

# Lily Grace

## Biographies for Australia Council of the Arts Project

### Tim Riley, Music Executive/Mentor, Nashville

Tim Riley's client list, past and present, reads like a "Who's Who" in the history book of popular music and chart-toppers. Riley "worked" the pop and r&b records of the Rolling Stones, B.J. Thomas, Marvin Gaye, Aretha Franklin, Phil Collins, Creed, Foreigner, Hall & Oates, Whitney Houston, Bette Midler, Billy Joel, Aerosmith, Bread, John Denver, Hootie And The Blowfish, REM, Elton John, Kiss, Patti LaBelle, Queen, Seals & Crofts, Led Zepplin, Dionne Warwick, and Cher. A complete client list of artists no less notable follows.

When he turned his promotion services toward country music, it was the record label executives and personal managers of country hit-makers such as LeAnn Rimes, Shania Twain, Garth Brooks, Zac Brown, Jason Aldean, Tim McGraw, Alan Jackson, Willie Nelson, Jason Aldean, Reba McEntire, Dolly Parton, Bill Monroe, Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, and Martina McBride who called for his services. He custom-designed audio content for radio on these acts, and in many cases produced "World Radio Premieres," radio specials, multi-station radio tours and media days.

Riley is driven by results. His promotion contributions have reached across musical genres to affect a massive number of recording careers and success stories. Riley has been involved in the sales, promotion and marketing of more than 1,100 singles and 400 albums that appeared on national music trade charts, He has received more than 90 gold and platinum albums recognizing his services and expertise.

He continues to design marketing plans and new artist development strategies. "It's critical in this industry to utilize an incredible amount of creativity, and strategy and campaigns have to be designed and implemented in a timely and professional manner. I take all of this very seriously. At the end of the day, this is a business, a career, someone's dream, and their livelihood" says Riley.

### James Blundell – Mentor/Past Co-Collaborator, Stanthorpe QLD

Acknowledged by many as the act that single-handedly shaped modern Australian country music, James Blundell was the first young Australian country act to sign a major record label deal in Nashville, which has since paved the way for the likes of Keith Urban, Catherine Britt and Kasey Chambers. In addition to his own success he has penned hits for Lee Kernaghan, Slim Dusty and Jimmy Little. He is also the recipient of numerous CMAA Awards, double platinum, platinum and gold sales awards and is a five-time ARIA Award nominee with one win to his name.

In 1992, James found mainstream success thanks to the smash hit single, "Way Out West", with former Australian Crawl front man, James Reyne. The song debuted at #28 on the ARIA charts before peaking at #2 a month later. The song was ranked #22 on the ARIA End of Year Singles Charts while his platinum selling album, "This Road", came in at #28 on the ARIA End of Year Albums Charts above acts including Madonna, AC/DC and Roxette.

He has achieved a string of platinum albums and top 10 pop chart success, turning him into an Australian household name. Since the release of their co-written song and tour together, Blundell continues to act as a mentor to Lily Grace, guiding her through the industry, offering advice, performance opportunities and feedback on her music.

### Kevin Briggs, Respected Musician, Gold Coast

Kevin Briggs has established himself as a well-respected musician, guitarist, songwriter and composer on the international music scene. There are few modern popular music genres that Kevin has not turned his skilful hands to. He has performed and recorded with many diverse artists from the R&B, soul, funk, rock, blues, new country and pop genres. Kevin has toured extensively throughout Canada, The United States and England as well as Scotland, Ireland, Wales, Portugal, The United Arab Emirates, Oman, Bosnia, Bulgaria, Argentina, Ethiopia, Malta, Norway, Palestine (West Bank) Australia, Indonesia and Japan.

Kevin's skills as a guitarist have not gone unrecognized. He has been featured in many music publications. The most

noteworthy are: Canadian Musician Magazine (Canada's largest selling music publication.) and Guitar Player Magazine (This U.S.A. based magazine features the top players on the international guitar scene.)

Some of the musicians Kevin has recorded or performed with include: BB King, Eric Clapton, Incognito, Alexander O'Neal, Soul II Soul, Westlife, Boney M and Michael McDonald.

Kevin's ingrained musicality enables him to capture what is best for a song every time with his evocative, soulful and melodic playing. Kevin is a great mentor to Lily Grace and often performs as her session musician and as her guitarist.

### **Tara & Rod Peters, Managers, Gold Coast**

Rod and Tara Peters are an integral part of the management, marketing, and business team for Lily Grace. Tara Peters has a Commerce (Marketing) background and manages all graphic design, website, marketing, administration, gig & festival bookings, event planning, media scheduling, contracts, transport, technical stage requirements, printing and merchandise. Rod Peters, has a business consulting & accounting background, and is integral to overall planning, strategic marketing, social media management and engagement, networking, relationships, finances and legal matters. Rod is involved in implementing Lily Grace's plans to ensure that her projects have the best possible outcome, both economically and for her artist profile.

Together, Lily Grace's team work on the timely delivery of all projects and bring the resources together that are required with intensive involvement, work and input from Lily Grace.

### **Little Sparrow PR, Karen Lindsay, Owner/Director, Gold Coast**

Karen spent several years in the field of music publicity, before launching her own boutique agency 11 years ago. Her extensive background in the entertainment industry was established during her time at Sydney firm, Ambition Entertainment, being heavily involved with the promotion of Sydney based rock band Stone Parade as well as publicity for former member of The Ten Tenors, Gregory Moore. Little Sparrow continues to grow, with full time clients ranging from emerging independent artists to Emmy winning and multi Grammy nominated US recording artist, Toni Childs. Having a reputation of becoming a favourite of Country Music Artists, Little Sparrow PR has been integral in helping develop the profile of Queensland artists such as Casey Barnes and Natalie Pearson.

Karen has a wealth of experience and offers national publicity to independent and established artists across all mediums, tailored to a client's individual needs. She specialises in working with emerging artists in a world of entertainment that is ever-changing, helping them to find a broader audience. Services include single/album releases, tour promotion, social media campaigns, branding and artist development. Karen is passionate about attaining success for those in her care and bringing new talent to the entertainment industry.

### **Okay Spider Productions - Michael Flanders - Producer, Brisbane/Nashville**

Australian award winning producer/writer Michael Flanders and co-founder of Pacific International music publishing moved to the Nashville, USA in 2007. In the 1980's-90s, Flanders worked as a staff songwriter with Warner/Chappell Music, then as a producer for Alternative and Pop acts in Australia, receiving an ARIA recognition for his work with pop artists Chaise and multi-platinum young artist Nikki Webster.

During this period, he has built a healthy publishing catalogue of over 1100 songs and has administration on 12 catalogues with high profile names attached. His production credits include Josh Arnold, Nik Phillips, Jill King, Garrison Star, and Siobhan Magnus to name a few. He has produced 19 Hot 30 Country Singles, 4 of which made number 1. He cemented his status in the Americana and Alt Country scene with 3 records for artists Coles Whalan, Jill King and Mitzi Dawn. He has also written and recorded with American Idol Siobhan Magnus. In 2014, he finished writing and producing a multi-platinum record for pop star, Nikki Webster.

Flanders has worked with Heidi Newfield, Robyn Lajoya Charles (Ray Charles daughter), Doug Seegers, Buddy Miller/Jim Lauderdale, Tayla Lynn (Loretta Lynn's grand-daughter, Ky-Mani Marley (Bob Marley's son), Natalie Howard, Jeremy Parsons, Calvin Lee & Trick Pony to name a few.