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International artist takes control of her music career by studying at SAE

Even afterinternational media quoted singer-songwriter, Mona Patel’s track *'Hold me like you mean it'*, as one to listen to in 2020, deep down she wasn’t satisfied with the production of her music. Mona decided to put the destiny of her work back into her own hands, and enrolled at SAE Creative Media Institute to further her music education as a producer. She now credits her latest song, *'Hope to Heal'*, and her new found music production skill to SAE.

Mona’s latest song combines orchestral elements that convey an uplifting message of better times being on the horizon. “The world has been in such incredible turmoil in the past two years, I wanted to write a song of hope, and communicate a healing message,” Mona said.

Mona graduated SAE Creative Media Institute’s Perth campus in November 2021, with a Diploma in Music Production, and explained that the course brought discipline and structure to her career.

“Honestly, that course at SAE changed my life. Before I started studying, I was releasing music, and was so into the creative zone, I didn’t worry about meeting deadlines or the bigger picture,” she admitted.

The emerging singer-songwriter added that studying opened her eyes to another perspective of the music industry she had no previous knowledge of.

“It was a wake up call for me, because I was all of a sudden not only learning about how to produce music, but getting educated about the business side of the music industry,” Mona shared.

“It got me into this mindset of having a professional outlook. As an independent artist, you have to take care of your image and brand, and it gave me the chance to reflect on what I was doing and use the skills I learnt to become a stronger business woman.”

The Indian-born artist’s fourth major release, *‘Hope to Heal’*, was written, composed, performed and produced by her. The song was mixed by Mona in collaboration with fellow SAE graduate, Joshua Cook, who also mastered the track.

“I learnt so much collaborating with Joshua. It’s always interesting to work with people that have different skill sets, and working with him gave me a chance to learn his own methods to mixing and mastering,” Mona said.

“One of the greatest aspects as an artist, is getting the chance to work with other creatives, so I was grateful for the opportunity to learn from him, and advance my technical skills as well.”

With her new found music production skills, Mona added that she has greater faith in the direction her music is now heading in.

“Music has always been such a pivotal part of my life since I was a child. It has uplifted me, comforted me, encouraged me, and inspired me. Studying at SAE has given me the confidence to have complete control over my music, so I can shape my future.”

*SAE Creative Media Institute provides students with the experience, skills, equipment and connections to succeed in the industry. Find out more at* [*sae.edu.au*](http://sae.edu.au)*.*

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**About Mona Patel**

Mona Patel is a singer-songwriter from Perth, Western Australia. She moved overseas in 2014 and lived in Mumbai for six years before moving back to Perth. She writes the lyrics and composes her own songs. Her background is in jazz, however her current releases have more of commercial pop sound. Her music draws inspiration from the likes of Taylor Swift, Halsey, Zedd, and Chainsmokers.

**About SAE**

SAE Creative Media Institute is the place for creatives and innovators. Since 1976 we’ve been the leaders in creative media education across animation, audio, creative industries, creative technologies, design, film, games, and music. Every year, we support students globally to develop the skills and experience needed to carve successful careers. Students enjoy access to the latest technology and are taught by industry-experienced faculty, while putting their skills to the test in small class environments. Our graduates become part of a highly-respected global community of creatives that’s been around for over 40 years. We pride ourselves on being technically explorative, transformative and brave through our range of creative media programs, from short courses and professional training through to bachelor and postgraduate degrees. In Australia, our programs are delivered at campuses in Sydney, Brisbane, Byron Bay, Melbourne, Perth and Adelaide. SAE is a part of Navitas Pty Ltd. More information about SAE is available at [sae.edu.au](http://www.sae.edu.au).

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