



MEDIA RELEASE



Tuesday 11th October

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Universal Music Australia is proud to announce that Australian icon JUDITH DURHAM has been signed to an exclusive international deal on the Decca Records label.

"Judith Durham, like Karen Carpenter and Eva Cassidy, possesses the purest voice in popular music. When she recorded one of my songs, I was so flattered and loved her version. She made the song her own – a very enviable talent." **Sir Elton John**

"A lot of people sing well – very few have individuality – there's only one Judith Durham!" **Sir Cliff Richard OBE**

"Ever since I first heard Judith Durham's radiant voice, I knew that there was something very unique, individual and powerful about the way in which it affected me – and does so for many people around the world. How wonderful, then, that Judith has just been signed to Universal Music Australia. Once more, thousands, millions, will appreciate the power and beauty and honesty of her once-in-a-lifetime artistry." **André Rieu**

As the legendary, golden-voiced lead vocalist of Australia's first global chart-topping band The Seekers in the 1960s, **JUDITH DURHAM** became our first international "pop princess".



George Ash, President Universal Music Australasia says "It is an honour to have Judith Durham join Decca's wonderful roster of artists. When you think of the legends that have graced the Decca Records catalogue – Vera Lynn, Tom Jones, Engelbert Humperdinck, The Rolling Stones – it is the perfect home to welcome Judith to, and we couldn't be more excited to work with Judith on not only her new recordings but her incredible catalogue as well."

Cyrus Meher-Homji, General Manager – Classics & Jazz at Universal Music Australia instigated the signing: "I've known Judith's voice ever since I was a five-year-old, and for me it is a voice without compare, in a class of its own, as distinctive, as unique and as recognisable as Jessye Norman or Maria Callas or Ella Fitzgerald."

The Seekers often outsold The Beatles and The Rolling Stones, and they were the first Australian group to reach No. 1 on the UK and USA charts. Judith Durham became 'Australian of the Year' in 1967 when The Seekers were honoured jointly for putting Australia on the international pop music map.

Their timeless hits included *Georgy Girl* (Oscar-nominated) and *The Carnival Is Over* (No. 30 in 'UK Top 100 Best Selling Singles Of All Time'). *I'll Never Find Another You* has chalked up nearly 4 million views on YouTube!

Achieving great acclaim as a solo concert and recording artist since leaving The Seekers, Judith's 35-date UK "Diamond Night" tour in 2003 culminated in a sold-out performance at London's Royal Festival Hall.

A gifted and versatile singer, pianist, lyricist, poet and composer of inspiration and philosophical works, fans travel halfway around the world to hear Judith's iconic voice live in concert. 2011 is Judith Durham's fiftieth anniversary in the music industry - and to celebrate, her company Musiccoast proudly joins forces with Decca Records / Universal Music Australia to release Judith's self-penned album **Epiphany**. Her tenth solo album, **Epiphany** embraces in-depth compositions on a scale not attempted by Judith before and epitomises her God-given gifts which have resulted in her unparalleled success as a musician globally.

Epiphany will be closely followed by her fifty-year retrospective compilation album **Colours of my Life**, with specially hand-picked tracks representing her albums through the decades. The package will include a DVD in which Judith is featured in interview with Peter Thompson (Talking Heads, ABC) creating a beautiful overview of her life and work.

"Wow!" exclaims Judith. "In celebrating fifty years in music I never dreamed I would be starting a new chapter. There is a real sense of accomplishment and reward in handing over the responsibility of Musiccoast's catalogue to the biggest record company in the world. I couldn't be happier in knowing that Cyrus Meher-Homji and the Universal/Decca family now also hold on to my dream and mission to uplift and bring happiness to music fans around the world."

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JUDITH DURHAM

Album - Epiphany – October 28th
Album - Colours Of My Life – November 18th

www.getmusic.com.au
www.judithdurham.com

