

Ami Williamson Bio

Ami Williamson is an acclaimed Australian Folk Singer-Songwriter known for her compelling storytelling, versatile musicianship, and captivating stage presence. Drawing from her classical training and theatrical background, she delivers performances that are both emotionally resonant and entertaining.

Early Life and Musical Foundations

At the age of five, Ami was selected out of four hundred children to partake in the Johnny Young Talent Time Touring group where she sang and danced at various venues across Australia.



(Ami performing 'Singing In The Rain' with Johnny Young Talent Touring Group)





Ami studied Ballet, Jazz, Tap and Contemporary dance from age 4 to 18 years.

Ami was awarded the *inaugural* Performing Arts Award in her school and claims this achievement is the one she is most proud of.

As a teenager Ami was accepted into the prestigious Performing Arts High School - The McDonald College, where she was awarded an HSC of 94.2% - achieving 100% for music (ranking 3rd in NSW).

Ami furthered her music education at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, where she studied classical singing and piano for six years - attaining a Bachelor Of Music, Diploma of Opera and LMusA (in voice and piano).

Ami further honed her classical musicianship by winning two scholarships; namely to Detmold Hochschule Für Music in Germany, and to the Goethe Institute in Berlin where she studied the German Language. While in Germany Ami studied with the world renowned Bass-Baritone Thomas

Quasthoff. Upon returning to Australia, she joined Opera Australia Chorus and sung under the baton of Sir Richard Bonyngne, performing also with The State Opera Of South Australia (Sweeney Todd, Directed by Gale Edwards)....All before transitioning to her true passion - songwriting.

Ami studied acting at the Ensemble Acting Studios whilst studying music.



(Ami as a Fairy with Opera Australia - SMH).

Career Highlights

Ami Williamson has established herself as a prominent figure in the Australian Music scene. As a regular performer at major festivals across the country - Ami has earned herself an enviable reputation as a leading Folk Singer/Songwriter. Her performances are characterised by a unique blend of music and theatre - drawing on her many varied musical influences. In addition to her solo work, Ami has toured nationally with folk icon Eric Bogle and has performed for the Australian troops in Iraq and Afghanistan, Solomon Islands and East Timor.





Discography

Ami's discography reflects her evolution as an artist and her dedication to her craft. Her releases include:

- 2006: *Ami Williamson* (EP)
- 2008: *Ami Williamson Live* (DVD)
- 2010: *Close to Home* (Album)
- 2012: *Ami Williamson Live - One Woman Show* (Album)
- 2015: *I'll Ride With You* (Album)
- 2018: *The Quilt* (Album)



Critical Acclaim

Ami's work has garnered praise from both critics and peers. International folk legend Judy Collins describes Ami as “my favorite Australian act”. The Sydney Morning Herald lauded her performances as “Forceful, funny, powerful and poetic,” highlighting her ability to evoke a range of emotions from her audience.

“Ami is a beautiful Singer” (Jazz Icon Judy Bailey AM)

“Ami is my newest most favorite performer! She is brilliant. I don’t know where to start.....Her songs, her voice, her musicianship, her HUMOUR, her frock, her hair or just everything!!!”- (Todd McKenney).

"A festival loves to book an artist such as Ami Williamson. She's a class act with poise, passion and 'personality plus', she has the power to own her show - the stage and the audience's adoration. She quite simply creates a buzzfest. Pssst.....check out the wall of arty letters after her name. Phew!" - (Jamie McKew - Port Fairy Folk Festival director).

"Ami Williamson's new album *The Quilt* is full of beautiful stories and melodies to lift spirits, you'll want to hug your kids, call your girlfriends, spend time with those you love and maybe grab a box of tissues too. The quick-witted, multi skilled musician makes easy work of a Dulcimer or Harmonica, Piano or finger style Acoustic Guitar and with her classically trained voice she sits comfortably in the folk genre. The fact that she's the daughter of iconic entertainer John Williamson has instilled an ear for recognising a good song and the art of entertaining. Fresh from touring with Eric Bogle she joins us for the House Concert this week". - ABC Felicity Urquhart

Singer/Multi-Instrumentalist; "I cried, I laughed, then both at the same time; entertainment at it's best!" - (The Canberra Times).

"Ami Williamson is a lot better than any singer/songwriter has a right to be" - (The Australian)

"Ami's show is one of the most original I've seen in a long time. She has real talent and a natural flair for lyrics; this is an artist to watch." - (Eric Bogle).

"Let me tell you, Ami is a performer's performer, a singer's singer and a songwriter's songwriter!" - Wendy Harmer ABC

"Nothing scares her, she's fearless on stage!" - John Farnham



(Ami performing with her father John Williamson)

Born into a musical family, Ami is the daughter of iconic Australian country music artist John Williamson. Ami has sung vocal harmonies on her father's records - from the age of five to the present day.



Ami Williamson continues to be a significant force in the Australian Folk Music scene, captivating audiences with her blend of classical training, theatrical flair, and heartfelt songwriting.



