

## Vale Judith Durham AO

The Australia Council wishes to acknowledge the passing of legendary singer-songwriter Judith Durham AO, and recognise her extraordinary contribution to Australian music.

Judith was a successful solo artist and the lead singer for The Seekers. The popular folk music group achieved considerable success within Australia and internationally, selling more than 50 million records worldwide.

Among her many achievements, Judith was inducted into the ARIA Hall of Fame in 1995, the Australian Women in Music Honour Roll in 2019, and the Music Victoria Awards Hall of Fame in 2015.

She was made an Officer for the Order of Australia in 2014 for distinguished service to the performing arts as an entertainer, through seminal contributions to Australian music, and as a supporter of not-for-profit organisations.

Ms Durham also made an impact in music education, including working with Kutcha Edwards on a project supported by the Australia Council in 2019, to support a new National Anthem.

Australia Council Head of Music Kirsty Rivers said:

“Judith Durham had one of Australia’s most recognisable voices. She leaves an impressive legacy, having paved the way for many other female artists in the music industry and collaborated with several artists and orchestras.”

Australia Council CEO Adrian Collette AM said:

“Judith Durham was a true icon of Australian music. A prolific performer, she will be remembered not only for her innate musicianship and soaring voice, but also for her kindness, and her impact as an educator and mentor in the music industry. We extend our deepest condolences to her friends, colleagues, and family.”