

Gemma Kirby BIO

Gemma Kirby is different...for all the right reasons. She pushes boundaries - personally, musically and creatively and she couldn't be happier doing what she is doing!

Perhaps the most telling lyric on Gemma Kirby's debut album, *Semi Precious*, is this one: "Buckle up, boy, cause you're in for a rough ride." It's emblematic of the brash, attitude-driven persona—most certainly a product of her profession as a coal miner—that has been the face of Gemma's artistic output and broader musical career to date.

One minute her other-worldly voice is soaring a mile high on an anthemic country track and the next, she is totally rocking it out!

Gemma Kirby first decided she wanted to make it in music when she was a child, and from that point set her life on a course that was most likely to make those dreams come true: supporting countless country artists as an opener, honing her song-writing skills, and performing for audiences as large as 40,000 all by the time she was 16. This adolescent momentum was capped off with the crowning achievement of graduating from the CMAA Academy of Country Music in 2011.

But that didn't remain her best musical accomplishment for long, because in 2012, she was selected to represent Australia in the World Championships of Performing Arts (WCOPA) in America, an event that is essentially the "Talent Olympics" for aspiring performers and entertainers. Not only was she selected – she cleaned up. Winning 10 medals (1 gold, 5 silver and 4 bronze) as well as the title of Overall Champion of the World for the Country and Western Division, Gemma launched onto the radar of music fans and industry executives far and wide immediately.

She has opened for Jimmy Barnes, has been featured in national media such as New Idea, The Morning Show, The Australian, The Courier Mail and more. Her debut single "Fallen Soldier" from her debut album "Semi-Precious" released in 2015, remained in the top 40 CMC video charts for a staggering 15 weeks. The same video saw her gain recognition as a finalist in the 2016 Peoples Choice Awards.

Gemma completed a successful 2016 Tamworth Country Music Festival which featured gigs with popular artists Ben Ransom and Jonny Taylor. And this set the stage for 2016.

She was a 2016 finalist in the 2016 WA Music Awards and performed at The infamous Boyup Brook Festival. She also performed at the 2016 Urban Country Music Festival, on the emerging talent stage at 2016 Gympie Muster and 2016 Lights On the Hill.

This year Gemma has toured NT and will be the touring NSW in November. She has also been chosen by PBR Australia to perform the National anthem at their Brisbane and Newcastle major events.

Musically, "Coal Train", the second single from Gemma's debut album "Semi-Precious" was released earlier this year and generated a string of country and mainstream media interest – featuring a LIVE interview on Channel 7's The Daily Edition, and in QLD music media The Music and SceneStr magazine.

Her third and most recent single/video release off *Semi-Precious*, is "Deceiving Eyes". It is the first interactive film clip in the Australian Country Music Industry and is a powerful video about Gemma's younger sister who became an ice addict. It is brave and powerful and sends an important message to young people about the dangers of drug use.

"I met Gemma in Tamworth this year and after chatting to her I thought to myself, I'm gonna keep my eye on this one. Well....When someone has the courage to make a bold statement about something so personal and confronting, they should be applauded! Gemma, take a bow coz this video and song is so brutally honest, and shows something that's tearing families apart right under our noses!" Australian Country Music Superstar, Adam Brand.

Semi Precious, recorded with award winning producer Matt Fell, is OUT NOW.