

THE ROCK ACROSS AUSTRALIA 2000 END OF YEAR TOP 100 REPORT

TRAA 2000 Awards

Song of the Year

Shackles (Praise You) — Mary Mary

Artist of the Year

The Paul Colman Trio

2000 Review

2000 was a year of rapid change. Newcomers, Mary Mary took Australia by storm with *Shackles (Praise You)* driving a pop-gospel beat to millions of homes throughout the country via commercial radio and video programs, and to TRAA's top spot for 15 weeks.

Christian teenagers, Rachael Lampa and Stacie Orrico, plus all-girl groups V*enna and Zoegirl launched successful debut albums to audiences that were often old enough to be their parents.

Established CCM acts such as Steven Curtis Chapman, Crystal Lewis, DC Talk, Wayne Watson, and Michael W Smith solidified their positions.

Worship-inspired songs from Delirious?, Third Day, Powell Young & Young, plus Australia's Steve Grace and Sons of Korah captured the imagination of contemporary music buyers.

US acts continued to dominate the Australian Christian scene with 67% market share, Australasian music garnered 25%, and UK acts 8%.

POD, plus local bands Rhubarb, Antiskeptic and Brotherhood Lush, gained national exposure through ABC TV's *Rage* and the ABC's national rock radio network, Triple J.

Unsigned Australasian acts created new music ministry channels bypassing traditional retail outlets and Christian radio markets, to sell thousands of albums to supporters at concerts and churches. November 2000 alone saw more than 11500 units sold by approx. 30 indie artists.

Parachute Band, The Lads, Colliding Traits, and Form hopped the Tasman and quickly gained a following in Australia, and in some cases, the US as well.

Groups dominated throughout the year with males capturing 20% of the songs on TRAA 2000 Top 100, females 27% and groups 53%. [By comparison, the ARIA 2000 Top 100 indicates that males took a beating with a mere 6%, females 31%, and groups 63%.]

Eight songs appear on both the 1999 and 2000 TRAA Top 100.

Nine out of ten artists in the Top 10 songs list have toured Australia. Mary Mary didn't.

Media. The number of Christian radio stations continued to grow. Mainstream publications including *The Australian* (national), *Herald-Sun* (Victoria), and *Daily Telegraph* (NSW) published stories on Christian music or artists; Christian press expanded its coverage of Christian music and musicians. *The Christian Channel* (Optus TV) provided generous support to Christian music. Good coverage on CNN's *World Beat* in December.

TRAA Song of the Year

Mary Mary's *Shackles (Praise You)* is undoubtedly the Song of the Year.

It has gained several milestones including peak position on TRAA 2000 Top 100. *Shackles (Praise You)* topped TRAA for 15 weeks — almost four times the average spent at number one — passing Jars of Clay's previous seven week record with *Hand* (May 2000).

[ARIA reports that the song enjoyed wide mainstream support making it to #2 nationally and #1 in Adelaide. The ARIA 2000 Top 100 singles list the song at #10.]

Other songs worthy of consideration for TRAA's Song of the Year include:

Hand	Jars of Clay	7 weeks @ TRAA #1
Salt and Light	Ashley Cleveland & Michael Tait	6 weeks @ TRAA #1
See the Star	Delirious	5 weeks @ TRAA #1
Your Sweet Voice*	Paul Colman Trio	31 weeks in TRAA
Follow the Word	Maire Brennan	30 weeks in TRAA
A Little More	Jennifer Knapp	29 weeks in TRAA

NUMBER ONE MILESTONES OF 2000

Established acts such as Sir Cliff, Jars of Clay, Delirious? and Michael W Smith cornered the number one spot on TRAA throughout the year. Paul Colman Trio and Jennifer Knapp gained their first taste of number one, while newcomers Mary Mary and Phil Joel scored the top spot with their debut release.

D#1	W@1	TOP 100	TITLE	ARTIST	ALBUM
3 Jan	2	33	Millennium Prayer	Sir Cliff Richard	CD single
17 Jan	1	17	Unforgetful You	Jars of Clay	If I Left the Zoo
24 Jan	2	33	Millennium Prayer	Sir Cliff Richard	CD single
7 Feb	1	17	Unforgetful You	Jars of Clay	If I Left the Zoo
14 Feb	5	5	See the Star	Delirious?	Mezzamorphis
20 Mar	1	4	A Little More	Jennifer Knapp	Wow 2000
27 Mar	7	2	Hand	Jars of Clay	If I Left the Zoo
15 May	3	3	Hey You, It's Me	Michael W Smith	This Is Your Time
5 Jun	2	7	Lay it Down	Jennifer Knapp	Lay it Down
19 Jun	5	11	Salt and Light	Cleveland & Tait	Roaring Lambs
24 Jul	1	21	Collide	Jars of Clay	If I Left the Zoo
31 Jul	1	27	God is Watching Over You	Phil Joel	Watching Over You
7 Aug	1	11	Salt and Light	Cleveland & Tait	Roaring Lambs
14 Aug	10	1	Shackles (Praise You)	Mary Mary	Thankful
23 Oct	1	15	Everything*	Delirious?	Glo
30 Oct	5	1	Shackles (Praise You)	Mary Mary	Thankful
4 Dec	4	20	Turn*	Paul Colman Trio	Turn

Songs spending the most weeks in TRAA

Songs from established acts generally remained in TRAA longer than newcomers.

Breaking the mould, however, with debut songs were three debut artists — Mary Mary, Rachael Lampa, and Mark Schultz. Each spent 17 weeks or more on TRAA in 2000 (17 weeks is approx. twice the average number of weeks a song remains in TRAA).

Both Skillet and Fernando Ortega (well established in the US) made their presence known for the first time with *Rest* and *This Good Day*.

And the Paul Colman Trio and Jennifer Knapp each gained two long stayers.

WI	T100	TITLE	ARTIST	ALBUM
31	6	Your Sweet Voice*	Paul Colman Trio	Serious Fun
30	12	Follow the Word	Maire Brennan	Whisper to the Wild Water
29	4	A Little More	Jennifer Knapp	Wow 2000
27	8	Godsend	DC Talk	Supernatural
23	9	Whatever	Steven Curtis Chapman	Speechless
23	10	The Killing Tree	Paul Colman Trio	Serious Fun
22	13	Here In My heart	Out of Eden	No Turning Back
22	16	I Can't Catch You	Sixpence None the Richer	Sixpence None the Richer
22	7	Lay It Down	Jennifer Knapp	Lay It Down
21	3	Hey You, It's Me	Michael W Smith	This Is Your Time
20	1	Shackles (Praise You)	Mary Mary	Thankful
20	14	Satisfied	Crystal Lewis	Fearless
20	23	Rest	Skillet	Invincible
19	15	Everything*	Delirious?	Glo
18	18	King of Glory*	Third Day	Offerings
17	19	Live for You	Rachael Lampa	Live for You
17	26	I am the Way	Mark Schultz	Mark Schultz
17	55	This Good Day	Fernando Ortega	Home

NB: Cliff Richard's 1999 song *There is No Power in Pity* holds the record for the longest stayer in TRAA — 36 weeks. [PC3's *Your Sweet Voice* might give that a challenge over the next few weeks.]

Carry over champions

Eight songs have gained positions in both the 1999 and 2000 Top 100.

Six of these with respectable positions in 1999 gained a higher final year position in 2000. Two — *A Little More* and *See the Star* gained positions in the Top 10.

SONG TITLE	ARTIST	2000	1999
A Little More	Jennifer Knapp	4	44
See the Star	Delirious?	5	61
Unforgettable You	Jars of Clay	17	46
This Is Your Time	Michael W Smith	24	70
Fingerprints of God	Steven Curtis Chapman	38	94
Love Liberty Disco	Newsboys	44	41
Run to You	Twila Paris	77	90
Get Down	Audio Adrenaline	99	16

TRAA 2000 Artist of the Year

Melbourne pop-gospel act, the Paul Colman Trio is TRAA 2000 Artist of the Year.

The trio gained distinctions for: (1) polling the top position on TRAA 2000 Top 50 Artists report, (2) recording the song that stayed in TRAA for the most weeks, (3) sharing top position with Steven Curtis Chapman for the most weeks in TRAA with its combined output, (4) sharing the honors with Jennifer Knapp for the artist with most songs in the Top 10 of TRAA 2000 Top 100 Songs.

Jars of Clay garnered two key achievements: (1) gaining the most number one songs in TRAA during the year, and (2) the most number of songs that made the TRAA 2000 Top 100.

Mary Mary recorded the song that garnered the top position for the longest period in TRAA.

[As an aside, re PC3 point 3. When PC3 + Paul Colman (solo) figures are combined, he makes this point in his own right.]

TRAA	DETAILS		ARTIST
Song spending the most weeks	31 wks	Your Sweet Voice*	Paul Colman Trio
Artists gaining the most weeks in TRAA through combined output of work (total)	(a) 65 wks	Your Sweet Voice* (31), The Killing Tree (23), Turn (8), Dip (3)	(a) Paul Colman Trio
	(b) 65 wks	Whatever (9), Fingerprints of God (38), I Do Believe (41), Out There (75), The Change (106), Dive (167)	(b) Steven Curtis Chapman
	(c) 74 wks	Your Sweet Voice* (31), The Killing Tree (23), No Problem (9), Turn (8), Dip (3)	(c) Paul Colman Trio + PC solo
Artist with most songs	6	Whatever, Fingerprints of God, I Do Believe, Out there, The Change*, Dive	Steven Curtis Chapman
Artist with most number ones	3	Unforgetful You, Hand, Collide	Jars of Clay
Artist with most weeks at number one	15 wks	Shackles (Praise You)	Mary Mary

TRAA 2000 TOP 100	DETAILS		ARTIST
Artist with most songs	5	Unforgetful You, Hand, Collide, I'm Alright, Headstrong	Jars of Clay
Artist with most songs in Top 10	(a)	Your Sweet Voice / The Killing Tree	Paul Colman Trio
	(b)	A Little More / Lay It Down	Jennifer Knapp

Established artists dominate TRAA

Eight key acts dominate more than a third of the places on TRAA 2000 Top 100.

Steven Curtis Chapman, Jars of Clay, DC Talk, Newsboys, Third Day, Michael W Smith, Rebecca St James, and Delirious? gained 34% of the most successful songs of the year. (Significantly, the same artists gained 23.6% of the chart positions throughout the year.)

Sonic Flood, Claire Hazzard, and Paul Colman Trio continued to build strong success with their debut projects. Each gained positions on TRAA 1999 Top 100 with songs from the same albums.

Michelle Tumes also returned with a strong second album spawning three successful final year positions.

A total of 62 artists appear in the Top 100.

Artist	# wks in TRAA	# songs in TRAA	# in TRAA 100	Final year positions
Steven Curtis Chapman	65	6	4	9, 38, 41, 78, 106, 167
Paul Colman Trio	65	4	3	6, 10, 20, 130
Jars of Clay	56	5	5	2, 17, 21, 62, 90
Third Day	56	5	4	18, 35, 42, 89, 123
Michael W Smith	55	4	4	3, 24, 27, 75
Rebecca St James	52	5	4	31, 49, 58, 67, 133
Delirious	51	4	4	5, 15, 50, 85
DC Talk	50	5	2	8, 68, 111, 116, 120
Newsboys	47	4	4	28, 44, 64, 98
Sonic Flood	44	4	4	43, 57, 59, 70
Michelle Tumes	40	4	3	22, 30, 48, 175
Claire Hazzard	38	4	2	53, 83, 135, 146

Australasian artists

Australasian artists made a strong impact this year. As many as 20 gained positions in TRAA's weekly survey with 41 songs, and 13 acts successfully gained 25 songs on TRAA 2000 Top 100. An increase of six on the previous year.

Of the 25, nine have secured international recording/distribution contracts, six have well established careers with approx. 10 years recording/touring, and 14 artists are new with first or second projects. Several in this last group — "unsigned" or independent artists — are achieving the strongest success. (Some fall into two categories.)

Paul Colman Trio gained the top three Australasian song positions. Paul Colman secured a fourth entry with a previously recorded solo song *No Problem*.

Rebecca St James and the Newsboys also gained four positions in TRAA 2000 Top 100.

RSJ's *Don't Worry* — the first song from the new album — was her highest achievement.

Newsboys bassist Phil Joel outscored the band's output with his debut song. Claire Hazzard, Rhubarb, Alabaster Box and Lisa Wills followed up 1999's success, while music evangelist Steve Grace made a welcomed return to the studio.

FACTS AND FIGURES

US acts continued to dominate the Australian Christian scene with 67% market share, Australasian music garnered 25%, and UK acts 8%.

Groups dominated TRAA throughout the year with males capturing 20% of the songs on TRAA 2000 Top 100, (that's an increase of 6% on 1999) females 27% and groups 53%.

The increase in successful male artists in Christian music is the reverse of what occurred in the mainstream. The ARIA 2000 Top 100 indicates that males took a beating with a mere 6%, females 31%, and groups 63%.

In one sense, this shows that while contemporary R&B (black music that targets white audiences) music has had a strong impact on mainstream charts, (largely by female artists and boy-bands) it has not yet gained similar acceptance in the Christian community. If the present trend continues, one might expect it might become a strong force in Christian music in 2001 or 2002. However, it should be noted that as the leadership of churches is generally male, one would expect a stronger male presence in Christian music.

TRAA COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

	Top 10		Top 50		Top 100	
	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999
Australasian	2	2	12	10	25	19
UK	1	2	4	7	8	9
USA	7	6	34	33	67	72

TRAA GENDER COMPARISON

	Top 10		Top 50		Top 100	
	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999
Male	2	3	11	5	20	14
Female	2	1	14	15	27	29
Group	6	60	25	30	53	57

ARIA GENDER COMPARISON

	Top 10		Top 50		Top 100	
	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999
Male	0	1	3	7	6	20
Female	2	4	20	17	31	29
Group	8	5	27	26	63	51