



MEDIA RELEASE:
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Lynsey de Paul Prize winner and runners-up announced

- **Winner Elsa Hewitt receives a £2,000 talent development bursary & mentorship.**
- **Two runners-up receive a £500 bursary each.**

PRS for Music Foundation and PRS for Music Members Benevolent Fund announce today (23 September 2016) that the winner of the career-developing Lynsey de Paul Prize, set up to support emerging female singer-songwriters, is **Elsa Hewitt**.

Elsa, an electronic/dream-pop singer-songwriter from Lewes in East Sussex, receives a £2,000 talent bursary and mentorship to help take her career in music to the next level.

About winning the Lynsey de Paul Prize, Elsa Hewitt said,

“This award is monumental in my career, it feels like justification for all the sacrifices I make for my art. It couldn't have come at a better time for me, as it has given me the confidence boost and the reassurance that I needed. It is a feeling of both triumph and relief to know that my talent and skills are being considered worthy of such an investment. I'm very grateful for this.”

In addition to the winner there are two runners up Hayley Harland (Indie/Folk/Pop) and Bianca Rose (Soul/Folk) who will each receive a £500 talent development bursary.

All three talent development bursaries have been generously donated by Lynsey de Paul's family from Lynsey's song writing royalties.

Vanessa Reed Executive Director PRS for Music Foundation said,

“Congratulations to Elsa Hewitt on winning this year's Lynsey de Paul Prize and to both runners-up. These three artists and the high standard of applications highlight the talent and diversity of up and coming female music creators in the UK right now. I look forward to following the progress of Elsa, Bianca and Hayley and how the Lynsey de Paul Prize helps them to take the next step in their careers.”

The Lynsey de Paul Prize is a talent development award for emerging female singer-songwriters, set up by PRS for Music Foundation and PRS for Music Members Benevolent Fund, to honour the career of the multi-award winning songwriter and artist Lynsey de Paul who died in 2014. Lynsey was the first female songwriter to win an Ivor Novello Award, composed 12 top twenty hit records, and achieved great success in the music business.

Read more about the winner and the runners-up on our website:
<http://prsformusicfoundation.com/Funding/Lynsey-de-Paul-Prize>

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Notes to Editors

About PRS for Music Foundation

PRS for Music Foundation is the UK's leading charitable funder of new music and talent development across all genres. Since 2000 PRS for Music Foundation has given more than £23.6 million to over 5,300 new music initiatives by awarding grants and leading partnership programmes that support music sector development. Widely respected as an adventurous and proactive funding body, PRS for Music Foundation supports an exceptional range of new music activity – from composer residencies and commissions to festivals and showcases in the UK and overseas. www.prsformusicfoundation.com | [@PRSFoundation](https://twitter.com/PRSFoundation)

About PRS for Music Members Benevolent Fund

The PRS for Music Members Benevolent Fund provides financial help and advice to PRS members suffering hardship due to illness, accident, disability or conditions associated with old age. It was founded in 1934 and is governed by a board of trustees, several of whom sit on the main PRS board. Lynsey de Paul was a trustee and PRS board member for many years. www.prsformusicfund.com