

Meet KASEY CHAMBERS

The Australian country-music darling shares the story behind *Bittersweet*, her new solo album inspired by her bittersweet experiences over the last few years

WHAT'S NEW? I took a leap of faith with this record to work with a lot of new people – a new producer, new musicians, [in] a new studio... It was a bit scary, but exciting as well. We tried to push the boundaries and come up with a different side of me, but at the same time still sound like me.

WHICH SIDE OF YOURSELF DID YOU TRY TO CONVEY? I've been through some life-changing things in the last couple of years that were scary, but empowering, too. They're all in there – exciting and sad, good and bad – a life that everybody goes through, I guess. There are certain songs on there that reflect back to *The Captain* and *Barricades & Brickwalls* for me, but there's also a new sense of myself.



CHAMBERS MUSIC

Kasey is one of Australia's most successful artists, with 10 ARIA wins so far to her name



"When I'm writing a song, the last thing I think about is that I'll play it to another person"

IS IT DIFFICULT TO WRITE SO PERSONALLY? I don't find it too hard; it's part of what I do. At the end of the day the good outweighs the bad. When I'm writing the song, the last thing I think about is that I'll play it to another person. Obviously I know in the back of my mind that it'll happen, if I want it to – but if I didn't, it just wouldn't! Above all, I hope people get a sense of who I am.

HOW DO YOU WRITE A SONG?

Sometimes I'll sit down with a guitar, come up with a melody and drive it from there. Sometimes a line will pop into my head, and I'll write the whole thing based around that line. Sometimes it's about an emotion that I want to get into a song, and I don't really know where it's going to go.

IS TOURING STILL A PRIORITY

FOR YOU? It's still my favourite part of what I do, being on stage... There's still nothing like having that connection with an audience. I don't tour as much as I used to – I have three kids, so it's not as easy as it used to be – but I still love it. *



KASEY'S
FAVOURITE
VENUES

The Tivoli, Brisbane

"We were lucky enough just a couple of months ago to open for Steve Earle & the Dukes, and got to play The Tivoli. I hadn't played there in a long time, and I'd honestly forgotten how good the venue was – I just love it."

Outback Festival, QLD

"We played at the Big Red Bash recently. We drove half an hour out of Birdsville to get to these sand dunes in the Simpson Desert. Hundreds of people watched this gig – with other artists as well – on a stage at the bottom of a sand dune, with the sun going down behind you. It was like nothing I'd done before."

2002



Album of the Year
She wins Best Female Artist, Album of the Year and Best Country Album at the ARIAs for *Barricades & Brickwalls*

BitterSweet
Kasey's album *BitterSweet* is released on 29 August

2014



DID YOU KNOW?
BitterSweet is Kasey's 10th studio album. To date, she has won 10 ARIA awards and has been nominated for 26

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