



## Elly strikes right note at jazz awards

Noel Mengel

QUEENSLAND Conservatorium of Music graduate Elly Hoyt won the best Australian jazz vocal album award at last night's Australian Jazz Bell Awards in Melbourne.

The award was for the 23-year-old's debut album, *Elly Hoyt*, released in December.

Tasmania-raised Hoyt (pictured) impressed some of the biggest names in Australian jazz while completing her Bachelor of Music majoring in jazz voice in Brisbane.

In 2008, she won the Generation in Jazz vocal scholarship, judged by jazz legend James Morrison. He said: "From the moment I first heard Elly sing, I knew she had that classic, indefinable thing that makes one a jazz singer, a way of approaching a song that lets the listener know, this is the real thing."

The Bell Awards honour Australian jazz pioneer Graeme Bell.

Other winners included Mike Nock Trio for best contemporary jazz album for *An Accumulation of Subtleties*, and Leigh Barker for best traditional jazz album for *The New Shelks*.

