



**FRIENDS OF THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC NEWSLETTER NO 6
NOVEMBER 2016**

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 concerts.

FRIENDS ENSEMBLE COMPETITION

The Friends Ensemble Music Competition (formerly known as the Chamber Music Competition) was held on Wednesday October 19 in the Larry Sitsky Recital Hall. Winners of the prizes were as follows.

Jazz and Contemporary First Prize - \$1000 - 'A Town Called Panic' - Brendan Keller-Tuberg , Hayden Fritzlaff , Ben Forte

Jazz and Contemporary People's Choice - \$500 - 'A Town Called Panic'

Chamber Music Prize - \$1000 - 'Classical Guitar Duo' - Emma-Shay Gallenti-Guilfoyle , Hamish Strathdee

Chamber Music People's Choice - \$500 - 'Rach in Black' - Hayley Manning, Clara Barrs, Lauren Giddy

Various other prizes were awarded at the same occasion. The Margaret Smiles Accompaniment Prize of \$2000 was awarded to Mia Huang. The Llewellyn Choir Prize for best Vocalist of \$500 was awarded to Jade McFaul and Llewellyn Choir Prize for the Most Outstanding Instrumentalist of \$500 was awarded to Helen Popovic, a violinist.

FRIEND'S MUSIC PERFORMANCE SCHOLARSHIP

With the recent commitment to the future of the School from the ANU Vice Chancellor, Prof Brian Schmidt, the Friends are keen to continue supporting promising new enrolments in music performance. The Friends Music Performance Scholarship will continue in 2017. This scholarship provides \$5000 per year for up to 4 years for an outstanding performance student. Donations are tax deductible. A form with the relevant details is attached to this newsletter.

MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL GUITAR FESTIVAL

Andrew Blanch, a PhD candidate at the ANU School of Music, claimed first prize in the recent Melbourne International Guitar Competition. School alumna Stephanie Jones placed third in the contest, which formed part of the Melbourne International Guitar Festival.

Andrew said it was a privilege to have been chosen for the top prize among such 'stiff competition'. "I know many of the other competitors, and they all play so well, so I'm particularly flattered that the judges thought I deserved the prize," he said. "I played J.S. Bach's Fugue in A minor BWV 1000, Brabissimo! by Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco, and Scherzo Vals by Miguel Llobet."

Andrew is closing out 2016 on a high, having been successful in other competitions earlier this year. He came third in San Francisco's 3rd International Guitar Competition Maurizio Biasini, and also in the Adelaide International Guitar Competition.

Other ANU School of Music guitarists who have been successful in 2016 include classical guitar PhD candidate Callum Henshaw who took out first place and the People's Choice award in the 2016 Whitworth Roach Classical Music Performance competition. School alumnus Campbell Diamond, who also studied classical guitar, won two first prizes in international competitions this year, in the II Amarante International Guitar Competition in Portugal, and in the 5th Arion Guitar Academy International Competition in Greece.

YOUNG VIRTUOSO AWARD

The Young Virtuoso Award granted by **ArtSound** for an outstanding young musician from Canberra was awarded to Jade McFaul, a classical singer. The Friends will support her to travel to Melbourne for the national finals of the competition later in November.

The annual competition is run by the Australian Fine Music Network, a collaboration between Fine Music (Sydney), 3MBS (Melbourne), 4MBS (Brisbane), 5MBS (Adelaide) and Art Sound (Canberra). The winners from each state's own Young Performer Award competition make up the finalists for the Young Virtuoso of the Year Award. The young musician judged to be the best on the day will take home a generous cash prize of \$10,000.

FEEDBACK FROM GRANT RECIPIENTS

It is a condition of receiving a grant from the Friends of the School of Music that the student report back to the committee on their experience. A recent report was received from Joy Kerr who used her grant to attend the 2016 Australian National Band and Orchestra Conference in Sydney. Joy is particularly interested in conducting and composing for concert bands as well as choral and orchestral ensembles. She will be able to use the knowledge gained at this conference as she moves into teaching, conducting and composing for the Canberra student and amateur music community.

UPCOMING CONCERTS

The Program for future concerts of "**Jazz in Concert at the Gods Café**" is reproduced below:

Tuesday December 6 **Victor Rufus/Tate Sheridan Duo** — A Tribute to Jim Hall & Bill Evans (CBR)

Admission \$22/\$15 (conc).

The Gods Café/Bar is in the ANU Arts Centre (diagonally across the quadrangle from the Student Union near Sullivans Creek).

Bookings essential. Light meals available beforehand at 6.00 pm. Please book early on **6248 5538**. 'Non-eating' seats can also be booked. Seating is limited to 80. Music starts at 7.30 pm.

DUO AMYTHIS album launch - a classical guitar duo concert

Tuesday December 20, 12:30 (duration about 1 hour)

The High Court of Australia, Parkes Pl, Parkes

The guitarists Harold Gretton and Véronique van Duurling as Duo Amythis perform highlights from their CD, including works by De Falla, Albéniz and Möller, as well as a surprise Australian world première.

Admission Free.

CDs will be available for sale after the concert

From January to March this year, the duo raised over 12,500 euros to record, produce and release this debut album. The album was recorded in a 12th century church near London, and has been released by a small, specialist label in Germany. It includes Australian music by Houghton and Grainger, as well as the world-première recording of Möller's "When buds are breaking".

Harold Gretton began playing guitar at the age of 7. After formative studies with Carolyn Kidd, he started his Bachelor of Music studies at the ANU School of Music under the guidance of Timothy Kain AM. He completed his Bachelor of Music with first-class honours in 2006. He was awarded the Friends of the ANU School of Music Bernhard Neumann prize for most outstanding graduate. He completed his PhD at the ANU School of Music in 2010, and in 2012 went on to complete a "Cour de spécialisation" (as a guitar duo with Véronique van Duurling) at the Strasbourg conservatory.