#### Audio Production Awards 2022: More about the winners and their work.

List of programmes included in all 22 winning entries, plus comments from the judges below. Below is the list of programmes included in all 22 winning entries, plus comments from the judges.

# **Best Arts & Culture Producer: Geoff Bird**

A Life in Miniatures for BBC Radio 4

Paris-Zurich-Trieste: Joyce L'European for BBC Radio 4

Wilderness Tracks Podcast with Simon Armitage

The Judges said: "A complex piece of production and extremely well executed. It captures the atmosphere brilliantly; with range, humour and evocative sound design. A really joyful listen and a worthy winner".

#### **Best News & Current Affairs Producer: James Shield**

**Stories of Our Times** for The Times and The Sunday Times

The Judges said: "A combination of high quality production values, creativity and skillful storytelling to deliver impactful and compelling content. James excelled in detailing the painful consequences of war on real people".

# **Best Entertainment Producer: Meera Kumar**

Cheat!

Oh Dish for Waitrose

Peace at Last for BBC Radio 3

The Judges said: "Meera is an extraordinary production talent with an incredible understanding of audio, and how to create impact. This producer has simply a huge future in the industry".

# Best New Producer sponsored by **BBC Sounds**: Redzi Bernard

Lights Out: The Last Taboo for BBC Radio 4

Afterwords: Chinua Achebe for BBC Radio 3

Short Cuts: Miniatures for BBC Radio 4

The Judges said: "The judges thought Redzi handled difficult subjects with care and flair, leading to unforgettably moving storytelling with an expert use of music and silence. What a joy!"

## Best Presenter sponsored by The Podcast Show: Danny Robins

**Uncanny for BBC Sounds** 

The Judges said: "Danny takes the listeners on a journey through otherwise divisive topics, through a unique mix of enthusiasm, intrigue and gripping audio. Blending storytelling, interviews and live content, his show demonstrates his versatility and creativity as a presenter".

# Best Factual Producer sponsored by In:Quality: Axel Kacoutié

Mother Tongue for BBC Radio 4

<u>The Judges said:</u> "The judges were incredibly impressed by this immersive & compelling entry, with an originality in its structure and style that showcased a new frontier in factual production. This was a delight to listen to and a wholly inspiring effort.

# **Best Sports Producer: Chessie Bent**

The Making of A Champion: Max Verstappen for Red Bull's "Beyond the Ordinary" Relay: The Team GB Podcast

The Pilot Who Flies Through Tunnels: Dario Costa for Red Bull's "Beyond the Ordinary"

The Judges said: "Chessie's showreel was refreshing in its diversity of content, presenters, contributors and sport covered. A strong all-round producer with a good ear for what works across multiple platforms".

# Gethin Thomas Award for Best Comedy Producer: Matt Thomas

Elis James & John Robins on BBC 5 Live

<u>The Judges said:</u> "Matt is producing live radio and creating an environment where comedy can happen – an impressive achievement for any producer. This entry showed great variety and excellent production throughout. Matt clearly has a great rapport and strong chemistry with Elis James and John Robins".

#### **Best Music Producer: Arthur Hagues**

The Rock Show for National Prison Radio

<u>The Judges said:</u> "Arthur has put together an entry that demonstrates not only highly relatable content but also brings the listeners into the heart of the shows. A real class act".

# Best Audiobook Producer: Laura-Leigh Smith

Mermaid School for Audible

<u>The Judges said:</u> "A wide variety of creative disciplines, woven together with excellence. Terrific approach to ensemble casting, and a good understanding of the characters, their journeys, and the target audience".

#### **Best Narrator: Tracy Wiles**

Fits and Starts: A Memoir of Living with Epilepsy by Franziska Thomas

<u>The Judges said:</u> "The judges all felt that this entry broke the mould of what an audiobook sounds like. There was a powerful intimacy to the narration – Tracy's effortless, skillful performance made us feel like we were experiencing it with her".

# Best Lifestyle & Society Producer (NEW) sponsored by <u>BetterHelp</u> Lina Prestwood

The Long Time Academy for Headspace Studios and The Long Time Project

<u>The Judges said:</u> "This entry stood out in terms of production. We were impressed with the mission of the podcast and the imaginative use of music which transported the listener. The entire entry was full of life".

# Best Ensemble Cast: Joelah, Keke & DJ Silk

1Xtra's Throwback Party

The Judges said: "The judges were unanimous when it came to this ensemble. They are entirely in glory for their friendship, laughs and house party feels. We crowned them clear winners for making chemistry look so smooth and easy!"

## Best New Voice sponsored by **BBC Sounds**: Lianne Sanderson

Various on talkSPORT

The Judges said: "Lianne made us sit up and listen with their punchy, forthright honesty and humour – and their depth of knowledge shines through. An exciting, genuine talent; we can't wait to hear what they do next".

# **Best Branded Sound Producer: Luke Berry**

BBC Radio 1/1Xtra/Asian Network and BBC Radio 2

<u>The Judges said:</u> "A great level of creativity, executed to the highest production values. We particularly liked Luke's commitment to understanding different audiences and how they engage with and relate to the various stations. This is as good as it gets!"

#### Best Sound Design Producer: Axel Kacoutié

Decode for Spotify

HISTORY for Soundstage x Naked Productions

A Mother Tongue for BBC Radio 4

The Judges said: "As soon as we heard this, we said 'This is gold!' Axel's work feels effortless and colourful and manages to strike a tone between powerful language and sound design that lingers on after you've listened, much like a favourite album".

#### Best Drama & Fiction Producer: Andrew Mark Sewell

Barred for BBC Radio 4

Mahabharata Now for BBC Radio 4

Venna's Planet for AUK Studios

The Effect for Audible

The Judges said: "From gripping courtroom dramas to challenging international productions, Andrew shows an insight into the difficulty we all faced during Covid. The work is strong and is of the highest production standards and showcases a range of compelling stories".

# Grassroots Production Award sponsored by <u>The Podcasting Seriously Awards Fun</u>d: Carousel Radio

The Judges said: "A wonderfully inclusive entry that clearly demonstrated how the project identified, nurtured and mentored new and diverse talent. The production values were high, and the audio showcased not only fantastic delivery but brilliant sound design. Well done!"

## The Sustainability Award (NEW): The Long Time Academy

The Long Time Academy for Headspace Studios and The Long Time Project

<u>The Judges said:</u> "Lovely stories, great sound design and a delightful listen. A genuine connection through sound! Well done!"

## **Producer of the Year (NEW): Steve Urquhart**

Doing Bird for National Library of Scotland & Creative Scotland & HMP Perth

Short Cuts: Video Games for BBC Radio 4

Look At What You Could Have Won for BBC Radio 4

No Ball Games for BBC Radio 4

Over Lunan for Resonance FM

Nuit Blanche for BBC Radio 3

The Judges said: "The Judges were impressed by the level of detail in the winning entry which was described as stunning, beautiful and surprising, and made you feel totally connected because they went the extra mile".

#### **Publisher or Network of the Year (NEW): Resonance FM**

Novara FM, Indigenous Voices: Protest & Performance at COP26, Over Lunan, Mollspeak, The Cat, The Book of Revelation, The Scarlet Cross, Clear Spot, Meet Me on the Radio, Doing Bird, Talking Africa, In Our Element in Our Element, Transmitter.

The Judges said: "Highly creative, innovative, varied and engaging. This was audio of the highest quality, demonstrated through a range of formats and contributors. Resonance is a network which has had to overcome major practical challenges in the last year, yet still managed to deliver industry-leading content on a very limited Community Radio budget".

# **Production Company of the Year sponsored by Radiocentre:**

#### **Reduced Listening**

Teen Spirit: Nevermind at 30 for BBC Radio 4

Rap Gets Real for BBC Radio 4

*Decode* for Spotify

The Essay: Unread for BBC Radio 3

Fully Amplified: The Belly of the Wolf for Futures Theatre

Unclassified: After Dark Festival for BBC Radio 3

Dream Fuel with Arlo Parks and Zadie Smith for BBC Sounds

Climate Frequencies: Veins of the Planet for BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art

Extra Dimensions: Julius von Bismarck & Michael Doser for Arts at Cern

Late Junction: A Christmas Eve Session for BBC Radio 3

*The Sleeping Forecast: After Dark Festival Mix* for BBC Sounds

The Judges said: "Creative, adventurous and beautifully produced. The range of content and the craftsmanship shone through – with every topic presented with such a unique take and a personal touch. This reflects the company's strong ethos of inclusion, diversity and elevating new talented voices in front of and behind the mic".