

## ***Inaugural International Piano Teachers Seminar at Glenfern May 25 - 28, 2009***

*Style, Technique and Interpretation*, an International Seminar for piano teachers, students and pianists was enjoyed by participants from Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, together with some piano teachers from Melbourne. It was suitable for piano teachers at all levels, piano students and also amateur pianists and was directed, in Australia by Robert Chamberlain, and organised in South East Asia by Ms Lai Mei Kuen (The Talent Makers – Malaysia).

Presenters included:

- Professor Max Cooke OAM
- Darryl Coote
- Robert Chamberlain (all from the Team of Pianists)
- John McCartin, Lecturer in Early Childhood Education, from the School of Education, Victoria University,
- Mark Gibson, founder of Encore Music Education, Brisbane,
- Bernie Capicchiano, Managing Director of Bernies Music Land & Musico.

The Seminar provided information and cultural background to important periods of piano music, and gave participants the confidence to teach technique and style to their students. There was a mixture of lecture demonstrations and lessons/workshops in small groups. Teachers were helped to build confidence in their own playing skills with sessions on the *Tone Touch and Technique* books and on *Practice Strategies and Systematic Learning*. Early childhood education specialist John McCartin addressed issues in training children of various ages and *Encore Music Education* founder Mark Gibson, from Brisbane, worked with participants using the *Encore Smart System* of music education.

Participants were encouraged to prepare some teaching or performance items from the various style periods and/or some items from Max Cooke's *Tone, Touch and Technique* books.

Seminar Outline:

### **Day 1 - Monday May 25**

Morning:

**Max Cooke OAM** "Style, Technique and Interpretation in Baroque Music, including an introduction to the Harpsichord" Lecture Demonstration, Group lessons.

Afternoon:

**Darryl Coote** "Style, Technique and Interpretation in Classical Music", Lecture Demonstration, Group lessons.

Recital by **Kevin Kanisius**, 14 year old student of Max Cooke. Program:

Beethoven - Sonata Op. 2 no 3 in C first movement, Liszt - Liebestraum no. 3 in A flat, La Campanella, Chopin Fantasie-Impromptu.

### **Day 2 - Tuesday May 26**

Morning:

**Max Cooke** "Using Tone, Touch and Technique to develop your students' Technique"

**Darryl Coote** “Practice Strategies and Systematic Learning”, Lecture Demonstrations/Workshops.

Afternoon:

**John McCartin**, Lecturer, Early Childhood Education, School of Education, Victoria University. "Child Development and Effective Teaching"

Recital by **James Dong**, violin, with **Louisa Breen**, piano. Program Wieniawski – Polonaise in D major, Bach – *Grave* from Sonata no. 2 in A minor, Shostakovitch – Violin Concert no. 1 in A minor, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> movements

### **Day 3 - Wednesday May 27**

Morning:

**Darryl Coote** “Style, Technique and Interpretation in Impressionist Music including Debussy and use of the pedals”. Lecture Demonstration, Group lessons/workshops.

Afternoon: (beginning at 1.30pm)

**Bernie Capicchiano** “Inside the Piano”

**Robert Chamberlain** “Style Technique and Interpretation in Modern and 20th Century Music” Lecture Demonstration/Workshop, Group lessons.

**Recital by Hamlet Zhang**, Monash University student of Darryl Coote.

Program: Joseph Haydn - Sonata in F major Hob. XVI/23, Felix Mendelssohn - Fantasy in F sharp minor, Johannes Brahms (1833-1897), arranged Zhang Chi (b. 1985) - Allegro appassionato (from Clarinet Sonata in E flat major, Op. 120 no. 2)

Evening: Dinner at Silky Apply Chinese Restaurant, Armadale

### **Day 4- Thursday May 28**

Morning:

**Robert Chamberlain** “Style Technique and Interpretation in Romantic Music”, Lecture Demonstration/Workshop, group lessons.

Afternoon:

**Mark Gibson** (Encore Music Education, Brisbane). “The Encore Smart System of Music Education”

Daily Schedule:

9.30am Lecture Demonstration/Workshop

11am Morning tea

11.30am Group lessons/Workshops

1pm Lunch

2pm Lecture Demonstration/Workshop

3.30pm Afternoon tea

4pm -5.15pm Group lessons/Workshops

5.15pm End of day

Team of Pianists gratefully acknowledge the instrument sponsorship of this Seminar by Bernies Music Land, who provided Schimmel, Bernstein and Roland instruments. (See [www.musicland.com.au](http://www.musicland.com.au))