CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE COMMITTEE

PLEASE NOTE - If you wish to get in touch with the Committee about any aspect of this newsletter, you may email us at friends.som.anu@gmail.com. This will ensure your query is dealt with relatively quickly.

This is also the address for requests to advertise student and alumni concerts. The deadline for material for each monthly newsletter is the third Friday of each month.

The Friends are also now on Facebook! Check it out for breaking news. https://www.facebook.com/pages/Friends-of-the-ANU-School-of-Music/361161650736719

FUND RAISING HISTORICAL INSTRUMENTS CONCERT

Vienna: “the land of the clavier!”: Piano Masterworks from 18th and 19th century Vienna

Tickets are selling fast for the 2015 concert on the School's beautiful collection of historical instruments. This concert is to be held on Wednesday 7 October 2015, at 7.30 pm, on the stage of Llewellyn Hall. This is the final concert in the Friends series of fund raisers for 2015, and is curated as last year by Dr Erin Helyard.

“Vienna is certainly the land of the clavier!” wrote Mozart enthusiastically to his father from Vienna in June of 1781. Viennese piano technology was renown across Europe from Mozart to Brahms and the works written for the unique Viennese action demonstrate the unique and beautiful qualities of the instrument and its mechanism. No longer used today in modern pianos, the Viennese action was celebrated for its lightness, clarity, articulation, and velocity.

Dr. Erin Helyard showcases a selection of this superb repertoire on a mixture of original and replica instruments from the ANU's Historical Keyboard Collection, performing works of F. X. Mozart, Hummel, Schubert, and Beethoven. Erin plans to perform works on three period instruments: the Graf replica, the Walter replica, and the 1862 Hornung and Moller square (donated by Bill and Anne Huffam).

This concert was extremely popular in 2014. As the stage has limited seating capacity, book now to avoid disappointment. Booking form with details is attached.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC - SUPPORT FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE SCHOOL

Many members of the current Committee of the Friends, and many past office-holders, attended a ceremony at the School on Friday 18 September to unveil a plaque acknowledging the contribution of the Friends to the fine history of the School in developing musicians in all fields, but particularly performance. The plaque has been placed next to the lifts, just before the entry to the new area. Christine Goode, President of Friends of the School of Music 2008 to 2014, our longest-serving President and immediate Past President did the honours.

Christine said: 'For 35 of the years of the School’s existence, the Friends of the School of Music have been a highly supportive presence. Looking back one has to admire the dedication of our founding members, and of so many others over the years.

'Luminaries of the ACT and the ANU such as Dr Ralph Reader, Professor Bernhard Neumann and Professor Ralph Elliott were instrumental in the inception of the Friends. Like those who followed as leaders of the organization such as Patricia McGregor, Doug Smith, Garth Hartley, Bill Gladstones, Virginia Berger, Annie Oakey, Haddon Spurgeon, they donated years of voluntary effort to the cause of fostering musical talent at the School for the benefit of the wider community. From the outset the Friends established a pattern which drew
on students and staff contributing their time to perform at fund-raising concerts, with money raised in that way as well as from donations, all being returned to students in the form of grants and prizes. That mode of operating continues to this day. Grants and prizes have enabled students to take extra tuition with world class performers and pedagogues, to perform in international competitions, to produce original compositions and make recordings.

'We are proud that our grants have helped the musical development of so many. One source of help is an annual prize for an outstanding 4th year student. It was established in 1980 as the Friends Prize, and is now known as the Bernhard Neumann Memorial Prize. To date it's been awarded to 40 musicians (two recipients in some years) across many areas – strings, keyboard, wind, brass, voice, guitar, percussion, musicology and composition. Almost all of them – as well hundreds of other graduates - have gone on to hold significant posts in Australian or international ensembles, orchestras and Schools of Music, with numbers making their way in the highly competitive environments of Vienna, Berlin, New York, Sydney and Melbourne.

I am honoured to unveil this plaque which acknowledges the contribution of the Friends to the fine history of the School in developing musicians in all fields, but particularly performance. And it gives me the opportunity to put on record the Friends’ strong belief that the School of Music has been and can continue to be a wonderful public face for the ANU, and a means of outreach and interaction with the wider community of the national capital.'

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC EVENTS

The unveiling of the plaque was followed by Joe Chindamo and Zoe Black in concert in Llewellyn Hall, playing the Goldberg Inventions.

On the Saturday evening, the finals of the Whitworth Roach Classical Music Performance Competition were held. This competition, which will be held annually, is supported by a most generous donation from Ms Christine Roach. Winners were: 1st Andrew Blanch (guitar); 2nd Kyle Daniel (double bass); 3rd Aaron Chew (piano). Aaron also won the People's Choice prize. First prize was $10,000; second prize $5000 and third prize $2500. The People's Choice prize was also $2500. Matthew Ventura was the other finalist and the only one not a post-graduate student, a fine effort to be selected in the 4 finalists from the 25 entrants. The Friends congratulate these students. We are also delighted that these are all students we have supported through our grants over the past few years.

Celebrations continued on the Sunday afternoon with a Community Concert. Congratulations to the School of Music on 50 years of music education and community engagement in Canberra!

THE PUBLIC FUND

We continue to welcome donations to our newly established Public Fund, so that we can build the funds to continue the 2015 scholarship and offer the 2016 one. Donations of $2 or over are now tax-deductible, so please consider a donation to help build the fund, and support new students. We use donations primarily to fund the Friends Music Performance Scholarship, awarded in 2015 to Rory Bolt, an annual scholarship of $5,000 per year to support a newly enrolling student for up to four years of study in an approved SOM performance course.

You can include a donation with your membership each year or pay directly to the Fund. Donation forms are also available at our concerts. Donations can be made by EFT to: Friends of the School of Music Public Fund; BSB 012950; Account 386546603. Please include your surname in the description field when making the transfer, and email Annie Oakey, the Treasurer (annieoakey@gmail.com) to advise her of name and address for receipts.
FRIENDS ENSEMBLE MUSIC PRIZES

Entries close on 25 September for the Friends Ensemble Music Competition (formerly known as the Chamber Music Competition). There will now be two ensemble competitions each year which will be known as the Friends Chamber Music Prize and the Friends Jazz and Contemporary Music Prize (for jazz, contemporary, improvisatory, and popular music). These competitions may be held concurrently or as separate events depending on the number of entries and/or other practical considerations. For each competition, there will be two prizes: First Place Prize awarded by the jury to the overall winning ensemble; and a People’s Choice Prize awarded on the basis of an audience ballot at the end of each competition. The prize values for 2015 for each competition are: First Place $1,000 and People’s Choice $500. The finals will be held later in the year.

FEEDBACK FROM GRANT RECIPIENTS

Elisha Adams reports: 'My University exchange was a fantastic experience where I learnt many things about myself, others and greatly enhanced my studies. I participated in an exchange with University College Dublin (UCD), in Dublin, Ireland for one semester. Whilst in Dublin I took violin lessons from Sarolta Simo and The Walton’s School of Music.

'The subjects I completed whilst attending University College Dublin were Introduction to conducting, UCD Symphonic Orchestra, Music History: Medieval, Renaissance and Baroque, Baroque Counterpoint, Irish for Beginners and Ireland Uncovered. These are different to the choices outlined in my application as when I arrived at UCD I discovered that I had chosen courses from Semester one and it was Semester two in their academic year. This meant a change in available options. I was disappointed by this as it meant I could not undertake Studies in Irish Music. To counteract this, I joined the student Traditional Music society where I learned Irish tunes in the aural tradition. This was quite a challenge for me, but the other students were very patient and dedicated.

'However, I still enjoyed each of my subjects and learnt a great deal. In participating in the UCD Symphonic Orchestra I was given the opportunity to join them on an orchestral tour to Sweden. This was an amazing experience. We travelled to Stockholm and Uppsala, rehearsing and performing at the university in Uppsala. Here we performed Dvořák’s New World Symphony, Finlandia by Sibelius and a work by Shaun Davey for orchestra and Uilleann pipes, a traditional Irish instrument. My favourite subject whilst studying overseas was Introduction to Conducting. I learned a great deal in this course from Dr Ciaran Crilly, and was encouraged to pursue this further later in my studies.

'I met many wonderful musicians in Dublin and my other travels; I was inspired by them and have formed networks which will benefit me throughout my career. I have developed both personally and professionally from my overseas study. From this experience I feel I have become much more open and accepting of people, irrespective of background or life goals. I have also developed more independence and resilience to adversity. I am better organised, yet less stressed by unimportant things. The skills I gained in conducting, music theory and orchestral playing will have great effects on my intended career as a violin teacher. Also the communication and interpersonal skills which I developed will be of great benefit in the music environment.

'My university exchange met and exceeded all of my expectations. I was fortunate enough to experience things I had never thought of. I learned a lot about myself and my playing whilst forging lifelong networks and friendships. I would like to thank the Friends of the School of Music, I am very grateful for their generous support.'

GRANTS

The Committee agreed at the August meeting to provide the first Fankhauser Travelling Fellowship to Hamish Strathdee to enable him to travel to Japan to compete in the 56th Tokyo International Guitar Competition in December this year (4-6 December). Congratulations to Hamish!
NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL

- **Lunch Box** concerts continue on Thursdays at 1 pm - coming up: benjamindrury – 24 September; Jazz Collective – Mingus meets Joni 1 October. Don’t forget Biginelli’s cafe are offering a $5 cake and coffee deal to all who attend these free concerts!

- The School of Music is also involved in a number of **Floriade** concerts at 12.30pm on Stage 88 in Commonwealth Park:
  - 28 September: Children's Concert (Family & Community Day, with the Music Engagement Program);
  - 29 September: Hugo Lee Trio;
  - 2 October: Belle Whyte;
  - 6 October: ANU New Music Ensemble;
  - 7 October: Kaleid;
  - 8 October: Jazz Vocal Showcase.

Details of all these events are at [https://music.anu.edu.au/events](https://music.anu.edu.au/events)

OTHER FORTHCOMING CONCERTS

OUT TO LUNCH

A new series, **Out to Lunch**, has started at the Ainslie Arts Centre, a collaboration between Ainslie and Gorman House Arts Centres and Ellen Falconer, President of the ANU Music Students Association. It is held on Tuesdays at 12.30 at the Ainslie Arts Centre, cost $5 at the door. The concert series arises from the new developments and refurbishments of Ainslie Arts Centre, and the bustling throng of musicians at the ANU School of Music. Much of Canberra's new experimental and modernist classical music comes from the School of Music, yet Canberra’s growing urban scene does not seem to offer a performance space for these composers, artists and experimenters. This lunchtime series is designed to be a professional development and experience opportunity for these musicians – an environment in which new and radical music can be heard, and these people performing as individual artists rather than just students. The series focuses on new and experimental music, as well as classical music less performed. It is aimed at providing an opportunity for artists to experiment, and for audiences to experience, a less-known side of music, in one of Canberra’s emerging musical hubs.


Keep an eye out for the series continuing next term.

**JAZZ IN CONCERT AT THE GODS** continues on **Tuesday October 6** with the **Paul Dal Broi Quartet**, which will feature long-established Canberra pianist, **Paul Dal Broi**, and three top Sydney musicians - **Murray Jackson** (alto sax), **Brendan Clarke** (bass) and the legendary **Andrew Gander** (drums). They are playing a program of standards, old and new. Bookings on 6248 5538 or email Jaye and Katie at thegodscafe@gmail.com. Dinner at new time of **6.00 pm**; music starts at **7.30 pm**; non-eating seats can be booked but eating helps keep The Gods in business. Admission: $22/$15 concession.

The Jazz at The Gods program for the rest of the year also features some other familiar names of alumni and staff of the School:
- Wed Nov 4 Eric Ajaye Trio – Phingerprintz (CBR)
- Tues Dec 1 Tom Fell Quartet (incl Miroslav Bukovsky): Tribute to Chet Baker & Gerry Mulligan (CBR/SYD)