

CANDIDATES FOR THE MPGNZ EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2024

Statement from Steve Popham

I am so proud to have been involved with the MPG since its inception in 2020 and of the progress we have made towards our goals. As a practicing accountant and hobbyist engineer, my role on the executive committee has been to bring my 30+ years of experience in many areas of the NZ music industry, a role I have enjoyed immensely.

In 2024 we are looking towards continuing to develop the many amazing programmes we have. We have always had a clear goal to represent producers and engineers, and because we have more candidates for the executive committee than seats, I have decided to step down from the nominations for re-election to the committee.

I am enthusiastic and happy to continue to lend my support where it is needed. I am confident that the 9 nominees for the new executive are exactly what the organisation needs at this time. I am excited about the MPG's future and wish all the new executives the best.

With an endless number of hits, accolades and successes over the past two decades, **Devin Abrams** is undoubtedly one of Aotearoa's most versatile and accomplished musicians and producers. Alongside his past work with Shapeshifter, Abrams has released a number of critically acclaimed albums under his solo project alias, Pacific Heights.

Abrams has also had great success producing and writing for other artists, including Drax Project's smash hits 'Woke Up Late' and 'Catching Feelings'. After signing a worldwide publishing deal with Universal Music Publishing Group he has worked with a variety of international artists, writers and producers in Los Angeles and Sydney. Most recently he has produced songs for Jess Mauboy, Fat Freddy's Drop, and Stan Walker.



Neil Aldridge worked for 15 years in the music industry in London as a sound engineer, then 10 years in the film industry in Wellington as a dialogue editor/ADR recordist. He is currently a Senior Lecturer at Massey University, where he's been for the last 9 years, teaching sound engineering, music production, and sound-to-picture — and making music and sound art.

Neil is a member of the Audio Engineering Society (AES), Motion Picture Sound Editor's Guild (MPSE), and a committee member for the Screen Music and Sound Guild of New Zealand (SMSG). He would love to help promote producers and production in Aotearoa through the MPGNZ.



Chris Chetland has been mixing, producing, and mastering for over 28 years and worked with many of our top acts, plus helped out and mentored lots of developing artists and helped found the MPG.

Over his time he's also had prime ministerial appointments for international trade groups and branding initiatives plus helped set up a range of educational and strategic music programs at secondary and tertiary level. Outside of music he sidelines an academic career as a peer reviewed science journal editor where he works on data analysis, systems theory and critiquing, skills he applies to support the music production industry.



Originally from Bangladesh, **Swap Gomez** has garnered a reputation in Aotearoa as a multi-faceted creative, being a professional drummer, director, producer, editor and events manager. He has toured and recorded with artists such as Ed Sheeran, The Veronicas, Yoko-Zuna, CHAI, SWIDT, Ladyhawke, Tom Scott, and MELODOWNZ, and directed music videos for Villainy, Jess B, P-Money, as well commercials for Fly Buys, Air New Zealand under his production company The Umbrella Creative. Swap also runs the annual Drummers Day Out, an event that celebrates the Kiwi drumming community, showcasing clinics and workshops performed by NZ's leading working drummers.

Swap is currently a screen and music lecturer at SAE Creative Media Institute and performs regularly with CHAI & Yoko-Zuna.



With a background in Sound Engineering, Marketing and Promotion, **Huia Hamon** is an award-winning touring Artist/Producer and an active part of the Aotearoa Music community. Huia co-runs Kog Studio and recently produced 'Ngāwari Noa' for Maisey Rika.

Huia has travelled the globe with indigenous music, facilitating workshops in 2023 at SXSW23 in Sydney and WOMEX23 in Spain. A founding member of MPG, she built all front-facing online portals, designed and named 'Āmio' mentor programme and executed the 'Boom Sessions' High Schools programme.

Huia also mentors diverse groups such as wāhine Māori (Island Base) non-binary/femme (The Sensonauts) and the MPG.



Greg Haver is an award-winning producer with a background in engineering, programming and drumming. He built his impressive reputation with artists including the Manic Street Preachers, Melanie C, INME, The Chills, Troy Kingi, Opshop, Devilskin, the Feelers, Kimbra, Catatonia, Super Furry Animals and Bullet For My Valentine.

He is renowned for his diverse production skills and innovative arrangements. He's the co-chair of the Music Producers Guild Aotearoa and has been involved with setting up several industry programmes including AMPS, SyncPosium, SongHubs and NZ On Air's New Music Development.



Noema Te Hau III (Rongomaiwahine/Ngāti Porou) is an award-winning music producer, songwriter, and performer based in Auckland, New Zealand. He garnered acclaim with the APRA Maioha Award-winning song "Me Pēhea Rā," showcasing his prowess in songwriting and production.

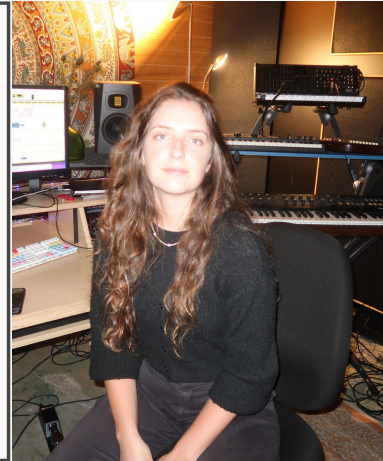
Managing studios at BIG FAN, he fosters emerging talents while collaborating with renowned artists like Troy Kingi, Alayna and Paige. Notably, Noema's dedication extends to music education, where he mentored at the Music and Audio Institute of New Zealand from 2016 to 2021. With a passion for excellence, he continually shapes the future of music, inspiring creativity and pushing boundaries.



Emily Wheatcroft-Snape is an audio engineer with six years industry experience. She grew up in Auckland, before studying audio engineering at MAINZ, and working at Roundhead Studios. Emily now works freelance out of her space at Parachute Studios, and for-hire at Roundhead Studios, Parachute Studios, and Big Fan.

Artists Emily has worked with include Fazerdaze, Tiny Ruins, Te Kaahu, Louisa Nicklin, and Karl Steven.

In 2022, Emily created the "Record Enable" initiative to help women and non-binary people create sustainable careers in music creation. She also has her own music project "Em", that she uses to explore production ideas.



Chris van de Geer is a recording artist, musician, engineer, record producer and music business owner with 30 years experience in the Aotearoa music industry.

As the co-founder and co-managing director of Bigpop, Chris has extensive knowledge and experience in music production, studio facilitation, music publishing and record label operation.

Chris is a 3-time nominee and 2-time winner of both the Engineer Of The Year and Producer Of The Year categories at the Aotearoa Music Awards, having worked with NZ artists such as Dave Dobbyn, Tim Finn, Strawpeople, Garageland, Bic Runga, CHAll, and many more.

