

AUSSIES + KIWIS WELL REPRESENTED IN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

Three Australasian acts have reached the finals in the gospel/Christian category of the International Songwriting Competition (ISC).

Roma Waterman's *Wings Of Love* and Revive's *Tears Of the Oppressed* are among the 14 finalists, as is NZ's Zebulun with its song *The Lonely Separation*.

US songwriter Bob Halligan Jnr is also a finalist this year in this category with his song *Kneeling*.

Numerous artists including Michael Bolton, Rebecca St James, and his own band, Ceili Rain, have recorded Halligan Jnr's songs.

Full credit to Roma, Revive and Zebulun, and the other finalists who have been chosen in such esteemed company.

In the ISC rock category, Brisbane's Grand Atlantic is a finalist with the song *Coolite* and the Sunshine Coast's Nathan Ironside is in the running with *Something Crazy*.

Grand Atlantic includes several members of the now defunct Tonjip, and Nathan is Andrew Ironside's younger brother.

Grand Atlantic is a finalist with *Wonderful Tragedy* in the performance category, and Michael Paynter's *Falling In The Sea* is contending for the folk singer songwriter award.

The annual songwriting contest provides the opportunity for both aspiring and established songwriters to have their songs heard in a professional international arena.

ISC has a prestigious panel of judges, and winners will be announced next month.



Roma Waterman



Zebulun

500 DAYS TO GO

With just over 500 days before Pope Benedict XVI arrives in Australia, preparations are underway to hold the biggest youth event on the planet.

Or to put it another way, the biggest event Australia has ever hosted.

Bigger even than the Sydney Olympic Games in 2000.

More than 100 000 overseas visitors and hundreds of thousands of Australians will meet in Sydney for six days of spiritual and cultural celebrations from 15 July 2008, capped off by a Papal Mass the following Sunday.

WYD events have been held in various cities around the world including Rome (2000 Jubilee), Toronto (2002) and Cologne (2005).

Catholic musicians from Australia and all over the world will perform at the 23rd World Youth Day.



COMPLIMENTARY NEW LOOK

Melbourne band Compliments of Gus is sporting a whole new look.

Fans spotted the four-piece on Geelong's Ocean Grove Beach last weekend during a photo shoot.

Jared confirmed the session took place and offered us a preview.



Compliments of Gus 07

The new album will be available for AGMF 07!

SMS

US singer Mat Kearney will headline VH1's *You Oughta Know Tour*, a concert series which is part of the music channel's new-artist program running 17 March to 20 April. Kearney will also support John Mayer for a two-week concert trek starting next week. He smashes into TRAA's top 5 this week with *Crashing Down*.



Mat Kearney

In April, CCM veteran Geoff Moore will release *Speak To Me*, his first recording for several years. The first radio single is a cover of the Brad Paisley and Dolly Parton country hit *When I Get Where I'm Going*.