

**EMBARGOED UNTIL 8PM 24<sup>th</sup> MAY**



**MUSIC INDUSTRY TRUSTS**

**AWARD**

Supporting the BRIT Trust and Nordoff Robbins

## **TOP TALENT AGENT EMMA BANKS TO RECEIVE MUSIC INDUSTRY TRUSTS AWARD 2018**

**Emma Banks** is to be awarded the **2018 Music Industry Trusts Award** in recognition of her huge contribution to the music industry in a career spanning over 25 years. Co-Head of **Creative Artists Agency** (CAA) London, Emma is one of the most successful and respected talent agents in the business, representing a host of major artists and paving the way for women across the industry.

Emma's current roster of artists is second to none, including **Katy Perry, Arcade Fire, Florence + The Machine, Kylie Minogue, Red Hot Chili Peppers** and **Lorde**, among many others. Recent signings include **Green Day, Muse, HAIM** and **Paramore**, proving that even after nearly 30 years in the business, she is still a formidable force.

In addition to her role at CAA, Emma is chair of the **Nordoff Robbins O2 Silver Clef** committee.

David Munns OBE, chairman of the MITS Award committee, said: *"Emma's innate ability to work with artists, build relationships and of course spot the talent in the first place makes her quite unique. A trailblazer for women in the industry from the outset, she is hugely respected by promoters, colleagues, artists and competitors alike. Coupled with a drive and enthusiasm rarely seen after nearly 30 years in the business, Emma is the deserving recipient of the 2018 Music Industry Trusts Award."*

The award will be presented on 5<sup>th</sup> November at a ceremony held in aid of the **BRIT Trust** and **Nordoff Robbins**. Emma follows last year's honouree **Rob Stringer** and joins the ranks of previous recipients including **Kylie Minogue OBE, Sir Lucian Grainge, Ahmet Ertegun, Simon Cowell, Michael Eavis CBE**, and **Annie Lennox OBE**.

Beginning her career at **Wasted Talent** (later Helter Skelter), Emma and Mike Greek built the company into one of the premier music booking agencies in Europe, and she was subsequently named Managing Director.

On joining leading entertainment and sports agency CAA in 2006, Emma helped establish the agency's London office and once again set about breaking exciting new talent. One of Emma's first signings at CAA was a young **Florence Welch**, who was playing small venues in London at the time, **Florence + The Machine** now regularly sell out festivals and arenas across the world.

Florence Welch says: *"Emma Banks has been a constant source of support and wisdom throughout my career. Her strength, kindness, and intuition are an inspiration to me, and many other women in the music industry, EMMA WE SALUTE YOU, Thank you for everything x"*.

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Not content with breaking UK artists, Emma also represents US pop star **Katy Perry**. Working alongside Katy from her very first UK show at The Water Rats in London to global superstardom and beyond, Emma has played a pivotal role in building Katy's extraordinary career.

Emma has received a number of accolades throughout her career, appearing on both **Billboard's Women In Music** and **International Power Players** lists a number of times. She is a seven-time winner of **Pollstar's UK Agent of the Year Award**, was honoured twice by the now defunct UK's **Woman of the Year Awards for the Music Industry** and in 2015 received the Outstanding Contribution Award at the **Music Week Women In Music Awards**.

Emma Banks says *"I am overwhelmed at being honoured at the MITS this year. I am rarely lost for words but when David Munns rang me to ask if I would accept the award I was honestly dumbfounded. The MITS 'roll of honour' is packed with people that I admire and respect – I never expected to be added to that list but will do my very best to be worthy of it! I am looking forward to a great night and to raising lots of money for the two fantastic charities that the event supports – Nordoff Robbins and the Brit Trust. See you there!"*

Celebrating its 27<sup>th</sup> year, the Music Industry Trusts Award is recognised as one of the true benchmarks of achievement in the UK music business, and continues to benefit hugely deserving causes year after year. The MITS Award supports two important charities, the BRIT Trust and Nordoff Robbins, and is sponsored by Ingenious, PPL, SJM and Spotify.

[www.mitsaward.co.uk](http://www.mitsaward.co.uk)  
#MITsAward

For more information please contact:

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### **Notes to editors:**

#### **The BRIT Trust**

Established in 1989 and entirely funded by the music industry. The Trust's mission is to encourage young people in the exploration and pursuit of educational, cultural or therapeutic benefits emanating from music. Since 1989, £20m has been bestowed by the Trust, half of which has been received by the BRIT School. The BRIT Trust has also funded many other music related charities and projects including the music therapy body Nordoff Robbins. Last year saw funds used to send Nordoff Robbins therapists to help victims of the Grenfell Tower disaster and the Manchester Arena bombing.

#### **Nordoff Robbins**

Nordoff Robbins is the largest independent music therapy charity in the UK, dedicated to changing the lives of vulnerable and isolated people. It supports thousands of people in its own centres and by working in partnership with a wide range of organisations including care homes, schools and hospitals.

When delivered by a trained practitioner, music therapy can be used to support people living with a wide range of needs. It can help a child with autism to communicate, reduce anxiety for those living with dementia or provide comfort and celebrate the life of someone facing terminal illness.

Music therapy can be life-changing for so many people.

[www.nordoff-robbins.org.uk](http://www.nordoff-robbins.org.uk)

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### **The BRIT School**

Original, responsible, ambitious: The BRIT School is vocational, academic, inclusive and free.

The BRIT School is the UK's leading performing arts and technology state school, providing a unique and free education for 1300 pupils aged between 14 and 19.

The BRIT School nurtures the new fashion designers, illustrators, playwrights, performers, stage managers, composers, teachers, community group leaders, choreographers, filmmakers, game developers, and creative thinkers of the future.