

The Cambridge Companion to Music in Australia

As a companion to ‘music in Australia’ rather than ‘Australian music’, this book acknowledges the complexity and contestation inherent in the term ‘Australia’ whilst placing the music of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people at its very heart. This companion emphasises a diversity of musical experiences in the breadth of musical practice that flows through Australia, including Indigenous song, art music, children’s music, jazz, country, popular music forms and music that blurs genre boundaries. Organised in four themed sections, the chapters present the latest research alongside perspectives of current creative artists to explore communities of practice; music’s ongoing entanglements between Indigenous and non-Indigenous cultural practices; the influence of places near and far and of continuity, tradition, adaptation and change. In the final chapter, we pick up where these chapters have taken us, asking what is next for music in Australia for the future.

AMANDA HARRIS is an ARC Future Fellow and Director of PARADISEC Sydney Unit. Her monograph *Representing Australian Aboriginal Music and Dance 1930–70* was shortlisted for the 2021 Prime Minister’s Literary Prize in Australian History, and *Music, Dance and the Archive*, co-edited with Linda Barwick and Jakelin Troy, won the 2023 Mander Jones Award.

CLINT BRACKNELL FAHA is a Noongar song-maker from the south of Western Australia and Professor of Music at the University of Western Australia. He is an ARC Future Fellow and Deputy Chair of AIATSIS. Bracknell received InASA’s 2020 Barrett Award for Australian Studies, has co-translated world-first Indigenous language works in film and theatre, and releases music under the name Maatakitj.

Cambridge Companions to Music

Topics

The Cambridge Companion to Ballet

Edited by Marion Kant

The Cambridge Companion to Blues and Gospel Music

Edited by Allan Moore

The Cambridge Companion to Caribbean Music

Edited by Nanette De Jong

The Cambridge Companion to Choral Music

Edited by André de Quadros

The Cambridge Companion to Composition

Edited by Toby Young

The Cambridge Companion to the Concerto

Edited by Simon P. Keefe

The Cambridge Companion to Conducting

Edited by José Antonio Bowen

The Cambridge Companion to the Drum Kit

Edited by Matt Brennan, Joseph Michael Pignato and Daniel Akira Stadnicki

The Cambridge Companion to Eighteenth-Century Opera

Edited by Anthony R. DelDonna and Pierpaolo Polzonetti

The Cambridge Companion to Electronic Music, second edition

Edited by Nick Collins and Julio D'Escriván

The Cambridge Companion to the 'Eroica' Symphony

Edited by Nancy November

The Cambridge Companion to Film Music

Edited by Mervyn Cooke and Fiona Ford

The Cambridge Companion to French Music

Edited by Simon Trezise

The Cambridge Companion to Grand Opera

Edited by David Charlton

The Cambridge Companion to Hip-Hop

Edited by Justin A. Williams

The Cambridge Companion to Jazz

Edited by Mervyn Cooke and David Horn

The Cambridge Companion to Jewish Music

Edited by Joshua S. Walden

The Cambridge Companion to K-Pop

Edited by Suk-Young Kim

The Cambridge Companion to Krautrock

Edited by Uwe Schütte

The Cambridge Companion to the Lied

Edited by James Parsons

The Cambridge Companion to The Magic Flute
Edited by Jessica Waldoff

The Cambridge Companion to Medieval Music
Edited by Mark Everist

The Cambridge Companion to Metal Music
Edited by Jan-Peter Herbst

The Cambridge Companion to Music and Romanticism
Edited by Benedict Taylor

The Cambridge Companion to Music in Australia
Edited by Amanda Harris and Clint Bracknell

The Cambridge Companion to Music in Digital Culture
Edited by Nicholas Cook, Monique Ingalls and David Trippett

The Cambridge Companion to the Musical, third edition
Edited by William Everett and Paul Laird

The Cambridge Companion to Opera Studies
Edited by Nicholas Till

The Cambridge Companion to Operetta
Edited by Anastasia Belina and Derek B. Scott

The Cambridge Companion to the Orchestra
Edited by Colin Lawson

The Cambridge Companion to Percussion
Edited by Russell Hartenberger

The Cambridge Companion to Pop and Rock
Edited by Simon Frith, Will Straw and John Street

The Cambridge Companion to Recorded Music
Edited by Eric Clarke, Nicholas Cook, Daniel Leech-Wilkinson and John Rink

The Cambridge Companion to Rhythm
Edited by Russell Hartenberger and Ryan McClelland

The Cambridge Companion to Schubert's 'Winterreise'
Edited by Marjorie W. Hirsch and Lisa Feurzeig

The Cambridge Companion to Serialism
Edited by Martin Iddon

The Cambridge Companion to Seventeenth-Century Opera
Edited by Jacqueline Waeber

The Cambridge Companion to the Singer-Songwriter
Edited by Katherine Williams and Justin A. Williams

The Cambridge Companion to the String Quartet
Edited by Robin Stowell

The Cambridge Companion to the Symphony
Edited by Julian Horton

The Cambridge Companion to Tango
Edited by Kristin Wendland and Kacey Link

The Cambridge Companion to Twentieth-Century Opera
Edited by Mervyn Cooke

The Cambridge Companion to Video Game Music
Edited by Melanie Fritsch and Tim Summers

The Cambridge Companion to Wagner's Der Ring des Nibelungen

Edited by Mark Berry and Nicholas Vazsonyi

The Cambridge Companion to Women Composers

Edited by Matthew Head and Susan Wollenberg

The Cambridge Companion to Women in Music since 1900

Edited by Laura Hamer

Composers

The Cambridge Companion to Bach

Edited by John Butt

The Cambridge Companion to Bartók

Edited by Amanda Bayley

The Cambridge Companion to Amy Beach

Edited by E. Douglas Bomberger

The Cambridge Companion to the Beatles

Edited by Kenneth Womack

The Cambridge Companion to Beethoven

Edited by Glenn Stanley

The Cambridge Companion to Berg

Edited by Anthony Pople

The Cambridge Companion to Berlioz

Edited by Peter Bloom

The Cambridge Companion to Brahms

Edited by Michael Musgrave

The Cambridge Companion to Benjamin Britten

Edited by Mervyn Cooke

The Cambridge Companion to Bruckner

Edited by John Williamson

The Cambridge Companion to John Cage

Edited by David Nicholls

The Cambridge Companion to Chopin

Edited by Jim Samson

The Cambridge Companion to Debussy

Edited by Simon Trezise

The Cambridge Companion to Elgar

Edited by Daniel M. Grimley and Julian Rushton

The Cambridge Companion to Duke Ellington

Edited by Edward Green

The Cambridge Companion to Gershwin

Edited by Anna Celenza

The Cambridge Companion to Gilbert and Sullivan

Edited by David Eden and Meinhard Saremba

The Cambridge Companion to Handel

Edited by Donald Burrows

The Cambridge Companion to Haydn

Edited by Caryl Clark

The Cambridge Companion to Liszt

Edited by Kenneth Hamilton

The Cambridge Companion to Mahler

Edited by Jeremy Barham

The Cambridge Companion to Mendelssohn

Edited by Peter Mercer-Taylor

The Cambridge Companion to Monteverdi

Edited by John Whenham and Richard Wistreich

The Cambridge Companion to Mozart

Edited by Simon P. Keefe

The Cambridge Companion to Arvo Pärt

Edited by Andrew Shenton

The Cambridge Companion to Ravel

Edited by Deborah Mawer

The Cambridge Companion to the Rolling Stones

Edited by Victor Coelho and John Covach

The Cambridge Companion to Rossini

Edited by Emanuele Senici

The Cambridge Companion to Schoenberg

Edited by Jennifer Shaw and Joseph Auner

The Cambridge Companion to Schubert

Edited by Christopher Gibbs

The Cambridge Companion to Schumann

Edited by Beate Perrey

The Cambridge Companion to Shostakovich

Edited by Pauline Fairclough and David Fanning

The Cambridge Companion to Sibelius

Edited by Daniel M. Grimley

The Cambridge Companion to Richard Strauss

Edited by Charles Youmans

The Cambridge Companion to Stravinsky

Edited by Jonathan Cross

The Cambridge Companion to Michael Tippett

Edited by Kenneth Gloag and Nicholas Jones

The Cambridge Companion to Vaughan Williams

Edited by Alain Frogley and Aiden J. Thomson

The Cambridge Companion to Verdi

Edited by Scott L. Balthazar

The Cambridge Companion to Wagner

Edited by Thomas S. Grey

Instruments

The Cambridge Companion to Brass Instruments

Edited by Trevor Herbert and John Wallace

The Cambridge Companion to the Cello

Edited by Robin Stowell

The Cambridge Companion to the Clarinet
Edited by Colin Lawson

The Cambridge Companion to the Guitar
Edited by Victor Coelho

The Cambridge Companion to the Harpsichord
Edited by Mark Kroll

The Cambridge Companion to the Organ
Edited by Nicholas Thistlethwaite and Geoffrey Webber

The Cambridge Companion to the Piano
Edited by David Rowland

The Cambridge Companion to the Recorder
Edited by John Mansfield Thomson

The Cambridge Companion to the Saxophone
Edited by Richard Ingham

The Cambridge Companion to Singing
Edited by John Potter

The Cambridge Companion to the Violin
Edited by Robin Stowell

The Cambridge Companion to Music in Australia

Edited by

AMANDA HARRIS

University of Sydney

CLINT BRACKNELL

University of Western Australia





Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA, United Kingdom

One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA

477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia

314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre,
New Delhi – 110025, India

103 Penang Road, #05–06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment,
a department of the University of Cambridge.

We share the University's mission to contribute to society through the pursuit of
education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108845885

DOI: [10.1017/9781108991209](https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108991209)

© Cambridge University Press & Assessment 2025

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception and to the provisions
of relevant collective licensing agreements, no reproduction of any part may take
place without the written permission of Cambridge University Press & Assessment.

When citing this work, please include a reference to the DOI [10.1017/9781108991209](https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108991209)

First published 2025

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Harris, Amanda, 1976– editor. | Bracknell, Clint, 1981– editor.

Title: The Cambridge companion to music in Australia / edited by Amanda Harris, Clint
Bracknell.

Description: [1.] | Cambridge, United Kingdom ; New York, NY : Cambridge University
Press, 2024. | Series: Cambridge companions to music | Includes bibliographical references
and index.

Identifiers: LCCN 2024001632 | ISBN 9781108845885 (hardback) | ISBN 9781108994002
(paperback) | ISBN 9781108991209 (ebook)

Subjects: LCSH: Music – Australia – History and criticism. | Indigenous peoples – Australia –
Music – History and criticism. | Popular music – Australia – History and criticism. | Music –
Social aspects – Australia.

Classification: LCC ML360 .C26 2024 | DDC 780.994–dc23/eng/20240112

LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2024001632>

ISBN 978-1-108-84588-5 Hardback

ISBN 978-1-108-99400-2 Paperback

Cambridge University Press & Assessment has no responsibility for the persistence
or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this
publication and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will remain,
accurate or appropriate.