

Press Release



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For Immediate Release

Guy Chambers and Eg White on the panel of the Musicians Benevolent Fund Songwriting Awards Showcase Final

- Well known songwriter, producer and musician, Guy Chambers, to chair the panel at the Musicians Benevolent Fund Songwriting Awards Showcase Final on 26 November
- Also on the panel: Eg white, 2009 Ivor Novello Songwriter of the Year
- Previous recipients of the £5,000 prize include Hannah Rei and 'The Wombats'

The Musicians Benevolent Fund will be showcasing some of the country's most talented young songwriters at its Annual Songwriting Awards Final at **The Bedford, Balham** on **26 November** at **8pm**.

These young songwriters have been specially selected from universities and colleges all over the UK and will perform in front of a panel including some of the best songwriters in the business. They will compete for the £5,000 prize, to be used for a creative songwriting project of their choice such as recording, composition or performance.

This year's high profile panel will be chaired by songwriting legend, Guy Chambers, best known for his collaboration as a songwriter/producer with Robbie Williams on five hugely successful albums. Guy will be joined by Eg White who, last year, co-wrote two of the biggest and most loved pop hits: Duffy's 'Warwick Avenue' and Adele's 'Chasing Pavements'. In 2004, he won an Ivor Novello Award (Best Song) for his Will Young ballad 'Leave Right Now' and this year, was named Ivor Novello Songwriter of the Year.

The finalists, who will each perform one song, are:

Sam Archer from Brighton Institute of Modern Music

'Eat Dr Ape' from the University of the Highlands and Islands (Perth College)

'Illustrated Men' from Bath Spa University

Sherika Sherard from the University of Westminster

'The Staves' from Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts (LIPA)

Rachael Travers from the Institute of Contemporary Music and Performance (ICMP)

They represent a diverse mix of genres from folk and bluegrass to alternative rock.

The evening will also feature a special guest performance from last year's winners 'Fables' from LIPA. The band, who were the unanimous winners at the 2008 awards, are using the £5,000 prize money for the production of an EP ready to launch prior to a UK tour in Dec 2009/Jan 2010. Other past winners include RnB singer, Hannah Rei and 'The Wombats', both of whom have helped firmly establish the Musicians Benevolent Fund Songwriting Awards in UK Songwriting Industry.

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Notes to Editors:

The Musicians Benevolent Fund has been providing essential help and support to musicians and their families for nearly 90 years and has grown to be the largest charity of its kind in the UK. Each year the Fund gives nearly £2 million to help some 1,500 music professionals, and their dependants, who struggle because of accident, illness or age related challenges. In addition, more than £400,000 is awarded to help support over 200 outstanding young musicians in developing a professional career. The Fund also supports a wide range of music organisations which help it achieve its strategic goals.

The Songwriting Awards are available to young songwriters who are studying on an undergraduate or postgraduate popular/commercial music course in the UK and applicants are nominated by their Head of course. The Annual Awards seek to promote new songwriting talent.

Please note that the Musicians Benevolent Fund is no longer using the acronym 'MBF' and should be referred to as 'the Musicians Benevolent Fund' or 'the Fund' thereafter.

For further press information and high resolution images of panel member, finalists and past winners please contact:

Christine Brown
Media and Communications Officer
Musicians Benevolent Fund
7-11 Britannia Street
London WC1X 9JS
T: 020 7239 9116
F: 020 7637 4307
E: cbrown@mbf.org.uk
