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# Rock acts in the pink for breast cancer month

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Emily Dunn Entertainment Reporter  
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FOR those lucky enough to be there it was a magical experience. In the forecourt of the Opera House Australia's biggest band were playing a private show for people touched by breast cancer.

In a closing note for breast cancer awareness month, the headline act Powderfinger were joined by Missy Higgins, Kev Carmody and Jet frontman, Nic Cester, for the inaugural Concert for the Cure at the Opera House last night.

The invite-only show, kept a secret until this week for fear of music fans overwhelming the area, was the dream concert of university student Nic Vindin, who, with the help of pay TV music station MAX, initiated the event after losing his mother to breast cancer four years ago.

"When I finished school I knew I had to do not just something for Mum, but something for everybody affected by breast cancer," Vindin, 20, said. "Our dream was to have some of Australia's top music artists, but I never thought it would come to this."

Six months ago Vindin and a group of friends walked into the MAX offices with the proposal to stage a rock concert to help raise awareness about breast cancer among young people.

"When they said: 'How would you feel about Powderfinger?', I thought they were joking," said Vindin who hopes to make the concert an annual event.

Fresh from Sunday's ARIA Awards and a national tour with fellow Australian rock band, Silverchair, Powderfinger performed duets with Higgins, Carmody and Cester before inviting all three on stage for a moving performance of their song *These Days*. The concert had a personal resonance for Powderfinger's Bernard Fanning, who has a sister-in-law receiving treatment for breast cancer.

"Breast cancer has been incredibly well promoted, for want of a better word, and the awareness is really growing but it needs to continue. Nearly everybody in Australia ends up being affected by cancer in some way," Fanning told the *Herald*.

The concert, supported by the National Breast Cancer Foundation, the National Breast Cancer Centre and Breast Cancer Network Australia was attended by 700 breast-cancer survivors, as well as breast cancer nurses and families touched by breast cancer. It was recorded as a MAX Session, to be broadcast on the network this Saturday.

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