

Tania de Jong AM



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Current

- Co-Founder and Executive Director of Mind Medicine Australia (since 2019 with her husband Peter Hunt AM), a mental health charity focused on the development of regulatory approved psilocybin and MDMA assisted therapy, to help alleviate our growing mental health crisis in Australia. www.mindmedicineaustralia.org

Together, Tania and Peter made history in 2023, through Mind Medicine Australia's rescheduling applications to the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA). On February 3, 2023, Australia became the first nation in the world to reschedule Psilocybin and MDMA from Schedule 9 (Prohibited Medicine) to Schedule 8 (Controlled Medicine) for the treatment of depression and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). On January 19 2024, two Australian psychiatrists treated their patients in a clinical setting with these transformational therapies for the first time in over 50 years.

- Founder and Chair of charity Creativity Australia (since November 2008) which delivers 30 life-changing *With One Voice* social inclusion/community wellbeing choir programs in 7 States. www.creativityaustralia.org.au
- Founder of The Song Room (since 1999) which has brought a creative education to over a million children in disadvantaged schools and communities around Australia. www.songroom.org.au
- Founder of the [Umbrella Foundation](#) (since 2021 with husband Peter Hunt AM), a registered charity committed to telling stories that matter through the innovative use of music, theatre and other artforms.
- Founder and CEO of Creative Universe and Inspiring Minds (since 2009) which brings greater creative leadership, innovation and wellbeing into organizations and restores a sense of meaning and purpose into work and life. www.creativeuniverse.com.au
- Founder and Executive Producer of award-winning Creative Innovation Global and Creative Innovation 2010-2019, ground-breaking global conference events featuring world class innovators, leaders and thinkers... inspiring leadership and change. www.creativeinnovationglobal.com.au

- Founder and Artistic Director singing group Pot-Pourri (since 1987). Employs 5 leading Australian classical performers, crew and administrative staff. The group performs all over Australia and has toured overseas on 40 occasions and released 7 albums. Celebrated its 30th Anniversary and released new album, “Silver”. www.pot-pourri.com.au
- Global keynote speaker and performing artist releasing 5 solo albums. www.taniadejong.com

Awards

- **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.**
- Named in the 100 most influential people in psychedelics globally in 2021.
- Award for Meritorious Service to the Community in the Victorian Multicultural Awards for Excellence 2019
- Named in the 100 Women of Influence in Australia 2019
- Named in the 100 Australian Most Influential Entrepreneurs in Australia 2019
- Creative Innovation Global ranked in the Top 20 event organizers and agencies globally as part of the newly released Eventex All-Stars Index 2018
- Named in the 2016 [Impact 25 Awards](#) which honour the social sector’s most influential people for their significant and positive impact in Australia and around the world
- Creativity Australia honoured with the Melbourne Award for Contribution to the City of Melbourne by a community organisation 2016
- Creativity Australia’s *With One Voice* program named as one of the top social innovation organisations in Australia for 5 straight years 2013-2017
- Finalist in the Westpac Community Leaders Award as Social Entrepreneur and Finalist in the Melbourne Awards 2015
- Creative Innovation 2015 Asia Pacific named Corporate Event of the Year in the Global Eventex Awards
- Creative Innovation 2015 Asia Pacific named Australian Corporate Event of the Year and in the Anthill SMART 100
- Creative Innovation 2013 Asia Pacific named Corporate Event of the Year in the Global Eventex Awards
- Brainlink Woman of Achievement 2009
- Pot-Pourri named 2008 Australian Event Entertainer of the Year (BT Awards).
- Inducted into AGSE Entrepreneurs Hall of Fame 2007 (Swinburne University)
- Australian Social Entrepreneur of the Year, Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Awards 2006
- Winner Accessibility Award 2005, City of Melbourne Awards
- Finalist in the Telstra Business Women’s Awards
- Awarded the Major Outstanding Individual Contribution to Australian Culture 1998 (Centre for Australian Cultural Studies) - National Award

- Dame Roma Mitchell Winston Churchill Fellowship for overseas study - study and research in U.K., France, Austria 1996
- Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee Grant for advanced vocal training in USA 1991
- Winner Victorian Career Achiever of the Year in Young Achiever Awards 1990
- Winner Dwight's Law Prize for a Major Research Work at University of Melbourne

Activities and Memberships

- **Director** The Umbrella Foundation (since 2021)
- **Director and Deputy Chair** Mind Medicine Australia (since 2019)
- **Director** The Hunt Family Foundation (since 2019)
- **Chair** Creativity Australia (since 2008)
- **Chair** The Song Room (1999-2006)
- **Former Advisory Board Member**, Masters of Entrepreneurship and Innovation at Swinburne University and Bachelor of Business (Entrepreneurship) RMIT University
- Served on the **Board** of Child Abuse Prevention and Research Australia (2007-2010)

Education

- 2015 Graduate of Singularity University's Executive Leadership Program in exponential technologies and innovation. This immersive course in Silicon Valley that examines how key converging technologies will shape our future and explores ethical leadership in a world of rapid change.
- Bachelor of Law with Honours, University of Melbourne 1988 (Finished Top 10)
- Associate Diploma of Arts (Opera/Music Theatre), Victorian College of the Arts 1989
- Postgraduate Diploma (Opera/Voice), Victorian College of the Arts 1991
- Diploma of Acting and Movement for Singers, National Theatre Drama School
- Completed Italian language course at Istituto Europeo in Florence
- Attended an American university on a tennis scholarship
- Completed H.S.C. at Korowa Anglican Girls School. Winner Amy Paterson Memorial Scholarship in recognition of academic excellence and valuable contribution to school life.

Mentoring

Tania is passionate about supporting young people, especially emerging social entrepreneurs. Creative Innovation Global provided 80 scholarships to emerging leaders, innovators, social and for-profit entrepreneurs to present and participate at the Creative Innovation 2010-2019 Asia Pacific events. Tania believes that it is critical to celebrate and encourage entrepreneurship in this nation. The scholarship winners connected with and learnt from delegates and global thinkers at Australia's leading, future-shaping innovation event.

She continues to nurture and mentor young artists and emerging leaders, supporting them both financially and in-kind to fulfil their career ambitions. Tania is committed to mentoring and empowering women through the *With One Voice* program and through various scholarship programs. Recently she raised the funds and set up a scholarship program for regional and rural female clinicians and therapists so that they could access the world-leading training MMA is providing through their Certificate in Psychedelic-Assisted Therapies.

Interests include: music, theatre, tennis, yoga, nature, cooking, travelling, meeting people, leadership, wellbeing, reading, performing and writing. Studied piano for eight years, speaks some Dutch, French, Italian and German.

Trivia: Tania's grandmother Slawa Duldig (nee Horowitz) invented the first foldable umbrella in Vienna in 1929.