

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact:

Debs McSmith

admin@comedyguild.org.nz

**NZ Comedy Guild announces nominees for 2016 awards**

2 December 2016 - “This year’s list of award nominees shows New Zealand has a strong, growing and diverse community of talented individuals working throughout the comedy scene. We are very proud of our professionals and their abilities.” Executive Board Chair Debs McSmith announces on behalf of the NZ Comedy Guild.

“The NZ Comedy Guild proudly represents and pushes to elevate the NZ comedy industry. Every year we celebrate the achievements and talents of the fantastic writers, performers and contributing members of this great community at our annual awards evening.”

The Guild has been assisted by several businesses who have contributed to the awards evening, which will be held on December 20 at The Classic in Auckland.

**Karma Cola** – organic, Fairtrade do-gooders, and the only cola in the world who gives back to cola farmers in West Africa. **Omny Studio** - simple podcast hosting and a powerful suite of tools for managing, sharing, tracking and monetising your podcast. **Bigpipe** - providing internet the way it should be: No pesky contracts, no data caps, no throttling, and great online service.

**Best Male Comedian**

Ben Hurley, Brendhan Lovegrove, Nick Rado, Pax Assadi, Rhys Mathewson

**Best Female Comedian**

Justine Smith, Laura Daniel, Melanie Bracewell, Michele A'Court, Urzila Carlson, Rose Matafeo, Fan Brigade, Sera Devcich

**Best Newcomer**

Alice Snedden, Bridget Davies, Inosi Colavanua, Lana Walters, Ray O'Leary, Sera Devcich

**Breakthrough Comedian of the Year**

Angella Dravid, Luke Callaghan, Melanie Bracewell, Patch Lambert, Pax Assadi

**Best MC**

Jerome Chandrahasen, Justine Smith, Nick Rado, Pax Assadi, Rhys Mathewson

**The Kevin Smith Memorial Cup for Outstanding Artist Achievement**

Sam Wills/The Boy With Tape On His Face, Guy Montgomery, Jarred Fell, Rose Matafeo

**Best Comedy Performance on Television**

Brendhan Lovegrove - Flick Electric Co Comedy Gala, Laura Daniel - Funny Girls, Pax Assadi – Flick Electric Co Comedy Gala, Rose Matafeo - Funny Girls

**Funniest Twitterer**

Melanie Bracewell, Lauren Mabbett, Sanjay Patel

**Funniest Blog/Column**

Alex Casey, Guy Williams, Melanie Bracewell, Michele A'Court, Michele A'Court & Jeremy Elwood, Raybon Kan

**Funniest Online Presence**

Frickin Dangerous Bro, Melanie Bracewell, Thomas Sainsbury

**Outstanding Contribution to the Industry**

Scott Blanks, Vaughan King, Brendhan Lovegrove, Richard Carrington, Tim Batt

**The Green Roomer**

David Correos, Justine Smith, Paul Douglas, Rhys Mathewson, Simon McKinney

**'The Classic' Best Comedy Venue**

Little Easy, The Basement, VK's

**Best International Guest**

Alexis Dubus, James Acaster, Nish Kumar, Rich Wilson , Lloyd Langford

**Comic Originality**

Angella Dravid, David Correos, Fan Brigade, Guy Montgomery, Jesse Griffin

**Best Writer - Live Performance**

Jamie Bowen, Nic Sampson, Rhys Mathewson, Tom Sainsbury & Chris Parker

**Best Improv Show**

Snort**,** ConArtists

**Best Live Show**

Laura Daniel - Pressure Makes Diamonds, Nic Sampson - Nic Sampson Has Fallen Down A Well, Tom Sainsbury & Chris Parker – Camping, Pax Assadi - Mid Season Form, Rhys Mathewson - Nouveau Rhys

**Gag of the Year**

Pax Assadi - Pretending to be Tongan, Rhys Mathewson - Tap Dancing Poo Joke, Brendan Kelly - Harold the Giraffe

**The Andrew Kovacevich Memorial Cup for Most Offensive Gag**

Alice Brine, James Malcolm, Lucy Roche, Brendhan Lovegrove

**Best Comedy TV Series or Event**

7 Days, Funny Girls, Flick Electric Co Comedy Gala

**Best Comedy Web Series, Podcast or Radio Show**

Boners of the Heart, Flat Gigs, Stake Out, The Issues, The Worst Idea of All Time

ENDS