, Urban, Hip, Hop, World, Folk, mental, health*

Timothy Nelson wins WAM Song of the Year 2011

Folk popster **Timothy Nelson** was last night awarded the **WAM Song of the Year Grand Prize** for his song, ***Speak the Truth in Love***, at the annual **WAM Song of the Year Awards Night**.

Earlier in the evening he had taken out the award for the Love category. No stranger to WAM Song of the Year, Nelson has previously won awards in the Country (2009) and Upper Secondary (2007) categories, though this year was the first time he'd won the Grand Prize, showing that practice indeed makes perfect in the craft of songwriting.

The Grand Prize consists of \$2,000 cash, attendance at the 2012 Song Summit in Sydney, opportunity for a publishing deal with Perfect Pitch Publishing, 3 days recording at Poons Head Studio, mastering with James Hewgill Music, 500 CDs pressed by DiskBank, a RØDE Microphones package, Berkleemusic course and the opportunity to perform at the 2012 WAMi Festival with the winning song included on the 2012 Kiss My WAMi compilation.

Timothy Nelson was presented with the Grand Prize award by the Hon. Helen Morton MLC (Minister for Mental Health) at the Fly By Night Musicians' Club in front of a full house of nominees, fans, sponsors and industry VIPs. The Minister earlier also presented the award for the Mentally Healthy category won by 18 year old Perth emcee **Complete** with his song **Reason to Live**.

The night was hosted by the hilarious ABC Radio's 720 'Drive' presenter **Russell Woolf** with live performances by this year's Pop category winners **The Panda Band**, Indigenous category nominees **Bartlett Brothers**, **The Big Old Bears** and last year's Grand Prize winner, **Georgi Kay**.

A complete list of winners is attached.

The Mental Health Commission of WA was once again the presentation partner for the competition and Mentally Healthy category sponsor. This special category allowed songwriters to share songs dealing with positive messages relating to mental health. The message for WAM Song of the Year 2011 is "*Music talks about mental health, so can you.*"

Support also comes from major partner APRA|AMCOS; Grand Prize Sponsors: Berkleemusic, DiskBank, James Hewgill Music, Perfect Pitch Publishing, Poons Head Studio, RØDE Microphones; Media Partners: Drum Media, RTR FM 92.1, X-Press Magazine; Print Media Sponsor: The Sunday Times; and Online Sponsor: Perthnow.com.au(.)

For more information please visit wam.asn.au/songoftheyear.

- ENDS -

For further information, please contact:

Daphne Tan, Coordinator – WAM Song Of The Year

p: +61 (0)8 9227 7962

e: daphne@wam.asn.au

w: wam.asn.au/songoftheyear



WAM SONG OF THE YEAR 2011 WINNERS

Embargoed until 13 October 2011

[Winner's town/suburb in grey]

GRAND PRIZE WINNER

Timothy Nelson - *Speak the Truth in Love*
[Willetton]

BLUES / ROOTS

Matt Cal (Black Heart Sun) - *Overdrive*
[Kalamunda]

COUNTRY

Gary Dobbin (Tank 7even) - *Wheatbelt*
[Nannup]

ELECTRONIC / DANCE

Bastian's Happy Flight - *My Love's (Not Good Enough)*
[Maida Vale]

EXPERIMENTAL

Tangled Thoughts of Leaving - *They Found My Skull in the Nest of a Bird*
[Northbridge]

HEAVY

Tangled Thoughts of Leaving - *Throw Us to the Wind*
[Northbridge]

INDIGENOUS

John Bennett - *Wangkaja*
[Broome]

JAZZ

Elliot Hughes - *Another New Beginnings Again*
[Coolbinia]

LOVE

Timothy Nelson - *Speak the Truth in Love*
[Willetton]

MENTALLY HEALTHY

Complete - *Reason to Live*
[Tuart Hill]

POP

Damian Crosbie & David Namour (The Panda Band) - *51 Swimsuits*
[Dianella]

REGIONAL

Jarrad D Bowles (Junior Bowles) - *Until the Siren Sounds*
[Boyanup]

ROCK

Sam Carmody - *Sally*
[Trigg]

SCHOOL AGE – UNDER 14 YEARS

Katharine Penkin - *I Miss Her*
[Dianella]

SCHOOL AGE – 15 TO 17 YEARS

Morgan Bain - *Unkind*
[Scarborough]

WORLD / FOLK

Rhys Wood - *Another Sunday Morning*
[Warwick]

URBAN / HIP HOP

The Stoops featuring Georgi Kay (Produced by Rae) – *Free*
[Heathridge, City Beach]