

GUEST MUSICIAN BIOGRAPHIES

Click on the artist's name to link to their biographical profile

[Black, Zoë](#)

[Boase, Aidan](#)

[Bower, Helen](#)

[Brennan, Joel](#)

[Busietta, Christopher](#)

[Chapman, Brian](#)

[Chindamo, Joe](#)

[Chindamo, Olivia](#)

[Connie, Meredith](#)

[Cordingley, Edwina](#)

[Dodsworth, Judith](#)

[Emerson, James](#)

[Farid, Amir](#)

[Farid, Annabelle](#)

[Hiew, Francesca](#)

[Laussade, Elyane](#)

[Leich, Kristen](#)

[McCooey, Ceridwen](#)

[Macfarlane, Kate](#)

[Modugno, Giuseppe](#)

[Nelson, Michelle](#)

[Norman, Katherine](#)

[Paterson, David](#)

[Pavlovic-Hobba, Thibaud](#)

[Pham, Hoang](#)

[Reeve, Megan](#)

[Riebl, Rose](#)

[Reynolds, Timothy](#)

[Sheldon, Samantha](#)

Sheridan, Peter

Siketa, Bruno

Tan, Kim

The Nuovo Quartet

The Academy of St Michael

Tochalna, Rada

Vayenas, Paulina

Wallace, Zoe

Watson, Christopher

Wilkinson, Georgia

Black, Zoë

Zoë Black has won numerous awards including the National Youth Concerto Competition in 1989 and the String section of the ABC Young Performers Award in 1991.

Graduating from the Victorian College of the Arts in 1992, Zoë was awarded grants from the Australia Council and the Queen Elizabeth Jubilee Trust and the major performance award of the Australian Musical Foundation in London where she studied at the Guildhall School of Music under David Takeno and subsequently at the Vienna Hochschule with Michael Schnitzler.

During her time in Europe, she studied chamber music with the Takacs Quartet, played with the London Symphony Orchestra and in Vienna with the Wiener Kammerorchester. She returned to Australia in 1996 to become Assistant Leader of the Australian Chamber Orchestra with whom she toured extensively both within Australia and overseas.

Touring regularly throughout Australia, Zoë has been a featured soloist and performed in chamber settings at the annual Huntington Festival in Mudgee, NSW, has performed in the MSO Chamber Music series, appeared as soloist with the Tasmanian and Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and is a regular performer for the ABC Sunday Live series.

In 2006 Zoë was a founding member of the Freshwater Trio, which has quickly become one of Melbourne's leading chamber ensembles, with sell-out performances at numerous festivals including Port Fairy and Castlemaine and with its own innovative subscription series at Melba Hall. Future engagements include taking part in Musica Viva's Coffee Concert series and regional touring as well as a tour to St. Petersburg.

In 2007 Zoë recorded the Roger Smalley Violin Concerto with the Victorian College of the Arts Orchestra for the ABC. In addition to her performing career, Zoë is a valued member of staff at Melbourne University and the Victorian College of the Arts.

Boase, Aidan

Aidan Boase was born in Perth, Western Australia. He completed a Bachelor of Music with honours at the West Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA). He had

considerable success there studying with Ukrainian pianist Anna Sleptsova, receiving the Cecilia Daff piano prize and winning the Warana Concerto Competition three times, enjoying performances with the university orchestra on each occasion. Following his undergraduate degree Aidan made his first move to Melbourne to train at the Australian National Academy of Music (ANAM), learning with Timothy Young. Whilst here he was twice a finalist in the ANAM Concerto Competition and won first prize and the 3MBS Listeners' Choice award in the Chamber Music Competition.

Aidan returned to Perth for two years after his studies to become a member of the piano teaching staff at WAAPA, and to work as a freelance musician. Now based again in Melbourne he is in high demand as a collaborative artist, be it as chamber musician, duo partner or repetiteur. He is delighted to perform regularly with Melbourne Chamber Players and also works with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and Orchestra Victoria. He is an ANAM Associate Artist.

Aidan has performed at festivals in Europe and in the US. He was a 2015 fellow at the prestigious Norfolk Chamber Music Festival run by the Yale School of Music; and was a prize winner in the Virtuoso and Bel Canto Chamber Music Competition in Lucca, Italy.

As a concerto soloist Aidan has performed with orchestras around the country, including the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra and Orchestra Victoria.

Bower, Helen

UK born violinist Helen Bower studied at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance in London, and upon graduation was awarded the Vivian Prindl Outreach Prize for her music/dance collaboration In the Loop. Alongside her classical music background, she is passionate about commissioning and performing new music and collaborating with artists from a wide variety of disciplines. Helen has spent several years exploring the use of live electronic looping equipment within the context of contemporary classical music with her project The Looping Glass, which has been performed in Australia, New Zealand and the UK.

Since relocating from London to Melbourne in 2012, Helen has forged a prominent name for herself in both the classical and contemporary Australian music scenes, with performances at venues such as Melbourne Recital Centre, Melbourne State Theatre, The Forum and La Mama Theatre, and for festivals including Melbourne Festival and WHITE NIGHT. She currently performs in Australia with new music ensemble Forest Collective and contemporary improvisation group Ensemble Density, and across China with Australian International Productions.

Brennan, Joel

Dr Joel Brennan enjoys a diverse career as a performer and teacher. He has performed with orchestras around the globe, including the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra (Australia), Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra (Korea), Rotterdam Philharmonic (Netherlands), Winnipeg Symphony (Canada), Malaysian Philharmonic, and Bilkent Symphony Orchestra (Turkey), and has served as principal trumpet of the Hyogo Performing Arts Center Orchestra (Japan) and Amsterdam Symphony Orchestra (Netherlands).

A proponent of contemporary music and chamber music, Joel has given solo and collaborative recitals in the United States, Canada, Germany, the Netherlands, the Philippines, Australia and Japan. He is a member of Ensemble Three, a unique trio of trumpet, trombone, and guitar which has been praised as "an inspiring example of

forward-thinking classical music culture” and won the 2017 Melbourne Recital Centre Contemporary Masters Award.

Joel received his bachelor's degree from Oberlin Conservatory of Music before pursuing graduate studies at the Yale School of Music from which he is a recipient of the Doctor of Musical Arts degree. Awarded a Fulbright Grant 2007, Joel spent a year performing, teaching, and studying in the Netherlands.

Deeply devoted to education, Joel is Associate Professor of Music Performance at Melbourne Conservatorium of Music (University of Melbourne, Australia). He has also served on the faculty of Brandon University (Canada) and the Juilliard School's campus in Tianjin (China) where he worked with students in the pre-college program and graduate school in addition to performing with the Tianjin Juilliard Ensemble. He has been a guest teaching artist at the Australasian Trumpet Academy, Danish/German Brass Academy, and Oberlin Trumpet Workshop. He is the creator of Poper's Game a unique practice app for trumpet players.

Joel is a Yamaha Performing Artist.

Busietta, Christopher

Christopher teaches singing, guitar and songwriting privately in his studio. He also holds a Bachelor of Computer Science from Monash University (Clayton). After winning the 2009 German Australian Opera Grant, he relocated to Germany, singing operatic and musical theatre roles with Hessisches Staatstheater Wiesbaden (ensemble member in 2009/10), Theater Augsburg (ensemble member from 2010-2017), Stadttheater Bremerhaven (ensemble member from 2018 to 2020) as well as performing as a guest artist with Theater Aachen, Landestheater Niederbayern, Theater Magdeburg, Staatstheater am Gärtnerplatz (Munich) and Oper Frankfurt.

In 2017, he won the Augsburger Theaterpreis (Theatre Prize) for Opera. He also writes original folk, rock and classical music and performs his pieces under the name, Blue Macaw.

Chapman, Brian

Born in England in 1944, Brian Chapman studied piano in Brisbane with Nora Baird from 1952, and in Melbourne from 1954 with Lindsay Biggins, J.A. Steele and Roy Shepherd. After obtaining his AMusA performing diploma in 1958, he discontinued piano lessons the following year for five years, returning to study with Roy Shepherd in 1964.

The following year he obtained his LMusA performing diploma and was a Victorian State finalist in the Australian Broadcasting Corporation's Instrumental and Vocal Competition (now the Symphony Australia Young Performers Awards) in 1966 and 1968, being made equal State winner in 1968. He also appeared nine times on Channel 10's "Showcase" in the years 1968-1970. His professional performing career began in the United States in the years 1970-1972 where he gave numerous chamber music recitals with members of the North Carolina Symphony, an activity he continued on returning to Melbourne, working with members of the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra. He has performed as soloist and chamber musician in Melbourne, Victorian provincial centres, interstate and overseas, including the United States, Mexico and Germany. His colleagues in chamber music performance have included Hermann Baumann, the Binneas Quartet, David Bloom, Rhonda Bruce, the Ciompi Quartet of Duke University, Jeffrey Crellin, Joan Dargavel, Graeme Evans, Phillip Green, David Griffiths, Brian Hansford, Vernon Hill, William Howard, Louisa

Hunter-Bradley, Thomas Indermuhle, John Kennedy, Michael Kisin, Janis Laurs, Frances Lehmann, Chris Martin, Phillip Miechel, Ian Morgan, Max Neil, Mary Nemet, Merlyn Quaife, Spiros Rantos, the Rowe Quartet, Donald Scotts, Henry Wenig, Denis Wick, Matthew Wilkie and Paul Williams. He has made over 100 studio recordings and broadcasts for the ABC and has organised large-scale events such as Monash University's 1983 Brahms Chamber Music Festival and 1997 Schubert/Brahms festival.

He teaches piano privately and was honorary accompanist with the West Gippsland Chorale from 2001 to 2009. His musical activities have been complemented by an academic career as a physiologist and educational software developer, including appointments at Monash University's Department of Physiology (1973-89) and Gippsland Medical School (from 2008).

Chindamo, Joe

Joe Chindamo ranks amongst the world's best jazz pianists and composers. His equal gifts as composer, arranger and improviser enable him to skate between musical genres with deftness and integrity, creating a unique music which eschews boundaries. A man with an international reputation, Joe has performed concerts all over the world. Of particular note, at the Umbria Jazz Festival, The Tokyo Dome and The Lincoln Centre in New York. He also toured with famed US drummer Billy Cobham for over 10 years. Numerous of his recordings reached number 1 on the modern jazz charts in Japan. His formidable pianism has earned him admiration from amongst the classical elite.

In 2008 Joe was invited to perform 3 concerts in Italy by the celebrated classical pianist Michele Campanella, who was curator of a respected piano festival. In the same year, as a result of an enthusiastic recommendation by the formidable Nickolai Demidenko, piano maker Paolo Fazioli invited Joe to perform at his auditorium in Venice, a venue normally reserved for the likes of Angela Hewitt, Nickolai Demidenko and Aldo Ciccolini.

Joe is an artist who has done it all. He has performed and recorded with the best such as Shirley Bassey, Anne Sophie von Otter, Ricky Lee Jones, Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, Yvonne Kenny and Olivia Newton John, and worked on over 60 film soundtracks, providing the piano work for iconic Australian movies such as *Pharlap*, *The Man from Snowy River II*, *Babe*, and *The Sound of One Hand Clapping*.

Chindamo, Olivia

Olivia Chindamo is a New York-based jazz vocalist from Australia whose unique voice effortlessly carries and delivers stories and melodies with the highest level of integrity, honesty and musicianship. With a special love for improvisation, Olivia's musical endeavours offer a fresh combination of old and new as she continually fuses an ever-expanding knowledge of jazz history with her modern sensibilities, impressive technique and vocal versatility.

As the first ever vocalist to receive the prestigious Bell Award for "Young Australian Jazz Artist of the Year" in 2016, Olivia has firmly cemented her place in her local and national jazz scene. Touring and performing frequently with her own projects and as a guest to globally celebrated artists such as James Morrison (AUS) and Willie Murillo (USA), Olivia is no stranger to the stage.

Recent highlights include her debut performance with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra at the Sidney Myer Music Bowl and travelling to Europe with Willie Murillo to perform and record with Big Band Liechtenstein.

Having studied under the tutelage of some of America's finest jazz musicians at the Banff International Workshop in Jazz & Creative Music in 2016, Olivia felt more drawn to the United States than ever before, inspiring her bold move to relocate to the other side of the world and fully pursue her love and passion for jazz music. Olivia is currently studying at The Juilliard School, where she is a part of the inaugural Jazz Voice graduate program.

Connie, Meredith

Meredith Connie has been active as a Classical Guitar performer, composer and teacher for over thirty years in the USA and in Australia.

In 2017 she released her most recent CD on Move Records *Fairy Tales Monsters and Wild Animals*, a solo recording of her own compositions and fantasy themed works. Previous releases include *Sol Y Sombras* (Light and Shadow), a recording of solo and chamber works, and *Imaginary Landscapes* (duo with flute as Duo Rubicund). Meredith is very pleased to be working with Michelle Nelson as a duo, exploring the vast riches of guitar chamber music.

Cordingley, Edwina

Upon receiving first-class honours, Edwina was a full scholarship holder for three years at the Australian National Academy of Music where she was privileged to study under the tutelage of Howard Penny.

With a brief interlude to trek around South America for six months, Edwina then moved to the United Kingdom to further her studies and perform. She studied Baroque cello in Edinburgh with David Watkin before moving down to London when she was awarded an apprenticeship with Sir John Eliot Gardiner. Edwina went on to tour Europe with John Eliot in his ensembles, the English Baroque Soloists and the Orchestre Revolutionnaire et Romantique and to perform and tour Europe as Principal Cello for The Gabrieli Consort and Players. Back in Australia Edwina plays with many wonderful ensembles and musicians both baroque and modern but is kept very busy wrangling her two young children.

Dodsworth, Judith

Judith Dodsworth is a highly experienced opera, oratorio and concert singer. She has come to be regarded as one of Australia's finest interpreters of contemporary vocal repertoire and is in demand as a performer of both avant-garde opera and of new concert music.

She is a graduate of the AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY and of the Advanced Performers' Program of the AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC, has a masters degree in performance from the UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE and has studied in Vienna and London, including with legendary new music soprano, Jane Manning.

2023 will include her appearance as soloist in the MELBOURNE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA's premiere performances of Katy Abbott's PEACE CONCERTO.

Emerson, James

James Emerson is a Baritone, who has performed in professional productions with Victorian Opera and Opera Australia. At only twenty-two years, James has won awards from many Eisteddfods and competitions, and recently was a finalist in the National Liederfest competition where he was awarded the Brian Hansford award and the Ian Field Memorial Award for the best diction and understanding of the German language. More recently, James was runner up in the Royal Melbourne Philharmonic's Aria Competition. As well as this, James is a chorister, cantor and guest artist with various choirs throughout Melbourne, such as the Victoria Chorale, Box Hill Chorale, The Melbourne Singers, Maroondah Singers and the Melbourne Bach Choir.

In 2017, James was involved in Victorian Opera's Youth production of Copland's *The Second Hurricane* and played the role of Gyp. More recently, James was involved in the Melbourne International Festival of Lieder and Art Song and was awarded the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music Scholarship. James also was a chorus member in Victorian Opera's production of Wagner's *Parsifal*.

In 2019, James made his debut as a soloist in the Melbourne Recital Centre with the Melbourne Bach Choir's performance of Bach's *St Matthew Passion* where he performed the roles of Peter, The High Priest and the 1st Priest. The Age stated that "bass-baritone James Emerson enjoyed a laudable debut in handling the second bass's responsibilities".

James has recently completed his Honours year of a Bachelor of Music, specialising in Classical Voice and Performance at The University of Melbourne and in 2020 will be commenced the Masters of Music – Opera Performance program.

Farid, Amir

Winner of the 2006 Australian National Piano Award, US born Iranian-Australian pianist Amir Farid has been described as "a highly creative musician – a pianist of great intelligence and integrity. He brings strong musical substance to all that he does, imbuing it with his own particular experience and understanding", and who "in a well-populated field...distinguishes himself for all the right reasons".

As one of the most versatile and loved musicians in Australia, the currently New York-based pianist has performed concerti with major orchestras, collaborating with conductors such as Christopher Hogwood, Oleg Caetani, Johannes Fritzsche, Alexander Briger, Marko Letonja and Benjamin Northey. Highlights include Rachmaninoff's 2nd piano concerto with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra in front of a 13,000-strong crowd at the Sidney Myer Music Bowl, Mozart's concerto No.14 with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, and "The Mozart Dances" with the Mark Morris Dance Group and West Australian Symphony Orchestra as part of the 2015 Perth Festival.

Since graduating with distinction from the Royal College of Music London in 2009 with Andrew Ball, he has performed as a solo recitalist and collaborative artist in concert halls and festivals internationally, including Carnegie Hall New York, St. Martin in the Fields London, Mostly Mozart festival at Lincoln Center New York, Al-Hashemi-II Kuwait, MONA FOMA Festival Hobart, Coriole Festival SA, Huntington Festival NSW, as well as other venues in USA, Canada, Germany, Switzerland, New Zealand and China.

Farid, Annabelle

Annabelle Farid is an Australian freelance oboist who has been based in New York City since 2017. She has performed with the American Symphony Orchestra in Carnegie Hall, the American Ballet Theatre Orchestra at the Lincoln Center, and performed in the popular Christmas Eve concert at The Cathedral of St. John the Divine. Annabelle has performed across Australia with the Melbourne, West Australian, Canberra, Sydney, Adelaide, Darwin, and Tasmanian Symphony Orchestras, also with the Opera Australia and Victorian Opera Orchestras. She has appeared as soloist with Orchestra Victoria and Stonnington Symphony playing the Strauss and Mozart Oboe Concertos, and has performed orchestral and chamber music in Malaysia, Hong Kong, Taiwan, South Korea, the Middle East, Europe, New Zealand and in many centres in China, including a performance at the 2016 Beijing Music Festival on tour with the West Australian Symphony Orchestra. Annabelle has a Bachelor of Music from Monash University, a Master of Music from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, and attended the Australian National Academy of Music in Melbourne.

Hiew, Francesca

Francesca Hiew was a member of the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and the Melbourne Chamber Orchestra before joining the Australian String Quartet in 2016. She was also a founding member of the Auric Quartet and performed as a soloist with the Melbourne Chamber Orchestra and Orchestra Victoria. Francesca is a graduate of the Queensland Conservatorium and the Australian National Academy of Music. During her studies she completed a Fellowship, and won the chamber music competitions of both institutions, twice.

Francesca began learning the violin aged four at the Stoliarsky School of Music in Brisbane. At the age of nine, she travelled as a soloist with the school to the USA, performing for Paul Kantor, Kurt Sassmanshaus and the late Dorothy DeLay of the Juilliard School in New York. She is playing a violin by Guadagnini from the 1740s, loaned to her on permanent loan to the Australian String Quartet from the Ukaria Foundation.

Laussade, Elyane

Dr Elyane Laussade is an internationally renowned pianist. Here is what the New York Times has said about her, "*a pianist with a polished technique. . . . dazzling power . . . and an impeccable sense of style.*" A graduate of the Juilliard School in New York City, pianist Elyane Laussade has delighted audiences on five continents for her imaginative and strongly individual playing. Since arriving in Australia, Elyane has established herself as one of Australia's finest pianists. She has appeared in the MSO's Metropolis Festival with Marcus Stenz and has been featured many times by ABC Classic FM and 3MBS in studio recordings and live broadcasts. She performed St. Saens' *Carnival of the Animals* with the MSO in Hamer Hall with pianist Benjamin Martin under the baton of Anthony Ingliss. Elyane performed De Falla's *Nights in the Gardens of Spain* with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra in the Myer Bowl in a concert which was broadcast across Australia.

As a soloist, Elyane performs in Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, the USA and in Europe. She has toured Taiwan where she performed recitals in Taipei, Tainan, Chaiyi, and at the National Concert Hall in Taichung. Elyane was also invited to

perform at the first recorded performance at the Elizabeth Murdoch Recital Hall in the new Melbourne Recital Centre which aired on the ABC television program "Catalyst."

Leich, Kristen

Kristen Leich, is an American Mezzo Soprano, who resides with her family outside of Melbourne, Australia. Her exquisite singing and stunning stage presence have won her rave reviews for her most recent performances of *Der Komponist* (Ariadne Auf Naxos) and *Angelina* (La Cenerentola). *L'Atelier du Chanteur* called her performance of *Il Satirino* "Delicious" and Peter Bilsing of *Musenblätter* writes "Kristen Leich, is a preference for the future, she has not only the necessary radiant emanation and vocal strength for larger, but is a truly marvelous actress." Her fearless dramatic approach partnered with a vibrantly warm mezzo voice, have been grounds for her surging success in both Europe and The United States.

Mrs. Leich, began her vocal training under the direction of Robert Crowder with The Colorado Springs Children's Chorale and had acquired two international titles for her ensemble work, before the age of 14. Mrs. Leich completed her preparatory studies at The Colorado Springs Conservatory and received her B.M. from Oberlin Conservatory of Music. She later attended the Academy of Vocal arts as the recipient of the American Business Fellowship and Giardiniera Fellowship. As a Gerdine Young Artist with the Opera Theatre of St. Louis, Mrs. Leich was awarded the Barbara Stanley Richman Memorial Award. As a Regional Finalist in the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, Mrs. Leich was awarded the Violette G. McCarthy Study Award.

Mrs. Leich made her New York City Opera debut in the roll of Dorabella in *Così fan tutte* under the direction of Julius Rudel, and later appeared in performances of *Hansel and Gretel* and *Madama Butterfly*. Mrs. Leich recorded the role of Benjamin Younger, in *Benjamin* available on Zimbel Records. She appeared as Monica in *The Medium* under the direction of Tom Wilson with the Chamber Orchestra of the Springs. As a soloist with *Deutsche Oper am Rhein* she was heard in many roles to include Cherubino in *Le nozze di Figaro*, Hänsel in *Hänsel und Gretel*, Sesto in *Giulio Cesare*, Meli/Max in the world premiere of Gorgio Battistelli's *The Fashion*, Feraspe in *Giocasta*, The Fox in *The Cunning little Vixen*, Wellgunde in *Götterdämmerung*, Fyodor in *Boris Godunov*, and Lesní ínky in *Rusalka*.

Ms. Leich made her Swiss debut with le Grand Théâtre de Genève in performances of Richard Wagner's *Parsifal* and as *La Natura* and *Il Satirino* in Francesco Cavalli's *La Calisto* before joining Bourbon Baroque as Ruggiero in Händel's *Alcina*.

Her Australian performances include *Lola* in *Cavalleria Rusticana*, *Angelina* in *La Cenerentola*, *Der Komponist* in *Ariadne auf Naxos* (CitiOpera) and appearances with both national and international touring companies of Opera Australia. Mrs. Leich presently performs with the Bendigo Symphony Orchestra.

McCooley, Ceridwen

"When I was nine, I decided to play the cello after being told I was too small for the double bass. All these years later, I sincerely thank my nine-year-old self for making that decision as this instrument has allowed me to take diverse and exciting

pathways through music. I am currently in my second year at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music where I study classical music. However, my main passions lies with electronic looping, improvisation and in general musical creation and collaboration. I am fortunate enough to play string quartets by day and hip hop by night.”

Macfarlane, Kate

Kate Louise Macfarlane is a coloratura soprano who specialises in Baroque and Modern classical repertoire. She completed a Master of Music degree in Cologne, Germany, and went on to perform world-premiere opera roles to critical acclaim at Theater Aachen. Kate performs regularly as a soloist in Melbourne and Adelaide, and has earned a reputation as an engaging and exciting performer in both opera and concert repertoire. In 2022 Kate is looking forward to presenting a program of lieder and art song by female composers as part of the ASO's She Speaks festival, as well as concerts with Bowerbird Collective, and the Adelaide Cantata Band.

Modugno, Giuseppe

Born in Bologna in 1960, Giuseppe graduated 'cum laude' in piano studies at the age of 20 at the city's Conservatoire. Thanks to his wide-ranging artistic and cultural training he has been able to offer interpretations both as a solo pianist and with chamber ensembles, reflecting an infinite number of musical tastes and influences. Giuseppe obtained his university degree in Letters in 1985 with a thesis on Johannes Brahms under the supervision of Franco Donatoni. He then studied Composition with Cesare Grandi and Alessandro Solbiati, and Conducting with Maurizio Benini.

He completed his piano studies at the school of Franco Scala, where he had the chance to work with Joerg Demus, Nikita Magaloff, Bruno Canino and Antonio Ballista among others. In 1983 he attended the course of the Accademia Chigiana in Siena in Guido Agosti's class, not only obtaining his diploma but also gaining a grant as one of the best players. In 1984 he specialized in piano duets with Antonio Ballista at Città di Castello, and at the Festival of Nations he won the award for best pupil.

He has won seven national competitions and two international competitions as soloist and as duettist. He has enjoyed success both as a soloist and playing with an orchestra, and he habitually plays in the major concert halls in Italy and abroad. He has recorded for the RAI broadcasting company and has been on tours to Russia, Germany, Spain, the United States, Japan and other countries, playing in prestigious venues and major concert halls. Since 2001 he has been regularly invited by the University of California to give Master classes and concerts both as a soloist and with chamber ensembles.

From 2004 to 2007 was artistic secretary for the 'Orchestra Mozart' directed by Claudio Abbado (www.orchestramozart.com) and is currently manager of the "Accademia dell'Orchestra Mozart" (www.accademiaorchestramozart.it). For years he has been passionately involved, both at the Accademia Filarmonica and in other prestigious musical academies, in preparing series of conferences and concert-conferences which he frequently gives on composers and on the historical and aesthetic background to major classical works. He has appeared on many occasions on RAI TV programmes with Corrado Augias, both playing as well as illustrating the music he plays. Since 2003 he has been Artistic Director and Teacher of Music Summer Courses at the "Campus degli Incamminati" in Modigliana (www.incamminati.com).

In 2001 he was awarded the 'Nettuno d'oro' by the Bologna branch of the Lions Club as best city artist of the year, while the city's Rotary Club awarded him the 'Paul Harris Fellow' for his merits in the musical field. In 2004 he was given an honorary Diploma as pianist by the Australian Society of Musicology and Composition. He plays with top-class musicians and dedicates particular attention to piano duets (in particular with the pianist Donatella Pieri) and string and wind ensembles (he habitually plays with the violinists Alberto Bologni and Emanuele Benfenati, as well as with the cellists Geoffrey Rutkowski and Nicoletta Mainardi, and the clarinetist Corrado Giuffredi).

Among his recordings it is worth mentioning his CD for Nuova Era dedicated to the complete works for piano duets by Mendelssohn, and for the Ermitage label the Sonatas by Brahms for cello and piano, as well as the double CD containing the Opera omnia of Mozart's piano duets. He devotes much of his attention to contemporary and Italian repertoire, and has recently completed a first-ever world recording for the Tactus label of three CDs with works by Stefano Golinelli, Domenico Liverani and Ernesto Cavallini. Recently a CD with music by F.H. Haydn for violin and piano was released by CONCERTO .

He holds the post of Professor of Principal piano at the musical academy "Vecchi-Tonelli" in Modena..

Nelson, Michelle

Michelle Nelson, a professional musician since the early 1980s, has extensive experience in performing and composing, teaching, assessing and guitar education writing. As a composer Michelle has written several works that have been featured and broadcast regularly on Australian classical music radio networks. These include the Brolga Dances suite recorded by the Melbourne Mandolin Orchestra on their 2009 album *Brolga Dances* [Move MCD 410], Sonata for Flute & Guitar on Michelle's 2012 album *After The Fire* [Move MCD 492], The Guitarist's Bach from her 2016 album *Return To The Dance* [Move MCD 531], and the popular Midsummer Dance and Strawberry Fair, from the Midsummer Bagatelles suite, on the 2017 album *Ringling The Strings* [Move MCD 557] by the Concordia Mandolin & Guitar Ensemble. Current projects include writing duet material for the Nelson Connie Duo.

Norman, Katherine

Katherine Norman is a Soprano with over 19 years' experience, including five European concert tours, several recordings and numerous live concert broadcasts presented by ABC Classic FM.

An early sacred & Bach specialist whose repertoire also includes modern composition, Katherine is an accomplished soloist & blended ensemble singer.

Katherine studied voice with Vivienne Hamilton & Steven Grant at the University of Melbourne, Conservatorium of Music. Career highlights include Soprano soloist for the much-loved and vocally demanding Allegri Miserere, Mozart's Requiem, and the Pergolesi Stabat Mater, presenting the world Premiere of Hodgson Lamentations, and performing in four separate years of the annual Melbourne Festival.

Notable collaborations have included performances with the Tallis Scholars, the Rolling Stones, Warren Trevelyan-Jones, Steven Layton & Jeremy Summerly.

Katherine has sung with the Consort of Melbourne since 2009 and was recently a guest artist for the St James King St (Sydney) European concert tour, performing in such distinguished venues as Westminster Abbey and Notre Dame.

Katherine is also Secretary of the Board for the Consort of Melbourne. When not singing, Katherine is the Senior Account Manager in Presenter Services at Arts Centre Melbourne – leading the entire Event Management team to deliver 3,000 shows every year. She also lectures in Venue Management and is on the Venue Management School Committee. She & her partner also volunteer for Asylum Seekers Resource Centre (ASRC) & dote on their two Wheaten Terrier dogs.

Paterson, David

Born in Sydney, David began playing the violin at the age of 4, the piano at 7 and within five years had completed the initial eight grades of the A.M.E.B. piano scheme. At 12, David entered Newington College as a music scholar and in addition to his piano studies, studied composition and musicology with Richard Gill for a period of eight years before moving to London to complete his B.Mus (Hons) at the Royal College of Music where he studied with noted pianist and professor, Julian Jacobson.

Whilst living in London, David worked extensively as a session pianist in addition to giving numerous recitals and concerts with a number of esteemed soloists and chamber groups. Upon returning to Australia, he moved to Melbourne as a pianist at the Australian National Academy of Music where he has been based since 2009. David has been featured on ABC Classic FM, Radio National, 2mbsFM and 3mbsFM in addition to having performed in many of the major concert halls and venues in Australia, Romania and the United Kingdom. David continues to work as a pianist specializing in chamber music in addition to his commitments as an avid educator.

Pavlovic-Hobba, Thibaud

Thibaud, an Australian-French violinist, was born in Tasmania. He began playing the violin after receiving it as his fifth birthday present. He studied in Tasmania under Peter Tanfield and he also attended the Australian National Academy of Music where he studied with Paul Wright and Bill Hennessy.

He has performed with the Tasmanian and Sydney Symphony Orchestras, Melbourne Chamber Orchestra and the Mahler Chamber Orchestra. In 2012 he was an Emerging Artist with the Australian Chamber Orchestra under Zoë Black and Helena Rathbone's mentorship. He continued to tour with the ACO and ACO2 for the next few years and joined the Orchestra as a part-time musician in 2016.

Thibaud is a very keen chamber musician, having played with many different groups throughout the years. More recently Thibaud won the audience choice prize at the ANAM Chamber Music Competition with his piano trio, as well as being a finalist in the Great Romantics competition. He plays regularly with an ACO quartet, teaching and playing around the country for schools and workshops. He has played with members of the Brodsky Quartet, Nicolas Altstaedt, Alban Gerhardt and Anthony Marwood. He has also performed at many festivals around Australia as well as touring nationally with the Sydney Dance Company.

Pham, Hoang

Hoang Pham was born in Vietnam and moved to Australia with his parents at an early age. He has been playing the piano for over thirty years and has performed

around the world. Hoang enjoys performing music of Chopin, Beethoven and Mozart and has sometimes performed with our major symphony orchestras. He studied overseas for many years at Manhattan School of Music and Royal College of Music in London. These days, Hoang teaches piano at Loreto Toorak and presents his own concerts at the Melbourne Recital Centre.

Reeve, Megan

Megan Reeve has been performing professionally on the harp for over twenty years. She holds a Bachelor of Music degree with Honours from the University of Melbourne, a Master of Music Performance degree from the Victorian College of the Arts, and a Master of Arts in Music, Culture and Politics from Cardiff University, Wales.

Megan has also completed a Summer Academy course in Salzburg, Austria. Megan has performed with a diverse range of music ensemble, from the Melbourne Symphony and the Australian Philharmonic Orchestra, through to touring with Jose Carreras, the Bolshoi Ballet and Kanye West for the U2 Vertigo tour. Her television appearances include 'Good Morning Australia', 'It Takes Two', 'Dancing with the Stars' and 'Spicks and Specks'.

She has recorded on the Move and Naxos labels. Megan has performed with Chamber Music Australia for the Melbourne International Festival of the Arts and is a founding member of chamber music group the 'Miscellany Ensemble' and duo 'voxArpa'. Her public speaking skills have seen her in demand as a guest speaker at events around the United Kingdom and Australia, where she has presented a paper at the 5th Australian Harp Festival.

Riebl, Rose

Rose Riebl is a pianist and post-classical composer. Her work as a professional concert pianist has seen her debut at the Melbourne Recital Centre Salon, as well as tours through some of Asia's leading concert halls (including Beijing, Shanghai and Jiaxing recital centres). Her compositional work extends her intimate relationship with the piano into a realm of more fragile, soulful and transcendent works that guide the listener into vulnerable emotional spaces. She has performed her own compositions in concert halls through Asia, Europe and Australia and has collaborated with multi-disciplinary artists in performances that take her work into open air, immersive or alternate environments that provoke expansive listening experiences for the audience. "Do Not Move Stones" is her debut album of compositions, and was released in June this year via Icelandic label, INNI.

Reynolds, Timothy

Timothy Reynolds has recently returned from Europe where he performed with The Gesualdo Consort Amsterdam, The Bach Akademie Stuttgart with Hans Christoph Rademann, Opera Holland Park, Philharmonischer Chor Esslingen and at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. He also understudied a number of roles at Opera Stuttgart. In Australia, he has worked with many groups including Victorian Opera, Opera Australia, the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra with Simone Young and Sir Andrew Davis, the Australian Brandenburg Orchestra, the Melbourne Bach Choir, Ludovico's Band, La Compania and Gloriana. Timothy graduated from the University of

Melbourne with a Bachelor of Music, a Postgraduate Diploma in Teaching and a Master of Music - Opera Performance in conjunction with Victorian Opera.

Sheldon, Samantha

At the age of five Samantha Sheldon had her first piano lessons at Yamaha Music School. By the time she was eleven she had successfully completed her piano exams, won piano competitions and was offered music scholarships. During her time at secondary school she studied piano at Melbourne University and performed concertos by Mozart, Haydn, Beethoven and Grieg.

Samantha has recently graduated from secondary school and while undertaking further studies is now accepting students of all ages and stages.

Sheridan, Peter

Innovative and creative flutist, performer and teacher, Peter Sheridan has collaborated with some of the world's leading composers, commissioning more than sixty works for the modern flutes. A passionate specialist on the low flutes, he has promoted these instruments in concert and master classes, appearing at the National Flute Association and British Flute Society conventions, as well as festivals in Japan, Holland, Canada and Australia. Mr. Sheridan has performed with the Los Angeles Flute Quartet, Hollywood Studio Symphony, Australian National Academy of Music Orchestra, Mannes Camerata, Aspen Festival Orchestra, Australian Pops Orchestra and for the Grand Canyon Chamber Music Festival. He recently had a hyper-bass flute created that spans 32 feet and plays down to C0, which is featured on the new recording, "Monologues and Dialogues" (Move Records). Peter has presented interactive workshops, master classes and seminars for composers which explore the unique sounds, sights and possibilities of the modern-day low flutes. These educational tours have brought him around Australia and throughout areas of the United States, both performing and teaching to students and colleagues of all age groups. Mr. Sheridan is lecturer of flute for the Monash University School of Music and director of the University Flute Ensemble. As a Woodwinds Instructor at Donvale Christian College, he directs the flute ensembles and the Senior Concert Band. He holds degrees and certifications from Mannes College, University of Arizona, Goldsmith's College (London), and completed graduate work at UCLA. Peter has served on the music faculties of La Sierra University, Santa Monica College, and El Camino Colleges in California (USA).

Flute studies have been with Sheridan Stokes, Jean Louis Kashy, Judith Mendenhall, Thomas Nyfenger, Bonnie Lichter, and Clare Hoffmann. His various flutes can be heard on Move, Sarabande, Warner Bros. Latina, Albany, and Innova record labels.

Siketa, Bruno

Bruno Siketa began playing the trumpet in 1988 while attending Geelong College on a music scholarship. He obtained Bachelor of Music performance at the Victorian College of the Arts, studying with Robert Sims, Anthony Pope and Geoffrey Payne. During his studies he performed in masterclasses with Hakin Hardenberger, David Staff, and Geoffrey Payne. In 2002 he was appointed Sub-principal trumpet in the Auckland Philharmonia and performed there for two years. Since 2003 Bruno has performed as guest principal trumpet in The Queensland Orchestra, Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and Adelaide Symphony Orchestra. Also, as casual trumpet in

the West Australian Symphony Orchestra and Orchestra Victoria. In 2004 he performed the 2nd Brandenburg Concerto on tour with Mozart Orchestra. He toured China and performed as principal trumpet with the Shenzhen Symphony Orchestra in 2006. Bruno has played extensively with brass bands such as Dalewool Auckland and Hawthorn Brass Band and is a continuing member of Melbourne Tramways Band. He has also recorded for Melbourne-based singer/songwriter Georgia Fields, Pyramid, and toured with renown vocalist Patrizio Buanne.

Bruno has recorded and premiered many new Australian works as a member of the Raga Dolls Salon Orchestra including the concerto Photo Album, which he performed in 2011 as the cornet soloist. In 2010 Bruno performed a solo recital at the Music at the Basilica Festival, performing works with organ and in 2011 performed with soprano Judith Dodsworth. He also performed solo recitals at the Organs of the Ballarat Goldfields festival in 2012 and 2014. He appears regularly at St Michael's Uniting Church in Melbourne, performing solo trumpet works with organ. He recently performed new works by Australian and other contemporary composers including the Australian premiere of Harrison Birtwistle's Endless Parade with the Arcko Symphonic Project. He has also taken part in the Australian National Academy of Music concerts under the direction of distinguished artists such as Richard Tognetti and Michael Collins, performing new works by Anthony Pateras and James Ledger.

Tan, Kim

Dr. Kim Tan is a Melbourne based interdisciplinary musician and teacher whose practice is defined by the creative diversity of contemporary music performance. Studying with local teachers such as Mardi McSullea, Greg Dikmans, Lawrence Whiffin, and Margaret Crawford, Kim has developed an approach to her craft that embraces the cross-section between several musical disciplines. She studied in Germany in 2009 under the tutelage of flautist, Camille Hoitenga (Cologne) and during this time she had lessons with international soloists including Andras Adorjan (Musikhochschule Munich), Felix Renggli (Musikhochschule Freiburg), and Renate Greiss-Armin (Musikhochschule Karlsruhe). Kim has also performed in masterclasses and lessons with international soloists including Michael Cox (the Royal Academy of Music, London) and Katherine Kemler (Louisiana State University).

Kim completed a PhD at the University of Melbourne; her thesis is a philosophical inquiry into music performance with the aim of establishing a more inclusive and creative discourse at the academic level. Kim has been employed as casual staff by the Conservatorium of Music at the University where she tutored a range of academic music subjects including history and theory.

She has performed world premieres of works by Thomas Meadowcroft and Klaus Lang, her repertoire also includes local premiers of works by Salvatore Sciarrino, Clarence Barlow, Liza Lim, Elliot Carter, and Morton Feldman.

The Nuovo Quartet

The Nuovo Quartet, led by Susannah Ng, is a quartet made up of players from various professional ensembles and came together for the very first time to record music especially for our online services at St Michael's.

The members of the quartet are Susannah Ng (Leader/Violin), Zoe Black (Violin), Ceridwen Davies (Viola) and Josephine Vains (Cello).

The Academy of St Michael

Founded in 2007, The Academy of St Michael is a string ensemble that performs semi-regularly at St Michael's services such as Easter and Christmas.

The Academy is led by Violinist Zoë Black.

Tochalna, Rada

Rada was born in Sevastopol where she began her musical career as a pianist. Rada graduated with Honours from the Music Academy in Lviv (Ukraine), and later graduated with a Bachelor of Economics. Then she undertook her Master's degree of Arts in Music Performance at the Zurich University of the Arts with world-renowned mezzo-soprano Cornelia Kalisch, where she received honours. During the mid 2000 Rada received her Masters of Music Performance from the University of Melbourne. She has performed as a feature artist in significant events throughout Australia.

Vayenas, Paulina

Paulina Vayenas is an enthusiastic young pianist and piano teacher based in Melbourne. She has studied the piano since the age of five, taking lessons from Russian pianist Tamara Vasilevitsky during her formative years. She then went on to study music at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, attaining a Bachelor of Music under the tutelage of esteemed Australian pianist, Associate Professor Ronald Farren Price. During her undergraduate years, she also earned an Associate Diploma (AMusA) in Piano from the Australian Music Examinations Board and is currently studying a Master of Music degree, specialising in Performance Teaching. Outside of her own performing, Paulina enjoys teaching the piano, as well as playing collaboratively through accompanying other instruments and playing piano duets.

Wallace, Zoe

Zoe Wallace is a freelance cellist living in Melbourne and performs regularly with Orchestra Victoria, the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra. As a member of the string quartet Quartz, she regularly performs at the Melbourne Recital Centre, Melba Hall and has recently performed with the Australian Bach Society, the Lyrebird Society and the inaugural Albury Chamber Music Festival in 2016. Zoe completed her Music Performance Diploma with high distinction at the Prins Claus Conservatorium in Groningen, The Netherlands in 2008 and was the recipient of a Makarov Foundation scholarship during her studies. She has performed with the North Netherlands Orchestra, Camerata Ardesko and the Alinga Duo and received cello tuition from Jan- Ype Nota and Michel Strauss whilst living in The Netherlands. Zoe has studied with Janis Laurs in Adelaide and Christian Wojtowicz in Hobart and was awarded a Bachelor of Music with first class honours from the Tasmanian Conservatorium of Music in 2004. Zoe held a full scholarship position at the Australian National Academy of Music in 2010, where she received tuition from Howard Penny and Nicholas Bochner.

Watson, Christopher

The English tenor, Christopher Watson, studied music at Exeter University, and after spending a number of years as a Lay Clerk in the choirs of Durham Cathedral and

then Christ Church, Oxford, he moved to London in 1997 when he was appointed as Lay Clerk in the choir of Westminster Cathedral. With the cathedral choirs he has sung in a great many successful concerts and highly acclaimed recordings and at the same time has established a reputation as one of the most sought-after tenors in the Early Music field.

Christopher is also a notable choral conductor and has resided in Melbourne for the last several years. Christopher is the director of the world-famous Choir of Trinity College within the University of Melbourne.

Wilkinson, Georgia

With over 14 years of experience performing, Georgia Wilkinson is making a name for herself as one of Australia's most versatile young sopranos. Since beginning her classical voice training at the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School, Georgia has progressively built her repertoire of operatic and musical theatre credits. Companies she has worked with include Victorian Opera, Left Bauer Productions, Gippsland Opera, Weimar Lyric Opera Studio (Germany) and Gertrude Opera. Georgia has had the pleasure of performing alongside some of Australia's most celebrated and illustrious artists, including Yvonne Kenny, Marina Prior, David Hobson, Sylvie Paladino, Roy Best, Kamahl, and James Morrison. She also works regularly with Teddy Tahu Rhodes. In addition to opera, Georgia has also taken on many musical theatre roles. These include the roles of Christine in Phantom of the Opera, Belle in Beauty and the Beast, and Maria in West Side Story. For her impressive musical theatre performances, Georgia has been recognised with a Guild Award and four Lyrebird Awards. Georgia graduated from the University of Melbourne's Conservatorium of Music with a Bachelor of Music and has studied opera abroad in Italy, Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States. Georgia's studies in London and New York, where she had the opportunity to learn from some of the world's most renowned vocal coaches, were supported by grants from the Ian Potter Foundation and the Australia Council for the Arts.

Through her operatic career, Georgia has received various awards, including 'Opera Scholar of the Year' through the illustrious Opera Scholars Australia program and first place in the Ringwood Aria Competition. In 2019 Georgia won Australia's prestigious *Herald Sun* Aria competition.