



Anna Laverty
Founding Director
Music Producer and Engineers' Guild
1st November 23

Dear Members of the Music Producer and Engineers' Guild,

I am here today to present the annual chair report for our incredible organisation. It is a great opportunity to address our dedicated members and express my gratitude to all of you for your unwavering support and contributions over the past year.

First and foremost, I want to thank each and every one of our members, especially those who have engaged with our events and other activities this year. Your passion, expertise, and enthusiasm towards MPEG and to your own work is what makes our guild truly exceptional. I would like to give a personal shout out to a few members:

- Lachlan Goold (AKA Magoo) for his skills and insight in helping the board to put the members' survey together and then helping us to decipher the results.
- Simon Moro - for putting together the series of 'What is...' worksheets. Such a lot of effort and I really appreciate your help.
- Joseph Carra for writing down his thoughts which assisted me in my interactions with ARIA around their awards categories. And for writing the 'What is...a mastering engineer' worksheet.
- All of the members who have presented and attended MPEG Control Room sessions - there are too many to name but I've loved every single meeting and have got a lot out of the shared knowledge and general conversations that have arisen.

It is through this outpouring of support and openness that we will strengthen our community.

Throughout the past year, we've seen some big achievements including the survey report, ongoing Control Room get-togethers, in person meet ups in Perth, Sydney and Melbourne, a successful outcome when advising ARIA on their producer and engineer categories and research into similar overseas producer guilds.

Despite the pressures to generate an income for MPEG through membership fees we have decided to keep the membership free until we can prove to you that your membership will be invaluable. Please encourage others to join while membership is free so that we can support as many producers and engineers as possible. Additional member benefits will be revealed in the coming year.

We have a growing sense of unity within our membership and have received a lot of letters and words of support from members and the wider music community. Your involvement in our workshops, webinars and networking events helps fellow members at all stages of their careers access invaluable resources that would otherwise be out of reach.

I would also like to express my profound appreciation to our Board of Directors, who have worked tirelessly to guide and support our organisation. To Shweta Krishnamurthy (AKA Xylo Aria), Milly Petriella, Cath Haridy, Eric J Dubowsky, Tom Larkin and Annika Schmarsel (AKA Alice Ivy) - your dedication and strategic leadership have been instrumental in our ongoing success. We are very lucky to have such smart, creative and hardworking people on our board. Thank you for helping me to navigate the muddy waters of the music industry.

I would like to acknowledge the survey a little to assure you all that although the results were quite upsetting in terms of the standard of employment and mental health statistics etc. I actually don't think it was too alarming, it just put what a lot of us are already feeling into a report. It's important that we have this information so that when we are creating our strategic plan and advocating for our members we can ensure that we're moving in the right direction to create lasting change and much needed resources for our members.

As we look to the future, I am confident that our guild will continue to thrive and evolve. We have exciting plans for the coming year, including educating the wider industry about the role of producers and engineers, introducing an awards system and ceremony and continuing to lift up and support Australian music producers and sound engineers through advocacy and engagement. With your continued involvement and support, I have no doubt that we will achieve our goals and continue to support our members.

In closing I would like to ask you to please continue to attend events and keep in touch with each other on the social media channels. If you would like a response from me directly, please email via the website form.

Thank you for being part of the Music Producer and Engineers' Guild. Your contributions are invaluable, and together, we will make MPEG even stronger in the years to come.

Kind regards,

Anna Laverty
Chair, Music Producer and Engineers' Guild