

## Autumn Piano Weekend 2013

*Autumn Piano Weekend 2013* was an intensive course for University piano students and for adult pianists at all levels. It was held on Saturday March 23 and Sunday March 24, in the historic surrounds of National Trust property *Glenfern*, in East St Kilda, Melbourne.

Participants experienced a range of teaching styles and many ideas in a short concentrated time. They worked with highly qualified staff, who brought many years of teaching and performing experience to the event. Students received practical tuition on their repertoire pieces in group lessons, and theoretical training in workshops and presentations, plus a *Dalcroze – Eurythmics* class, the chance to play in one of two small concerts at Glenfern and a *Question & Answer* forum with staff at the conclusion of the event.

They met other like minded other adult pianists and university piano students and were guided in fundamental areas of study which are essential to success in university piano study and to making progress as an adult pianist. A delicious lunch was included for both days.



*Themes for weekend were:*

- Practice and Learning (Saturday morning)
- Movement and Musicianship (Saturday afternoon)
- Developing technique for Adults and for University students (Sunday morning)
- The Mystery of Memorisation (Sunday afternoon)

*Teaching modes for the weekend were:*

- Core Presentations – workshop/ lectures encompassing theory, techniques & some experience
- Group Lessons – small groups with one teacher for practical learning with feedback & interaction
- Concerts – learning by doing
- Social interaction

*Guest Teaching Staff were:*

- Betty Vergara-Pink, formerly Professor of Piano and Piano Pedagogy, *Musikhochschule Freiburg*
- Dr Sandra Nash (Dalcroze Diplôme Supérieur, Geneva), Director of Studies, *Dalcroze Australia*

*Team of Pianists Teaching Staff were:*

- Prof Max Cooke OAM, founder and partner, *Team of Pianists*
- Darryl Coote, partner, *Team of Pianists*, past President VMTA, examiner
- Robert Chamberlain, partner, *Team of Pianists*, director, *Spring Piano School*



## SCHEDULE

### Day One - Saturday March 23

**Staff:** Darryl Coote, Robert Chamberlain, Prof Betty Vergara-Pink, Dr Sandra Nash - Director of Studies Dalcroze Australia

#### 10am to 1pm Theme 1 – *Practice and learning*

##### 10am: Drawing Room

Welcome: introduction of Saturday tutors, Darryl Coote, Robert Chamberlain, Betty Vergara-Pink, Dr Sandra Nash, explanation of venue and facilities, pianos, practice, refreshments and lunch. Name tags.

##### Session 1: 10.10am to 10.55am Drawing Room

##### Darryl Coote: *Practice and Learning*

Core Presentation (to all participants)



#### Session 2: 11am to 12pm – group lessons with a focus on practice and learning

**Drawing Room – Group 2 with Darryl Coote**

**Bernstein Studio – Group 1 with Betty Vergara-Pink**

**Meeting Room – Group 3 with Robert Chamberlain**

**Session 3: 12.05pm to 1.00pm Drawing Room**

**Betty Vergara-Pink: *Learning and Practice***

Core Workshop (for all participants)

**1.00pm:** Lunch provided, veranda.

**Session 4: 2.00pm - 2.20pm**

**Lester Cheung, Bernies Music Land: *Why pianos go out of tune* - Core Presentation, to all participants**

**2.30pm – 5.45pm Theme 2 – *Movement and Musicianship***

**Session 5: Drawing Room 2.30pm to 4.00pm**

**Dr Sandra Nash, (Director of Studies, Dalcroze Australia) *Dalcroze – Eurhythmics Workshop with***

***Group 3 plus the half of Group 2 who have already played to Darryl Coote 11am to 12noon***

Students should take off shoes and wear comfortable clothing that allows freedom of movement, arms, legs, and torso bends.



**2.30pm to 4pm**

- ***Bernstein Studio - Betty Vergara-Pink group lesson with Group 1***
- ***Meeting Room - Darryl Coote group lesson the remainder of Group 2 – those who have not already played to him***

**4.00 – 4.15pm afternoon tea break.**

## **Session 6: Drawing Room 4.15pm – 5.45pm**

**Dr Sandra Nash**, (Director of Studies, Dalcroze Australia) *Dalcroze – Eurhythmics Workshop with Group 1 (Uni students) + other half of Group 2*

Students should take off shoes and wear comfortable clothing that allows freedom of movement, arms, legs, and torso bends.



### **4.15pm to 5.45pm**

- *Bernstein Studio – Max Cooke (half of Group 2 who are not in the Dalcroze lesson)*
- *Meeting Room - Darryl Coote (Group 3)*
- *Office (for part of the time) – Robert Chamberlain (some of Group 3)*

### **6pm: Drawing Room**

Concert (optional) Rehearsal

Dinner – own arrangements e.g. Harros, Ecoblu, (Limors is currently closed), cafes in Balaclava Road, Glenhuntly Road

### **7.30pm – 8.30/9.00pm Drawing Room**

Concert: an opportunity for participants to perform to other participants and to their friends/family in the Drawing Room on the Schimmel 213 piano

Time limit 6 mins per performer

Admission: Free to participants and their families and friends.

**8.30pm/9pm - end of Day One**



## Autumn Piano Weekend 2013

### SCHEDULE

#### Day Two - Sunday March 24

**Staff:** Max Cooke, Robert Chamberlain, Betty Vergara-Pink, Darryl Coote (pm)

#### 10am to 1pm Theme 3 – *Developing Technique*

##### Session 1: 10am to 11.30am Drawing Room

*Prof Max Cooke OAM - How to develop piano technique as an adult, how to develop piano technique as a university student*

Core presentation (to all participants)

*Students have been requested to prepare some exercises from Max's Tone, Touch and Technique books, they will also play some of their repertoire to Max for technical appraisal and comment.*



**Session 2: 11.30am to 1.00pm – group lessons with a focus on technical development**

***Drawing Room* – Group 1 with Max Cooke**

***Bernstein Studio* – Group 2 with Betty Vergara-Pink**

***Meeting Room* – Group 3 with Robert Chamberlain**

**1.00pm:** Lunch provided

**2.00 – 5.20pm Theme 4 – *The Mystery of Memorization***

**Session 3: 2.00pm to 2.55pm Drawing Room**

**Robert Chamberlain – *The Mystery of Memorization***

Core Presentation (to all participants)

**Session 4: 3.00pm – 4.30pm - group lessons**

***Drawing Room* – Group 3 with Betty Vergara-Pink**

***Bernstein Studio* – Group 2 with Max Cooke**

***Meeting Room* – Group 1 with Darryl Coote**

***Office* – Robert Chamberlain some of Group 1**

**Session 5: 4.30pm: Afternoon Tea Break**

**5.00pm: Drawing Room**

Recital (not open to the public) preceded by a Question and Answer forum

Concert – University students and Adults

The Recital is an opportunity for participants to perform in a friendly and supportive atmosphere.

10 – 12 performers, 6 mins each

**6.30pm End of course**

**END OF SCHEDULE**