

Tania de Jong

Tania de Jong AM bio – July 2011

Tania de Jong AM is the inspiration, co-founder and artistic director of [Pot-Pourri](#), [Creative Universe](#) transformational leadership programs and of [Music Theatre Australia](#) entertainment and event production company. A graduate of the University of Melbourne with a Bachelor of Law with Honours and the Victorian College of the Arts, Tania is considered one of Australia's most talented sopranos. She has performed with the Victoria State Opera, as a soloist with a number of orchestras and has performed in over 40 countries and released [7 CDs](#). She also attended college in the USA on a tennis scholarship and is the granddaughter of Slawa Duldig who invented the first foldable umbrella in 1929 in Vienna.

In 2006 Tania received the Ernst and Young Australian Social Entrepreneur of the Year Award as Founder of The Song Room. The Song Room has provided access to creative learning for over 250,000 disadvantaged Australian children. Tania's other awards include the "Outstanding Individual Contribution to Australian Culture", Churchill Fellowship and the Accessibility Award in The Melbourne Awards. She was a finalist in the Telstra Business Women's Awards and has recently been inducted into the AGSE Entrepreneurs Hall of Fame at Swinburne University. Tania was named Brainlink Woman of Achievement 2009.

She was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in June 2008 for service to the arts as a performer and entrepreneur and through the establishment and development of music and arts enrichment programs for schools and communities. She has recently founded [Creative Universe](#) to inspire people to find their voice and to bring greater wellbeing, engagement and innovation into organisations through creative thinking and leadership programs. She gives keynote speeches around the world and works with a number of disadvantaged migrants and communities, as well as developing and presenting unique leadership programs for organisations including BHP, Telstra, ANZ, Royal Children's Hospital and various universities.

Tania is working on a number of creative projects including Pot-Pourri's 25th Anniversary tour SILVER, The Pianist and The Diva and ECHO a new music theatre work with Stefan Cassomenos. She is Founder and Executive Producer of [Creative Innovation 2010 and 2011](#).

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