



Karen Knowles - Biography

Karen Knowles is one of Australia's most cherished musical personalities, her voice captivating audiences for over four decades. Karen first captured the nation's heart as a regular on Young Talent Time from 1975-1980, becoming a household name with her angelic voice and dynamic performances. She went on to achieve platinum-selling success in the 1980s, with hits like "Why Won't You Explain," which topped the charts in Perth and Hobart, and three top-charting albums that solidified her place in Australian music history.

In the early 1990s, Karen stepped into the role of lead singer for The Seekers, taking on the formidable task of following in Judith Durham's footsteps. During her time with The Seekers, Karen recorded the first-ever version of the iconic anthem "I Am Australian," with Bruce Woodley and The National Boys Choir further cementing her legacy as a voice of national significance. Her connection to the spirit of Australia has continued through her countless performances at Carols by Candlelight events, where she became synonymous with the festive season for many Australians.

Karen's career is a testament to her unwavering commitment to connection—whether through music, wellness, or advocacy. She believes in the power of music to nourish the soul and sees her work as an opportunity to inspire others to discover their own authentic paths. Her online offerings *Tuned2You*, *House that Breathes* and the soon to be launched *The Singers Way* are all designed to pass on what Karen has learned over the years in a fresh and meaningful way.

She loves travel both national and international and is excited to be launching a new series of Retreats for 2025 commencing in one of her favourite places in the world France with Colors of Provence in April 2025.

When curating content for the retreats Karen brings all her gifts to create unique experiences in exceptional places. Working with trusted travel partners who align with the wish to create unique luxury, educational and sensory experiences to uplift and inspire participants it promises to be a joy!

Karen Knowles - Biography - p 2

Karen's core essential drive is to seek beauty, quality and creative gifts in everyday places. Originally well known as the trusted girl next door she quickly became a household name in the 1970's and 1980's during her long stint on Young Talent Time (1975-1980) in Australia. She was soon signed to Ron Tudor's iconic Fable label where she launched her extensive recording career with three hit albums and various compilations. At this time she was presented with gold and platinum awards for her records "Why Won't You Explain", "You are the Reason" "Loves Us All" and was named the best selling female recording artist in Australia for two consecutive years. After a stint in London where she began songwriting and her role as female lead in the hit musical Big River Karen was asked to join legendary group The Seekers as their lead singer touring with them nationally and internationally for two years. Karen recorded the original version of the much loved song *I am Australian* with Bruce Woodley and the national boys choir at that time and Karen and the rest of the country have been singing the song ever since!

Karen has been an important advocate for Indigenous recognition, appointed an Inaugural ambassador of the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation in 1998 and was honoured to be asked to record in language by Wirradjirri elder and lore carrier Min Mia. Those songs are included on her 2019 album *Solid Ground* which has taken her and her audience on yet another personal journey of learning and discovery. With the culture of Australia weaving throughout her own story, from her pioneering performances of *I Am Australian* through to the themes of her later albums *Solid Ground* and *Sanctuary*, Karen's focus on discovery extends beyond the self and to our society as a whole.

In her latest show, *Songs & Stories of Australia*, Karen Knowles presents a heartfelt celebration of Australian music, performing classics from artists like Judith Durham, Olivia Newton-John, and Archie Roach and other iconic artists, alongside her own beloved songs celebrating the feeling of "home" with beautiful reflections and curated arrangements of amazing Australian compositions. This concert invites audiences to connect deeply with the land and each other, honouring the music that has shaped our lives. With a career that has touched every corner of Australia and Australian culture, Karen Knowles continues to be a voice for unity, connection, and transformation. A song to feel, a song to heal, a song to uplift and inspire, a song to fire or quench desire... Karen Knowles has sung them all over her extensive musical career. Karen now also crafts her own compositions as featured on her latest recordings and at her performances bringing a new aspect to her unique authentic voice as she gives expression to story in service to each moment in time from her viewpoint.

A career that started with an incredible voice has continued to grow as Karen expands the use of that voice to help create a better world. For Karen she operates from the position that everything is connected and the path evolves and unfolds all in good time with new gifts arising along the way. For Karen Knowles, it's a privilege to journey through life with the gift of her open channel – the power of one voice.