S.L.A.M / Fair Go 4 Live Music / Music Victoria

Over 20,000 Victorians demand that ‘high-risk’ conditions be de-linked from live music.

PETITION DELIVERY WEDNESDAY APRIL 7TH 2010 at 12.30pm

Since the closure of The Tote Hotel in mid-January, the Fair Go 4 Live Music petition has been collecting signatures from music lovers all around Victoria, calling on the State Government to overturn the link between live music and ‘high risk’ conditions on liquor licenses for live music venues.

Melbourne’s musicians and music lovers marched through the city streets for the SLAM Rally on February 23rd and it’s time to return to the steps of Parliament with the delivery of the petition to the Legislative Council on Wednesday April 7th at 12.30pm by various decades of well-known Victorian musicians.

The Victorian musicians who will be presenting the Fair Go 4 Live Music petition to Parliament are:

1930s - Harold Frith
1940s - Mike Rudd
1940s - Ross Wilson
1960s - Jon Von Goes
1960s - Kram
1970s - Clare Bowditch
1970s - Angie Hart
1980s - Dan Sultan
1980s - Evelyn Morris

More musicians to be confirmed.

Harold Frith – Leader, founder and drummer for The Thunderbirds. The Thunderbirds were one of the first and became the biggest of the early Australian rock’n’roll bands in the 50’s.

Mike Rudd - Singer of the legendary Australian progressive rock band Spectrum and Ariel in the 1970s. Mike Rudd is still going strong today and regularly plays with Spectrum at the Lomond in East Brunswick amongst other venues. Spectrum is best known for its iconic National #1 hit single ‘I’ll Be Gone’, which has remained one of the best-known songs of Australia classic rock.

Ross Wilson – Founder and front man of Australian rock groups Daddy Cool and Mondo Rock and the writer of many of their hits including the all-time champion Oz rock classic ‘Eagle Rock’. There are occasional reunions with those groups and he currently leads Ross Wilson & The Urban Legends and regularly releases solo albums. Wilson was individually inducted into the ARIA Hall of Fame in 1989 and again as a member of Daddy Cool in 2006.

Jon von Goes - Musician and RRR broadcaster. He’s been doing Sunday afternoons for about 15 years. He’s also a civil celebrant and has captained the mighty RRR/PBS megahertz football team for years.
Kram – Drummer and vocalist for rock band Spiderbait who had two top ten albums and another three albums reach the Australian top 40 plus a #1 single with their cover of ‘Black Betty, now performing as a solo artist.

Clare Bowditch – Won the Best Female Artist award at the 2006 ARIAs, and was runner up in the International Song writing Competition (2008) in the singer/songwriter category for her song ‘Peccadilloes’. She is currently Yen Magazine’s ‘Young Woman of the Year’ (Music).

Angie Hart – Singer best known for her role as founder and lead vocalist in the bands Frente!, who had National top five hits with ‘Accidentally Kelly Street’ and ‘Ordinary Angels’, and Splendid.

Dan Sultan – Solo singer and member of The Black Arm Band, who plays what he calls rock’n’roll and is often called world music. His father was Irish and his mother was Aboriginal from the Arrernte and Gurindji people. Sultan released an album called ‘Homemade Biscuits’ with the help of John Butler’s Seed program and won the Single Release of The Year at the 2007 Deadly Awards for his song ‘Your Love is Like a Song’.

Evelyn Morris – Better known as Pikelet. Although she’d played piano from a young age she began her career in music as a hardcore/punk obsessed drummer, performing in many bands such as Baseball and True Radical Miracle. In 2003 she switched from drum kit to a mix of instruments and a loop pedal to start a solo career, touring throughout Australia, Europe and New Zealand independently.

Despite the signing of the Live Music Accord with the State Government, the link between live music and ‘high risk’ still exists. More disturbingly, no venues have had their high risk conditions removed since the signing of the Accord. The music industry and the public want to see real action on this issue. We want action, not just Accords. The threat to Victoria’s vibrant live music culture remains in place. The 22000 signatures attest to the public support of live music. SLAM, FG4LM and Music Victoria will redouble their efforts to bring this issue to the attention of the public.