A PEACE of METAL

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Contact:

Lindsay McAuley

Email: Linzi7272@gmail.com

Website: www.lindsaymcauley.com

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Peace of Metal: A Global Call to Transform Weapons of War into Symbols of Peace

Queensland, Australia – In a bold and visionary initiative aimed at remembrance and reconciliation, Australian visual artist **Lindsay McAuley**, is relaunching his ground-breaking project, *Peace of Metal*. This global art movement invites nations to transform decommissioned military equipment into bells—powerful symbols of remembrance, hope, and humanity's potential for harmony.

The year 2045 will mark a century since the end of World War II. In anticipation of this historic milestone, *Peace of Metal*—a global art initiative—is gaining momentum. This monumental project will bring people of all nations together under one roof to honour those who gave their lives in the pursuit of peace.

The Nation Without Fear, will cast the first bell.

During World War II, Nazi Germany confiscated and melted down more than 175,000 church bells across Europe to forge weapons of war. *Peace of Metal* seeks to reverse that dark history—one bell at a time. Governments around the world are being invited to contribute decommissioned military hardware, which will be repurposed into bells representing their nations. These bells will be housed **under one roof**, in a yet-to-be-determined location, forming a unified monument to peace and reconciliation.

"The sound of a bell calls people to gather—it transcends borders, beliefs, and languages," says McAuley. "This project is more than art—it's an invitation for the world to remember, reflect, and choose peace. It's a living testament to transformation and collective hope."

Australia has taken a leadership role by helping McAuley present *Peace of Metal* to the United Nations through the **Strategic Communications and Outreach Unit of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations**. In addition, the Australian Defence Force has placed the project on its **Expressions of Interest** list for Military Disposal Equipment.

Peace of Metal first emerged nearly 30 years ago, when McAuley wrote to every UN member state. The project was shelved due to logistical barriers. Today, with renewed urgency and a world still shadowed by conflict, McAuley has reignited the initiative—reaching out to over 800 ambassadors and political leaders across the globe.

While each bell will stand just 1.2 metres tall, their collective sound will echo worldwide—a sonorous call for peace that resonates far beyond borders.

"Storm clouds gather, and peace remains fragile," McAuley reflects. "In times like these, we must amplify the voice of reconciliation. This project is a call to conscience—a reminder of our shared humanity and our power to choose creation over destruction."

Peace of Metal is not just an artistic endeavour; it is a global movement challenging nations to act on behalf of future generations. As McAuley says:

"Involvement in this project is a gesture of courage and hope—an opportunity for governments to share the vision for peace."

For more information or to participate in this global initiative, please contact Lindsay McAuley at <u>Linzi7272@gmail.com</u> or visit <u>www.lindsaymcauley.com/peace-of-metal</u>.

About the Artist: Lindsay McAuley

Lindsay McAuley is an acclaimed artist, filmmaker, and social visionary. Born in outback Queensland, he has travelled to 44 countries, drawing inspiration from diverse cultures and lived experiences. His award-winning work spans visual art, photography, and writing. *Peace of Metal* is the culmination of decades of creative exploration and a lifelong commitment to fostering a more peaceful world.

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