

**Christchurch Civic Music Council
National Concerto Competition® Trust**

Jubilee Compendium

**A summary of the career histories of many of
those who have been Finalists in the
National Concerto Competition®
during the past 49 years**



Foreword

The National Concerto Competition Trust is delighted to present this compendium, a summary of the career histories of many of those who have been Finalists during the past 49 years.

We are especially grateful to all who have responded to the invitation to submit details of their professional careers since the time of their involvement. Despite our best efforts it has not been possible to locate every one of those who reached the Final Stage, but the evidence of what follows reveals that the National Concerto Competition has proved to be a significant career launching platform for hundreds of the participants who have taken part in the event at all of its different stages.

The material received varied greatly in style and length and, inevitably, some past finalists, for numerous reasons, have enjoyed considerably more professional experience than others. Only a few have chosen not to remain with music as a full-time occupation.

Editorial decisions made for the sake of consistency included generally limiting resumés to about 200 words, keeping to historical facts from the date of the relevant contest, and expressing these in the third person. Extensive bibliographies and discographies supplied have been summarised. In some instances material has been garnered from internet websites in the public domain, or from concert publicity and programmes, and this is acknowledged where appropriate. Out of 158 finalists [some years there were four finalists] we have profiles for 124, eleven of whom were in two separate finals and therefore 135 slots have been filled.

The National Concerto Competition Trust is extremely grateful for the research and editorial work that has prepared all that follows. In this respect a special thanks and congratulations to Wallace Woodley for his monumental effort and many patient hours spent completing this special Jubilee publication.

Graeme Wallis
Chairman
National Concerto Competition® Trust

1968

Christine Cuming (Piano)

After winning the first Christchurch Concerto Competition, Christine was awarded a Queen Elizabeth II Arts Council Scholarship to study in Europe. In Vienna she studied with Bruno Seidlehofer and in London later with Maria Curcio . During this time she was a frequent competition winner, and performed as soloist, accompanist and chamber music pianist in festivals throughout Britain.

Since returning to New Zealand she has had a career as both teacher and performer, appearing with all the major New Zealand orchestras, recording for Radio New Zealand, and touring both as soloist and a member of the Auckland Chamber Music Players for Chamber Music NZ. She has been a recitalist at many festivals, including the Wellington Festival of the Arts, and has collaborated with many local and touring instrumentalists and singers.

She has taught the piano for many years, and is at present helping many gifted students, the majority of them from amongst the enormously talented Chinese community in Auckland.

David Bloom (Flute)

Suzanne Purnell (Piano)

Suzanne was also a finalist in 1969.

Martin Lamb (Piano)

After being a Finalist in the inaugural Christchurch Concerto Competition, Martin performed the Grieg Piano Concerto with the NZSO, aged 16. He also played violin in the National Youth Orchestra's overseas tour in 1975 and in the Cantabrian Piano Quartet's NZ tour for the NZ Chamber Music Federation.

Martin graduated from Canterbury University with a BSc Honours in Maths and a PhD. His thesis was entitled "The computer as a musicianship Teaching Aid". While studying at university, he had piano lessons from Ernest Empson, violin lessons from Rudolf Kalup of the Czech Quartet, and played in the Christchurch Civic Orchestra.

Martin then took up a position as Assistant Professor of Electrical Engineering at the University of Toronto where he worked in computer-aided brain surgery. He received over \$1M from the governments of Quebec and Ontario to design and develop creative educational software for use in Canadian Schools. Meanwhile he played first violin in Oshawa Symphony Orchestra and held regular musical soirées at his home.

Martin and his childhood sweetheart now live in Perth WA. He suffered a stroke in 2012 which left him with right sided paralysis. However after intensive therapy he has resumed playing the piano as a professional accompanist and teaching both piano and violin. His musical soirées continue.....

Pauline Drain (Clarinet)

At the time of her participation in the 1968 competition Pauline was a student of the Frank Gurr (a founding clarinet member of the NZSO).

Various websites reveal she has been a long time resident in the UK, featured in many public concerts as soloist, orchestral member and chamber musician, and on BBC Radio 3. She is noted as having played early in her career with the New Queen's Hall Orchestra and the BBC Training Orchestra. No current information is available.

Joan Wallace [Evans] (Cello)

In April 1968, following her participation in the final of the first Christchurch Concerto Competition, Joan resigned from her position in the NZ National Orchestra to take up the position of Principal Cello in the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra. During her sojourn in Tasmania she was also cellist in the Lyrian String Quartet, viola da gamba player in The Renaissance Consort, and a soloist in many broadcasts.

She resigned from her position in the TSO in 1972 to become Associate Principal Cello in the Elizabethan Trust Orchestra, remaining active in chamber music groups throughout the period of the appointment. In 1975 she resigned from her orchestral commitments for domestic reasons until 1980 when she became a member of the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, participating regularly also in the MSO Chamber Music Series. Joan remained with the orchestra until her retirement in 2012.

Since that date she has been a member of the chamber music group called The Baw Baw Trio and Friends located in Gippsland, Victoria, Australia. She remains very interested in chamber music to this day.

1969

Michael Redshaw (Piano)

After winning the National Concerto Competition in 1969, Michael continued his piano study with Janetta McStay at Auckland University and graduated BMus in 1971. Further study continued for a year with Joseph Bloch of Julliard School, New York before he went to Britain. In London, he attended the Royal College of Music as an Associated Board Scholar, and was a pupil of the eminent teacher and pianist, Kendall Taylor. While at the RCM, he won the Hopkinson Gold Medal. Subsequently he taught at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music from 1974 to 1978, and then at the Birmingham School of Music where he was Assistant Head of Keyboard Studies. He moved to Calgary, Canada in 1980 and taught at Mount Royal College and the University of Calgary. In 1986 he started his Doctorate at the University of Alberta, finishing this in 1990.

From 1978 until 1994 he was an examiner for the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music, and then for the Royal Conservatory of Music (Canada). In 1996, he moved to Victoria, Canada and joined the Piano Faculty of the Victoria Conservatory of Music which conferred on him the status of Examiner Emeritus in 2000. When he ceased examining, he often served as a member of adjudication panels at festivals across Canada.

He continued to perform and teach until 2012 when he retired.

Suzanne Purnell (Piano)

Suzanne was also a finalist in 1968.

Michael Houstoun (Piano)

[See under 1971]

1970

Ivan Andrews (Cello)

In addition to coming First Equal in the Third Concerto Competition, Ivan won many prizes for cello, chamber music and also piano, in New Zealand and later in London. Distinction in LRSM, LTCL, and Ex Dip Mus led to the award of an Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music Scholarship and an Arts Council Bursary for study at the Royal College of Music, London, with Joan Dickson, Anthony Pini and Millicent Silver (Harpsichord). Important performances included a

Concerto debut, and a debut at Wigmore Hall. Further studies included attendance at master-classes with Leonard Rose, Antonio Janigro, Andre Navarra and Jacqueline du Pré; and he undertook freelance work with many fine conductors and orchestras, highlights being the Philharmonia, London Mozart Players and Philharmusica.

He has adjudicated at many competitions; and his commitments have included teaching at the Royal College of Music (London), Royal Irish Academy of Music (Dublin) and Goldsmiths College, University of London. Currently he is working for the Bromley Youth Music Trust.

He has made numerous recordings of compositions in the cello repertoire, including, in 2014/2015, the Bach Cello Suites. His current project is to record the complete Beethoven works for Cello and Piano.

Peter Wilton (Oboe)

Deceased.

Felicity Bunt (Flute)

Felicity joined the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra as Sub-principal Flute in 1973, leaving in 1987.

She completed a two-year Business Administration Course and transitioned to Arts Management. She worked as Director of Ticketing and Front-of-House at the NZ International Arts Festival and as General Manager of the NZ Chamber Orchestra before moving to the UK in 1992.

While based in London she worked as Orchestral Tours and Promotions Manager for international concert agency Van Walsum Management; Project Director of the Monteverdi Choir's Bach Cantata Pilgrimage; General Manager of the National Youth Theatre; Director of External Affairs and later Director of Training at Arts & Business; Learning and Development Consultant for Intermusica Artists Management; Senior Recruitment Consultant at Richmond Associates.

In 2000 she retrained and subsequently worked as a Leadership, Management and Life Coach and Mentor, and in 2011 (greatly influenced by the effects of the Christchurch earthquakes) she set up Senior Services in the UK, an organisation that provides practical assistance and support for older people in transition seeking to remain independent and to enjoy the best quality of life still possible.

Felicity no longer plays the flute, but sings tenor in a local choir.

Alison Kay (Violin)

Deceased.

1971

Michael Houstoun (Piano)

Michael was placed Third in the 1969 Concerto Competition and came First in the 1971 event.

In 1973 he was awarded Third Place in the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition. Other international competition successes were in 1975 at the Leeds Competition (Fourth Prize) and in 1982 at the Tchaikovsky Competition (Sixth Prize).

During the time Michael lived away from New Zealand, from 1974 until 1981, he studied with Rudolf Serkin at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia (1974/1975) and with Brigitte ('Gigi') Wild in London (1978/1979). He performed in the USA, UK, Germany and Holland.

In 1981 Michael returned to New Zealand where he has continued to live ever since. He regularly performs throughout New Zealand and in Australia, Japan, Singapore and Hong Kong. He plays from

a large repertoire which stretches from J S Bach to the present day, including 40 concertos and chamber music. A strong advocate of New Zealand music, he regularly features works from Douglas Lilburn to John Psathas in his programmes. During the 1990s he concentrated on the music of Beethoven, playing the complete piano sonatas in five cycles around New Zealand (Wellington, Auckland, Christchurch, Dunedin, Napier), and the Beethoven piano concerto cycle in NZ and Australia.

Michael won the Turnovsky Prize in 1982, and in 1999 received an Honorary Doctorate in Literature from Massey University. In 2007 he was made a Laureate of the Arts Foundation of New Zealand.

Michael frequently adjudicates music competitions in New Zealand, and in 1998 was a juror at the Gina Bachauer International Piano Competition in Salt Lake City.

In 1996 he collaborated with television producer Tainui Stephens on a documentary about Franz Liszt, *Icon in B minor*, and in 2005 he was the subject of another documentary, *Piano Man*.

[Source: Michael Houstoun website]

Richard Mapp (Piano)

[See under 1973]

Patrick O'Byrne (Piano)

[See under 1977]

Christine Lockwood [Archer-Lockwood] (Piano)

When Christine performed in the Finals of the 1971 National Concerto Competition she was a 15-year-old pupil at Freyberg High School in Palmerston North. On leaving school she studied piano performance with Judith Clark at Victoria University of Wellington, receiving a Bachelor of Music (Hons) degree, and a Diploma of Teaching from Wellington College of Education, as well as passing FTCL and LRSM diplomas. She then went to the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London gaining there a Diploma in Music Therapy. On returning to NZ in the early 1980s she was employed as a teacher in Special Education, gradually implementing music therapy practice in areas of need within the education system.

With her husband and two young children she spent three and a half years in Washington, DC, continuing to teach piano, and accompany singers and instrumentalists there for various events. After the family returned to NZ in 1991, Christine worked for the Wellington Early Intervention Trust for 13 years. Alongside this she gained a Masters in Music Therapy degree from Massey University, taught piano, accompanied, played in various chamber ensembles, sang in the Orpheus Choir of Wellington, and became conductor of both Nova Strings and a children's choir at St James Church in Lower Hutt.

Then in 2004, another overseas posting took the family to Switzerland for 12 years where Christine continued with chamber music and conducting, and had many opportunities to be musical director for different shows, including Gilbert and Sullivan events, twelve Pantomimes and three Rock Operas. The family recently returned to live in Palmerston North where music making and music therapy will continue to be an ongoing part of her life, and she will continue what she began in Switzerland, hosting house concerts and supporting young professional musicians.

1972

Anthony Ferner (Flute)

After winning the New Zealand National Concerto Competition in 1972 Anthony attended studies at the Guildhall School of Music London. His flute teachers were Peter Lloyd, Trevor Wye and William Bennet; and he took part in Summer Master Classes conducted by James Galway and Jean Pierre Rampal. He freelanced in London recitals, and played as a casual member of the Ulster Symphony Orchestra.

During 1976 to 1978 he was back in Christchurch playing in the Canterbury Orchestra (as Principal Flute) and in the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra, until he accepted an appointment as Second Flute in the Sydney Symphony Orchestra in 1979. At Sydney University he completed a Bachelor of Music Degree from the University of Canterbury, then worked for two years in Milan teaching at the British School, and as a freelance musician. The highlight of his experience in Italy was as a chamber musician performing for the New Zealand Embassy in Rome.

He was appointed to the Flute Section of the Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestra, Sydney Opera House, in 1986. In 1992 he took leave for postgraduate studies in conducting at the St Petersburg Conservatoire under Ilia Musin and Michael Kukuskin.

Orchestras he has conducted include the St Petersburg Chamber Orchestra, Radio Tbilisi Orchestra, The Sydney Mozart Players, Waverley Orchestra (Sydney), Christchurch Symphony Orchestra, Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, Sydney Symphony Orchestra (in the studio), L'estro Armonico Strings, and Christchurch Youth Orchestra. In Australia and New Zealand he has also conducted opera and musical show productions.

He was Musical Director of the Risingholme Orchestra from 2008 to 2015, and presently he conducts Resonance Ensemble.

He has been Principal Flute of the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra since 1996, appearing from time to time as a concerto soloist with that orchestra, and is currently Lecturer in Flute at the University of Canterbury.

He has premiered and recorded new works for flute including *Sound Cylinders* by Chris Cree Brown. He commissioned *Temple* for Flute, Alto Flute and Piano by Helen Bowater (performed and recorded in 2014) and has recorded many works of Eric Biddington. His discs are *Reverie* for Flute and Harp (with Helen Webby) and *Flute Cocktails* for Flute and Piano.

Brian Shillito (Viola)

In 1973 Brian graduated BA, DipMus from the University of Canterbury and joined the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra Viola Section. In 1974/5 he undertook advanced study in the United States under Professor Robert Slaughter, and then moved to Canada where he joined Orchestra London (Ontario), rising to the position of Principal Viola. In 1978 he moved to the UK and spent three years freelancing in London, working with groups such as the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, the Philharmonia, and the London Mozart Players.

Brian returned to NZ in 1981 to take up the position of Assistant Principal Viola in the NZSO, retiring only last year after 35 years' service.

He was a foundation member of the NZ Chamber Orchestra, and has been a keen chamber musician, playing many concerts around the country as a member of the Pleyel Piano Quartet, the Gezentsvey Quartet and the Linden Ensemble.

While still playing, Brian considers his "official" career at a close, and feels privileged to have enjoyed such a rewarding working life since taking part in the National Concerto Competition some 44 years ago.

Belinda Bunt [Broughton] (Violin)

Belinda began performing violin concertos as a child with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra. At the age of 12, she performed the Mendelssohn Violin Concerto for Queen Elizabeth II at a Royal Command Performance in New Zealand.

At 18, having moved to London three years earlier to study, she joined the First Violins of the London Philharmonic Orchestra, the youngest ever to do so. She also joined the First Violins of the London Symphony Orchestra touring Russia; then recorded her first movie score with them, *Star Wars, The Empire Strikes Back*.

By the age of 22 she had worked as Concertmaster with the Royal Opera House Covent Garden, English National Opera, BBC Concert Orchestra, London Concert Orchestra and had been Guest Assistant Concertmaster with the BBC Symphony Orchestra.

From 1982, when she left the LPO, she worked as a freelance musician, primarily recording music for films, television, jingles and records in London. In 1997, she married composer Bruce Broughton and moved to Los Angeles with her two sons. Since that time she has worked principally in the film, TV and record media, and has been associated with many world famous composers of film music, instrumental musicians, and actors, in Hollywood, London and Los Angeles. She has a long history of recording with some of the world's most famous arrangers, bands and vocal artists.

1973

Stephen Collins (Piano)

Stephen was First Equal in the 1973 contest. Following his later graduation from The Royal Brussels Conservatory, he was immediately engaged as an Assistant Professor at the Royal Antwerp Conservatory. He received excellent press reviews for his début recital and began a long career, performing mostly in the Benelux Region, as soloist and accompanist, and appearing in all major concert venues in Belgium, twice at the Festival of Saint-Rémy-en-Provence in France, and in Luxembourg, Rome, Milan and other places.

Richard Mapp (Piano)

Richard was placed Second in the 1971 competition and First Equal in 1973. After studying with Maurice Till at Canterbury and Otago Universities, Richard pursued postgraduate study with Gordon Green at the Royal Academy of Music, London, and then held a three-year teaching fellowship there. He lived in London until 1988 performing at the Wigmore Hall, all three of the South Bank concert halls, recorded several programmes for the BBC, and toured in Sweden, Finland, Germany, Austria, Canada and the USA.

From 1988-1991 he lived in Tuscany while continuing to perform widely, and then in 1991 he returned to New Zealand where he lived at Whangaroa until 2000, co-founding the Bay of Islands Arts Festival.

From 2000-2010 he was Head of Piano at the Massey University Conservatorium of Music, later NZ School of Music. He is now an Artist Teacher at the NZSM, and has recently taught at Canterbury University and at Waikato University.

Mary Tzambiras (Piano)

After completing her study with Judith Clark at Victoria University School of Music, Wellington, Mary was awarded a Queen Elizabeth II Arts Council Bursary for postgraduate studies with Vincenzo Vitale in Italy, where she arrived in 1975 and where she has resided ever since.

After graduating from the postgraduate course in piano at Villa Schifanoia, Florence, she continued her studies under Maestro Vitale in Rome and then Naples where she graduated from the San Pietro a Maiella Conservatory *summa cum laude*, with a prize for the best diploma performance of 1978.

While in Rome, Mary attended intensive voice courses held by tenor Alfredo Lattaro and opera-singer Platon Shvets.

She continued to perform as soloist in Italy, England, France and Germany while working as rehearsal pianist and voice coach for baritone Tito Gobbi's Masterclasses in Florence and Rome, Ettore Campogalliani's courses at Assisi, and later, by invitation, at the San Carlo Opera House, Naples, thus consolidating her links with the opera world.

In the field of acting, her experience includes work as voice and drama coach for Paramount Films, and she is the speaking voice on the CD used for a Broadway production of *Peter Pan – Betwixt and Between*.

She writes and performs songs for children studying English as a second language.

1974

Keith Spragg (Clarinet)

Following his win in the Competition Keith appeared as soloist with the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra, the Canterbury Orchestra, and the National Youth Orchestra on its 1975 tour to UK, China and Japan. He then moved to Australia to join the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra before returning to Christchurch to resume the position of Principal Clarinet with the CSO.

In the early 2000s he moved to a fulltime senior administration position in Christian education.

His musical interests have broadened into singing with the New Zealand Male Voice Choir and performing as clarinet soloist in many of its concerts, including those undertaken during the choir's 2010 European Tour.

Peter Laurence (Horn)

Mark Walton (Saxophone)

Mark was just 16 when he performed the Glazounov saxophone concerto in 1974. That was his last foray into saxophone playing for a number of years. At the age of 18 he headed to New York to study clarinet with Stanley Drucker from the New York Philharmonic, and then on to London to study with a number of illustrious teachers. From London he joined the Opera and Ballet Orchestra in Cape Town as Principal Clarinet before returning to England to pursue a career as a soloist and teacher.

Following a later visit to the Sydney Conservatorium he became the Principal Clarinet and Classical Saxophone Teacher there, being ultimately appointed Chair of Woodwind and then Chair of Outreach and Communications. Throughout nearly 19 years teaching many talented students, he developed a great interest in supporting children learning to play instruments in regional and outback Australia. Long before it was really possible, he experimented with teaching via video-conferencing, and in 2005 he was awarded the Order of Australia for his pioneering work in this area.

With his wife Jo, he set up a very successful music publishing company that specialised in woodwind teaching music and these books are still very popular and continue to be the staple teaching methods used throughout Australia.

In 2006 he took leave from the Sydney Conservatorium and stepped in as the Music Director at the Christchurch School of Music where as a nine-year-old he had received his very first music lessons. For the last 10 years he has shared his time between Christchurch and Sydney, working with

enthusiastic students on both sides of the Tasman. In September 2016 he established a studio in Christchurch at The Piano. He continues to be Chair of the CSM Support Trust.

Throughout his musical life his love of playing and teaching has never diminished, and he is still very active as a player, with many composers around the world writing exciting new repertoire for him.

Vere Smythe (Trumpet)

Vere played the trumpet as a part-time profession in Christchurch from 1969 until he left for the UK in 2005. He initially played for the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra, then spent a year playing for the Christchurch Trust Orchestra in 1978, rejoining the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra when it resumed operation. He played as Principal Trumpet for the CSO between 1980 and 1995, and then continued as Associate Principal after the position was taken over by two professional career musicians.

He emigrated to England in 2005 where he has continued his professional work in radiation physics research and participated enthusiastically in the lively amateur orchestral music scene. He currently plays as the Principal Trumpet with two orchestras in the Oxford area, and joins other orchestras in London on a casual basis.

In 2016, with his partner Olwen Turchetta, he took part in three public concerts of music for soprano and trumpet.

1975

Christopher Norton (Piano)

Chris is now well established as a composer, producer, arranger and educationalist, and he has written stage musicals, ballet scores, piano music, popular songs and orchestral music as well as jingles and signature tunes for TV and radio. He integrates traditional teaching methods with aspects of modern technology and his success in producing huge numbers of albums for the gospel market has resulted in worldwide releases in excess of a million units.

After winning the 1975 Piano Concerto Competition, Chris took up a University Scholarship in 1977, attending York University in the UK, and studying composition with Wilfrid Mellers and David Blake. He began writing a wide variety of works, and experimented with combinations of styles that crossed the divide between his classical background and more contemporary popular styles.

In 1983 he signed with Boosey & Hawkes and the first of his many *Microjazz* series appeared, an output which is now the biggest music selling series of the publisher and includes music written for all the major instruments with piano, ensemble books and midi file backings.

Many other award-winning publications have included titles geared to Pop, Latin, Jazz, Rock and Country styles and the Christopher Norton Concert Collections of original repertoire for solo piano.

[Source: Boosey & Hawkes website]

David Guerin (Piano)

Following his participation in the Final of the 1975 Concerto Competition, David carried on his studies in New Zealand (particularly with Janetta McStay), and then spent some years in Cologne specialising in Twentieth Century Music, Lieder, Chamber Music and Accompanying. Since returning to New Zealand to live in Auckland and Wellington, he has had a wide career giving solo and chamber music concerts, accompanying theatre and dance performances, and undertaking a long teaching career. He has performed many New Zealand composers' music, appeared as concerto soloist with the NZSO, APO and St Matthew's Chamber Orchestra, toured often for Chamber Music New Zealand, and has been a National Recording Artist for Radio New Zealand.

He now has the role of Artist-Teacher at the School of Music of the University of Auckland.

Stephen Lewis (Piano)

Denis King (Piano)

[See under 1983]

1976

Roger Brown (Cello)

Roger was the winner of the National Concerto Competition in 1976 playing the Elgar Cello Concerto. He is a music graduate of Canterbury University. Whilst in the UK in 1975, attending the International Festival of Youth Orchestras (with the New Zealand Youth Orchestra), he was awarded a scholarship which enabled him to return to London to study with William Pleeth. He was also awarded a Queen Elizabeth II Arts Council Bursary and subsequently studied with Jacqueline du Pré and Antonio Janigro.

Roger worked in London for over twenty years as a freelance cellist, frequently touring internationally with London orchestras. He was also active as a chamber musician and gave regular recitals, including a debut solo recital at the Wigmore Hall. His main interest was working with chamber orchestras, and he was a member of the London Mozart Players and the City of London Sinfonia. He also specialized in baroque performance, working with the orchestra of The Sixteen and the Hanover Band.

Roger returned to New Zealand in 1999 to join the Cello Section of the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra.

Kenneth Young (Tuba)

Ken took up the position of Principal Tuba with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra in 1976 and his experience as a conductor with the NZSO dates from 1985, culminating in his appointment as the orchestra's Conductor-in-Residence early in 1993. In 2001 he resigned from the NZSO in order to pursue his conducting and composing career fulltime.

He has worked regularly with the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra and the other regional orchestras throughout New Zealand, while his engagements with the NZSO and the New Zealand Chamber Orchestra have also included CD recordings of the orchestral works of Douglas Lilburn, Edwin Carr, David Farquhar, Lyell Cresswell, Anthony Ritchie, Gareth Farr, Christopher Blake, Jack Body and many others. He also regularly conducts seasons with the Royal New Zealand Ballet Co. and the Australian Ballet.

Outside New Zealand, he has worked with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, Queensland Symphony Orchestra, the West Australian Symphony Orchestra, Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, Orchestra Victoria, the City of Osaka Sinfonia, and the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, often introducing performances of New Zealand music.

As a composer, he has accepted numerous commissions from the CSO, NZSO, Chamber Music New Zealand, the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, the Brass Band Association of NZ, the International Festival of the Arts, Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra, Orchestra Wellington and Radio New Zealand. His works have been performed nationwide and also in the United States, Europe and Australia. Recent premieres include his CSO-commissioned Symphony No.3 along with *In Paradisum* and *Invocation*, both written for the APO while he was their Composer-in-Residence.

Since 1988 he has been a member of the Music Faculty of the New Zealand School of Music at Victoria University Wellington, where he lectures in conducting and composition. In 2004 he was awarded the Lilburn Trust Citation in Recognition of Outstanding Services to New Zealand Music.

Wilma Smith (Violin)

[See under 1978]

1977

Patrick O'Byrne (Piano)

Irish born, Patrick studied at the University of Auckland with Janetta McStay and Bryan Sayer, completing the degree of Bachelor of Music (Performance) before proceeding to London under the auspices of the Queen Elizabeth II Arts Council of New Zealand. Initially receiving lessons from Kendall Taylor and Vlado Perlemuter, he continued studies in Germany as a DAAD scholar, where he worked with Rosa Sabater and Tibor Hazay, benefitting additionally from the year-long musical advice of Alicia de Larrocha, whom he regards as one of his principal pianistic influences. He concluded postgraduate studies at the State University of Music in Freiburg, Germany with Honours.

Among successes at international piano competitions was First Prize at the José Iturbi International Piano Competition in Valencia in 1983. Ensuing engagements as a recitalist and concerto soloist included appearances with orchestras such as the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, RTE Symphony, KBS Symphony, the Auckland Philharmonia and the New York Virtuosi under the batons of such conductors as Sir Charles Groves, Franz-Paul Decker and Kenneth Klein. Innumerable performances in the field of chamber music have further complemented his solo career, featuring collaborations with musicians of international stature.

In 1985, still in his twenties, he was appointed professor at the State University of Music and Performing Arts in Stuttgart, where he later became Vice Chancellor. Since 2002 he has held the senior professorship for piano at the University of the Arts in Bremen and since 2015 has also been Dean of Studies at this institution. His students include major international prize winners.

In addition to concerts and teaching, Patrick holds master-classes in the USA, South America, Asia and Europe and adjudicates at international piano competitions. Numerous recordings include CDs of *Goyescas* by Granados and the complete piano works of Ravel, as well as radio and television performances in various countries.

Terence Dennis (Piano)

Terence graduated from the University of Otago with MusB (Hons) before attending the Staatliche Hochschule für Musik in Cologne, Germany and graduating with the Konzertexamen certificate. He joined the Music Faculty staff of the University of Otago in 1981 and is currently Blair Professor and Head of Classical Performance studies there.

Terence is acclaimed both overseas and in New Zealand for his performances and teaching, and has regularly partnered many distinguished visiting international artists and leading resident artists. Particularly notable is his extensive recital partnership with Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, with whom he has given around fifty concerts across the world, including two Royal Recitals (for both Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh and Prince Charles, Prince of Wales), and a concert at a World Heritage 9th Century temple in Nara, Japan, filmed for Japanese television.

Other noted collaborations have included recitals with Sir Bryn Terfel, Sarah Walker and Sir Donald McIntyre, and cellist Maria Kliegel. He has been official pianist for seven international string competitions, official pianist for the finals of the Mobil and Lexus Song Quests since 1991, and guest adjudicator for the regional finals of the Metropolitan Opera Auditions Contest in the USA.

He has regularly presented lectures to international seminars and conferences of teachers and musicologists, and has conducted master classes throughout New Zealand, Australia, Japan and Taiwan. He is frequently heard on Radio NZ Concert as a piano soloist or accompanist.

Terence was appointed to the NZ Order of Merit in 2004, and is a Fellow both of the Royal Society of New Zealand and of the NZ Academy of Humanities.

Sharon Joy Vogan (Piano)

[See under 1981]

1978

Rachel Skinner (Flute)

Deceased.

Wilma Smith (Violin)

Concertmaster Emeritus of the NZSO and Concertmaster of the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra from 2003-2014, Wilma Smith now focuses on a busy chamber music life in Australia and, as often as possible, New Zealand. In addition to performing in and curating her own chamber music series, Wilma & Friends, and other collaborations, she is Artistic Director of the Melbourne International Chamber Music Competition which brings the best young piano trios and string quartets from around the world to compete in Melbourne every four years. Wilma still indulges her love of the symphonic repertoire by performing with the Australian World Orchestra and guest-leading orchestras in Australia and New Zealand. She teaches at The University of Melbourne, Monash University and Korowa Anglican Girls' School, and enjoys coaching chamber music at both elite and amateur levels.

Born in Fiji in 1956 and raised in Auckland, Wilma attended the University of Auckland where she studied piano with Janetta McStay and Bryan Sayer, and violin with David Nalden. She then worked with the Auckland Symphonia (now APO) and the NZSO before continuing her studies in Boston at the New England Conservatory with Dorothy DeLay and Louis Krasner, playing in master-classes for many others including Joseph Gingold, Yehudi Menuhin and Sandor Vegh. She was founding First Violinist of the Lydian String Quartet, prizewinners at Evian, Banff and Portsmouth International Competitions and winners of the Naumburg Award for Chamber Music in New York. Although the quartet was Wilma's professional focus, she also played in the Boston Symphony Orchestra and led the Harvard Chamber Orchestra, the Handel and Haydn Society and Banchetto Musicale, a period instrument baroque orchestra.

Invited to be founding First Violinist of the New Zealand String Quartet, Wilma returned to Wellington in 1987, touring with the quartet throughout New Zealand and Australia and performing at the Tanglewood Festival until her appointment as NZSO Concertmaster in 1993.

Wilma has enjoyed longstanding duo partnerships with pianists, Michael Houstoun and Ian Munro, and a long relationship with Chamber Music New Zealand. Her many chamber music tours have included the Munro/Smith/Berlin Trio, Ensemble Liaison and the Houstoun/Smith/Sakakushev Trio. In 2015, she led the Turnovsky Ensemble for a 15-concert tour of New Zealand to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Schools Chamber Music Contest and in 2016 she returned to Wellington to perform the Berg Concerto (commissioned by her Boston mentor, Louis Krasner) with Orchestra Wellington.

Alison Catanach (Flute)

After completing Bachelors of Music and Arts at Victoria University of Wellington, Alison won a German Government Scholarship to further her flute studies at Karlsruhe Hochschule für Musik.

She then moved to Melbourne where she completed a Master of Music Performance at the University of Melbourne, performing on modern and baroque flutes. Subsequently she studied baroque flute with Wilbert Hazelzet at the Royal Conservatorium in The Hague, The Netherlands.

In addition to being a highly respected Melbourne flute teacher, Alison is today one of Australia's most accomplished baroque flautists, performing as a soloist, chamber musician and orchestral player, frequently appearing in concerts and festivals in Melbourne and throughout Victoria. She has a long-standing association with the University of Melbourne, having taught modern flute there for over ten years, and often collaborates with colleagues from the Early Music Studio.

Alison collated and edited music for the Australian Music Examinations Board, Series II Flute Grade Books. She is an examiner for the Australian Music Examinations Board and co-ordinates a busy flute programme at Methodist Ladies' College.

1979

David Butler [Butler Cannata] (Piano)

David was awarded First Prize in the 1979 National Concerto Competition while studying piano performance with Wallace Woodley. Following on from post graduate study in composition at Canterbury University, he spent 1980-1982 at San Francisco Conservatory of Music graduating MMus in both Conducting and Piano Performance. Later study (1986-1993) at New York University's Graduate School of Arts and Science, led to the conferment of PhD, for which he prepared a dissertation on *Rachmaninoff's Changing View of Symphonic Structure*, later published (in 1999) under the title *Rachmaninoff and the Symphony*.

Numerous awards he has received include Fellowship from the American Musicological Society (1991-1992), a Research Award from the American Philosophical Society (1999), and Fellow from National Endowment for the Humanities (2005-2006).

Since 1991 he has taught at various centres of learning, including The Smithsonian Institution, Princeton University, The Cooper Union for The Advancement of Science and Art, New York University, and Temple University (Philadelphia).

His academic interests have included Liszt, Tchaikovsky, post-Wagnerian Symphonists, and Rachmaninoff, and he has published many articles and papers on the works and lives of these late-Romantic composers, presenting these at international symposiums and seminars throughout Europe and the USA.

A current undertaking is being Editor-General for the German music publishing house of Bärenreiter-Verlag, and preparing for publication the major compositions of Rachmaninoff.

In the years 2000, 2004, 2008, 2014 he was an Adjudicator on the Jury Panel of the International Liszt Piano Competition.

He is on the Advisory Boards of Swiss Global Artistic Foundation and William Garrison Memorial Festival & Piano Competition.

Catherine Riley (Piano)

In 1980 Catherine graduated with a First Class Honours MMus degree in Performance from the University of Auckland having been a student of Janetta McStay and Bryan Sayer. Following successes as runner up in the National Concerto Competition and Winner of the Auckland Star Concerto Competition, she recorded for Radio New Zealand and undertook several professional piano concerto engagements. A grant from the NZ Arts Council enabled her to undertake post graduate studies at the Royal College of Music in London with Kendall Taylor and Peter Wallfisch. Several awards, including the Stella Murray Prize in the Overseas League Competition, led to

concerts at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, the Purcell Room and Fairfield Halls. She has also performed in the Barbican Centre as well as at St John's Smith Square and St Martin-in-the-Fields.

She has performed as both soloist and chamber musician and given numerous recitals and chamber music concerts in the UK and in Europe, and has recorded the complete works for violin and piano by Grieg with the American violinist, Christopher Collins Lee. In 2007 she formed the Johannes Piano Quartet with colleagues teaching at the Centre for Young Musicians (London) where she is Head of Piano. For many years she has been a Principal Tutor for the Piano Teacher's Course (PTC) associated with European Piano Teachers Association, and she is an examiner for the Dublin Institute of Technology's Music School.

Bronwen Murray (Piano)

Following her success as a prize winner in the National Concerto Competition, having studied with Judith Clark at Victoria University of Wellington, Bronwen undertook globe-spanning assignments as a soloist and chamber musician. She received a grant from Deutsche Akademische Austauschdienst (DAAD – German Academic Exchange Service) which enabled her to study Recital Accompaniment and Chamber Music with Wilhelm Hecker in Cologne. Her participation in master classes with Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau in Berlin contributed greatly to her artistic development.

In 1987 Bronwen concluded her studies with a concert examination and pursued a career as an accompanist for many different singers and instrumentalists in concerts and radio programmes in New Zealand and overseas

Since 1992 she has maintained close ties with the International Bach Academy in Stuttgart, and has been an accompanist for master-classes led by such renowned singers as Rudolf Piernay, Andreas Schmidt, Edith Mathis, James Taylor and others.

[Source: Munich Philharmonic Orchestra website]

1980

Peter Barber (Viola)

Peter studied with Zillah Castle, before becoming a member of the NZSO Schola Musica, studying with NZSO Principal Viola Emeritus, Vyvyan Yendoll. He is also a graduate of the Cologne Music Academy, where his course of study included tuition from professor of viola, Rainer Moog and members of the Amadeus String Quartet.

Over the years Peter has played in the NZSO Chamber Orchestra, New Zealand String Quartet, the New Zealand Soloists, Nevine String Quartet and the Amazon Trio. He also works regularly with his sister, concert accompanist Mary Barber, and is a viola tutor at the New Zealand Music School. Peter plays a viola made in the early '70s by Otto Erdesz.

He also enjoys choral singing and has sung in Cantoris, Bel Canto and Nota Bene.

[Source: NZSO website]

Sally-Anne Brown [Alloway] (Cello)

Teaching has been Sally-Anne's mainstay for the past 27 years.

Having toddlers keen to play the cello at three years of age, she researched methods for teaching tiny people, and eventually became the National Teacher Trainer for Suzuki Cello. With much support from family and friends she has grown Suzuki Cello in NZ and there are now teachers following the method throughout the country. She has also taught at world Suzuki Conferences in Japan and Australia.

In the 1990s she toured as a soloist with a pianist and performed regularly as a National Radio Artist. She enjoys all genres of music, including "serious" solo concert repertoire, chamber music,

and jazz or “gig” music shared with fellow musicians, and has played in pit orchestras as solo cellist with numerous international touring shows.

These days her once-three-year-old daughters are both following their own musical careers, and they, all three together, share performances, run the family business of booking musicians for functions, and teach other three-year-olds.

Craig Williams (Violin)

1981

Sharon Joy Vogan [Cawston] (Piano)

Sharon performed in two competition finals, being awarded Third Place in 1977 and First Place in 1981. Later she was runner up in a TVNZ Young Musicians Contest, and soloist in a TVNZ performance of Beethoven’s Piano Concerto in B flat with the NZSO and conductor Franz-Paul Decker.

She studied at Canterbury University under Maurice Till, and graduated with First Class Honours being awarded a Masters Prize for First Place throughout the Fine Arts and Music faculties.

She won a Queen Elizabeth II Arts Scholarship for post-graduate study in the US with Bela Siki, and was subsequently offered a major fellowship to study for her Doctorate at the University of British Columbia in Canada. During this time, she performed with the Orchestra of Barcelona, Spain by invitation of conductor Franz-Paul Decker, with the Inland Empire Orchestra in California, and recorded for CBC.

She returned to New Zealand in the mid-1990s and performed as recitalist, recording artist and soloist throughout the country.

She has now semi-retired from the concert platform, but continues to teach. Recent teaching engagements have included that of Piano Performance Tutor at the University of Auckland, the University’s Academy of Music, and the Corelli School of the Arts.

She lives in Auckland, and is married with two children.

[Source: LinkedIn website]

Paul Maskill (Piano)

Some time after his participation in the 1981 contest, Paul moved to London where he studied and taught.

He returned to NZ in the early 1990s, joining the teaching staff of the Nelson School of Music. During this time he also wrote programme notes for the NZSO and Chamber Music NZ, which led directly to broadcasting training with RNZ Concert in Wellington. Since 2005, he has been a part-time broadcaster and has taught at Wellington Girls’ College where he is currently the Arts Coordinator.

Robert Logan (Piano)

Robert’s piano recital activity after his involvement in the National Concerto Competition was limited. He is remembered as a performer in an Island Bay (Wellington) Festival during the early 2000s, but he pursued instead a career in Law and was “involved in many local issues”.

Tragically, he went missing off the South Coast of Wellington near Owhirio Bay on 27 April 2010, was never found, and was subsequently presumed dead.

[Source: Gary Wilby]

1982

Mary Scott (Clarinet)

Mary Scott studied music, science and linguistics at Victoria University and after winning First Prize in the New Zealand National Concerto Competition she chose to continue her music studies in Germany and Holland.

After returning to New Zealand she played Principal B flat and E flat Clarinet in the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra and taught clarinet and chamber music at the New Zealand School of Music. Mary has been a featured soloist and ensemble member of the Amici Ensemble and the New Zealand Chamber Orchestra and is currently a free-lance clarinettist and teacher based in Wellington appearing frequently as guest clarinettist in orchestras and bands around New Zealand.

Ruthchen [Ursula] Evans (Violin)

After competing in the Concerto Competition, Ursula was granted a German Academic Exchange Scholarship (DAAD) and travelled to Cologne, Germany, to do a postgraduate diploma, the Kuenstlerische Reifepruefung. She studied with Igor Ozim and his assistant, Helfried Fister.

After the exam she stayed on in Germany. She played in the Junge Deutsche Philharmonie, did part-time teaching at a music school, and played in various chamber orchestras, doing concert tours in Germany and other European countries.

In 1989 she was appointed Sub-Principal of the Second Violins in the Philharmonie Essen.

Three years later she auditioned for the NZSO, and has been a member of the First Violins there ever since.

Anthony Lawrence (Cello)

1983

Read Gainsford (Piano)

When Read won the 1983 Concerto Competition he was a student under Janetta McStay and Bryan Sayer at the University of Auckland. He later moved to London where he was admitted to the Advanced Solo Studies Course at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama as a pupil of Joan Havill, and graduated with the Concert Recital Diploma (Premier Prix).

In 1992 he moved to the USA to enter the doctoral program at Indiana University. He has performed widely in the USA, Europe, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, as solo recitalist, concerto soloist and chamber musician, making successful solo debuts in Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall and London's Wigmore Hall, as well as playing in the Kennedy Center, St Martin-in-the-Fields, Queen Elizabeth Hall, and others.

While on the faculty of Ithica College, New York, he received the Excellence in Teaching Award in 2004, and was a member of the contemporary music group Ensemble X.

In 2005 he joined the Piano Faculty at Florida State University where he has remained to this day.

His interest in collaborative projects has led to his founding the *Light in Winter* festival in 2004 and his forming of Trio Solis (who made their Carnegie Hall debut in 2009). He has been associated with many leading musicians, including the Audubon and Serafin Quartets, Richard Stoltzman, Luis Rossi and Jerrold Pope; and he has worked with many composers, including Marc Satterwhite, Chen Yi, John Psathas, James Matheson, Mark Wingate and Diego Vega. He has recorded for the Amoris and

Naxos labels, BBC Radio 3 and RNZ Concert, and broadcast on national television in New Zealand, the UK and Yugoslavia.

[Sources: concert programme & personal website]

Denis King (Piano)

Denis acknowledges that his participation in piano competitions was memorable, immensely shaping his life and personality, but his eventual career choice was into medicine. For many years now, he has had his own general medical practice in Auckland.

He still spends a bit of his life trying to play to a reasonable standard, or accompanying his children in their musical endeavours as they have grown up.

Of special meaning to him, in relation to this competition, is the fact that his son, Edward King, managed to do one better than his father and win the 2010 Competition playing the Cello.

Fiona Steedman (Piano)

Fiona Steedman spent two decades in the UK, studying with Richard Mapp and Phyllis Sellick, completing postgraduate studies, and teaching and performing in London and Surrey. She is currently a School Administrator in the New Zealand School of Music at Victoria University of Wellington.

1984

Rachel Thompson (Viola)

Since winning the 1984 competition, Rachel has performed viola concertos with professional orchestras as well as violin solos as a rock arena artist. Her early classical training culminated in the winning of a scholarship to the New School of Music in Philadelphia, USA. At the age of 22 she performed with the New York String Orchestra in a Christmas concert at Carnegie Hall.

For some years now she has been living in Sydney, performing as a freelance member of the Australian Opera Ballet Orchestra, Philharmonia Choirs, CCEntertainment, Sydney Lyric Orchestra and the Balmain Sinfonia. With Click Track recording she has been a part of the orchestral soundtrack for the *Lego Movie*, *The Water Diviner*, *Happy Feet*, *Batman Lego* and *The Gods of Egypt*. Most recently she performed at the 10th annual Whole Lotta Love tribute to Led Zep, in Sydney Australia.

Rachel is an arranger, a pianist and violinist who thrives on the spontaneity and creativity of live performance.

Jane Dawson (Flute)

Jane completed a Flute Performance degree at Otago University, then a Master of Arts in Music Analysis. After a working and cycling holiday in Britain she studied music analysis for three years at King's College London, and also worked as a proofreader for the New Grove Dictionary of Opera.

For the past 15 years she has produced the national concert programmes for Chamber Music New Zealand, and in 2010 wrote the history of that organisation's first 60 years.

She is now studying law at Victoria University.

John Robinson (Clarinet)

After the 1984 concerto competition, John completed his degree at Victoria University then headed off to London to continue his studies with John McCaw, and attend the National Centre for Orchestral Studies at Goldsmiths College.

After freelancing in London, he was appointed Sub Principal Clarinet at Opera North in Leeds, remaining there for 21 years and teaching clarinet at The University of Huddersfield.

John returned to New Zealand and settled in Christchurch just in time for the earthquakes. He now plays with the CSO and the NZSO, teaches clarinet, tunes pianos and repairs instruments, and takes part in many education projects in the city.

1985

Richard Chandler (Piano)

Following his success in winning the National Concerto Competition and completing piano study with Iola Shelley, Richard travelled to London to study piano and bassoon at the Guildhall School of Music (1987-1991). One of his piano mentors was Lesley Howard.

Returning to New Zealand he became a Registered Music Teacher, and joined the Bassoon Section of the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra in 1992 as Second Bassoon, ultimately becoming Associate Principal Bassoon, and remaining a member of the orchestra until his sudden and tragic accidental death in February 2016.

His fulltime commitment to music teaching also included a very active membership of the Committee of the IRMT Christchurch Branch for 19 years, undertaking the role of Newsletter Editor of the Branch from 1997, and being Co-Chair from 1998-2001. His outstanding service to the local scene resulted in his being elected as a Distinguished Branch Member of IRMTNZ in 2015.

Richard acted as a church organist and was acknowledged as a versatile and valuable piano accompanist and recital pianist, broadly serving the needs of the city's musical community. He is greatly missed.

[Sources: The Press (Christchurch) & 'Ritmico' (IRMTNZ Journal)]

Louise Baker [Logan] (Piano)

Music has continued to be a big part of Louise Logan's life. She has been a piano teacher since starting university, has been actively involved with the Institute of Registered Music Teachers for many years and is currently Chairperson of the Wellington Branch of the IRMT.

A trained secondary school teacher, Louise has been at Queen Margaret College in Wellington since 2011, where she teaches classroom music, directs choirs and enjoys accompanying students.

Lois Van Waardenberg (Piano)

Lois studied in London for some years with Brigid Wild, Irina Zaritskaya and Joan Havill amongst others.

Today she is Chief Operating Officer of Plunket, having been a General Manager, CIO and CEO in companies from 5 to over 100,000 people, in the UK, Australia and New Zealand. Her daughter Sophie is a soprano with the Auckland Youth Choir, and Lois still participates in the wider community of musicians. Lois was married to music teacher Gerald van Waardenberg, a contributor to the Auckland musical scene over the years between returning to NZ from London in 1999 and his death in 2010.

1986

Mark Menzies (Violin)

After Winning the 1986 Concerto Competition Mark completed his MusB(Hons) at Canterbury University in 1988. He pursued his performance studies in London, Indiana, and at the University of

California, San Diego where he graduated PhD in 2010.

From 1999 onwards, Mark lived in the USA, teaching at California Institute of the Arts. He was appointed Head of Strings there and taught violin, viola, and chamber music, involving staff and students in many initiatives, and curating and performing in festivals and concerts of new music in downtown Los Angeles.

His many skills include being a pianist, violinist, violist, conductor and composer and he continues to tour internationally. His vast repertoire extends from the 14th Century to the present day. He is an avid chamber musician and has been, for ten seasons, a member of the Formalist Quartet. His many compositions include eleven written in 2012 during his Composer in Residence at the Spiel Festival in Austria.

In 2016 Mark was appointed Head of Performance Music at Canterbury University.

[Sources: concert programme and CSO website]

Simon Ansell (Violin)

As music has never been his principal occupation, Simon's career since the 1986 competition has involved IT consultancy, with music on the side. After playing with Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra (casually), 1985-87, he spent three years in London during which he took (private) violin lessons with Erica Klemperer, played in the Salomon Orchestra and Kensington Symphony Orchestra, and benefitted musically from the amazing concert scene there.

Living back in Auckland from 1990, he was a founding member of the Auckland Sinfonietta and its successor, the Auckland Chamber Orchestra, and has been playing in St Matthew's Chamber Orchestra for 25 years – as leader, from time to time. He is also a member of the Sunday Club, a string group mainly comprising Auckland Youth Orchestra historical alumni, who perform two family concerts each year.

These days, apart from his IT work, much of his time is now spent on encouraging three musically talented daughters in their learning of violin and piano.

Catherine Bowie (Flute)

After Catherine was awarded Third Prize in the Concerto Competition she gained the diplomas LTCL and LRSM in Flute Performance.

As a recipient of a French Government Grant, she became a student of Michel Debost and Pierre-Yves Artaud at the Paris Conservatoire, obtaining in 1990-1991 Premiers Prix in both Flute and Chamber Music.

Catherine has lived and worked in Paris since 1987, and in 1991 she was invited to become a founding member of the Ensemble Court-Circuit. As flute soloist she has performed in major European festivals including Musica of Strasburg, Ultima in Oslo, Presences of Radio France, Agora at Ircam, Paris, Ferienkurse für Neue Musik at Darmstadt, Ars Musica in Brussels, Festival Lyrique in Aix-en-Provence, Mozart-Saal in Vienna, Warsaw Autumn Festival, Cologne (WDR), Alicante (Spain), and has toured widely throughout Scandinavia and Australasia.

In 1991 she was awarded a prize in the Young Artist Competition in Washington D.C.; in 1992, the Kranichsteiner Musikpreis from the Ferienkurse für Neue Musik at Darmstadt; and in 1996 she was a prize-winner in the Gaudeamus International Performance Competition in Rotterdam.

Catherine has been flute tutor at the Nelson School of Music and at the École Municipale de Musique de Vaux-le-Penil. In addition she has been invited to give master classes at the Academy of Music (Auckland), at the École National de Musique de Cayenne (French Guiana), Ircam (Paris), and the National Flute Association Convention in Wanganui (1999).

She has toured New Zealand under the auspices of Chamber Music New Zealand, given concerto performances with the NZSO, the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra, Christchurch Symphony, Dunedin Sinfonia, and the St. Matthew's Chamber Orchestra. A National Recording Artist for Radio NZ Concert, Catherine has also recorded in this country several CDs featuring recently composed NZ music (Helen Fisher), and in France (Tristan Murail, Philippe Hurel, Philippe Leroux and Gerard Grisey).

Catherine was Principal Flute in The Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra from 2005-2013 and at present she enjoys teaching flute privately in Auckland.

1987

Jill Pears (Piano)

Jill was a piano student of Christina Sell when she was awarded First Place in the 1987 National Concerto Competition. She holds the following academic awards: FTCL (Piano Performance); BA, BMus, BEd (all from the University of Canterbury); MEd (Massey University); and she is currently studying for her Doctor of Education degree at Canterbury University.

Her professional career has been in education. Jill taught at Selwyn House School for many years where she was both Director of e-Learning and Associate Principal. It was here that she developed her interest and professional understandings around the educational aspects of computer programming, coding and robotics. She has presented at a number of conferences, both in New Zealand, and internationally on these subjects. She has also worked in secondary schools, and she now holds the position of Principal at Diamond Harbour Primary School.

Jill has continued to be very active in the community as a practical musician, particularly as an accompanist for exams, for concerts and for the New Zealand Brass Band movement. Jill has been involved with Woolston Brass for many years as a pianist and as the conductor of Woolston Junior Band where, as well as conducting the band, she arranges or composes the majority of their repertoire.

Timothy Emerson (Piano)

Since being awarded Second Prize in the 1987 Concerto Competition, Tim has been busy as a piano accompanist, soloist and teacher, working and living in Christchurch. Many of his students have themselves been competitors in the competition, and he continues to be involved as one of the regular accompanists in the annual event.

Siu Dea Law (Piano)

After completing her BMus (Honours) in Piano Performance at Auckland University in 1988, Siu Dea undertook postgraduate studies in Hannover, Germany, eventually residing there as a teacher and accompanist from 1989-1997. She continued to develop skills in these fields, moving to Hong Kong from 1997-2012.

Siu Dea is presently completing a Music Therapy diploma in Verona, Italy, where she has been living since 2012.

1988

Hamish McKeich (Bassoon)

Although Hamish is now well-known as a conductor, his early musical successes, including his winning the 1988 Concerto Competition, were as a Christchurch bassoonist, trained by his father, the late Ross McKeich. At just 19 years of age, he was appointed Associate Principal Bassoon in the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, and later performed in orchestras in Britain and Holland.

When he made the decision to concentrate on conducting he studied with Professor Ilya Musin, Valery Gergiev, Sian Edwards and Peter Eötvös.

Since 2002, Hamish has established a partnership with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, and he is now the NZSO's Associate Conductor in collaboration with Music Director, Edo de Waart.

He has performed in New Zealand, Australia, China, the Netherlands, Italy, England, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, France, Armenia and Lebanon. Working regularly in Europe, Australia and with all New Zealand's major orchestras, he has given over 100 world premieres of new works and is also chief conductor of the contemporary ensembles Stroma and 175 East.

In 2012, Hamish was awarded a Douglas Lilburn Trust citation for services to New Zealand music.

[Sources: concert programme and personal website]

Martin Riseley (Violin)

Martin studied with Dorothy DeLay at Juilliard, where he completed Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees. He subsequently became Concertmaster of the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra for fifteen years, performing and premiering a large number of concertos. He has played chamber music with some of the leading musicians of our time, including Pinchas Zukerman, Yo Yo Ma and John Kimura Parker, and has held other concertmaster positions, including Interim Associate Concertmaster of the National Arts Center Orchestra, under music director Pinchas Zukerman.

Since returning to New Zealand to be Head of Strings at the New Zealand School of Music he has premiered John Corigliano's *Red Violin Chaconne*, given performances throughout the country of the complete Paganini caprices, and teamed up with Diedre Irons for regular recitals, many being for Chamber Music New Zealand. He has also made the first CD recordings of some important chamber works of Douglas Lilburn and *Meditations on Michelangelo* by Jack Body on Naxos with the NZSO, which won the Vodafone Music Award for best classical CD in 2015. A premiere recording of violin works by David Farquhar was also released on Rattle that year. Since 2015 also he has been Concertmaster of the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra, and has conducted the Edmonton Symphony, Manawatu Chamber Orchestra, Academy Strings of Alberta, and the NZSM Orchestra. His piano trio, the Te Koki Trio, with Jian Liu and Inbal Megiddo, has performed throughout New Zealand and in Sydney, Singapore and Malaysia.

Tanya Haddock [Kirk] (Oboe)

After the 1988 Concerto Competition Final Tanya went to London that year to study Oboe with Anthony Camden of the London Symphony Orchestra. After two years' study, she married a fellow oboist - a Brit, who played in the Band of the Welsh Guards, so she ended up staying in the UK. She continued for a decade playing professionally - lots of West End work (during the reigns of both Jason Donovan and Philip Schofield in *Joseph And The Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*), *Aspects of Love*, even dressing as a rabbit for nine months in the National Theatre's production of *Wind in the Willows*, and toured with groups such as English Touring Opera and the Royal Shakespeare Company.

After ten years on the move, she hung up her rabbit ears and taught for a period in a school in Croydon, ending up as Deputy Head Teacher there.

Tanya has now moved to rural Suffolk, where she is teaching music "in a marvellous school, and walking there in the mornings across fields of snowdrops and aconites".

Katherine Hebley (Cello)

Following her prize-winning success in the National Concerto Competition of 1988, Katherine was awarded Second Prize in the 1992 Gisborne International Wind, String and Brass Competition.

Currently she is a cellist in the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra. With her husband, Andrew Uren, she has been part of the contemporary ensemble, 175 East, and together they form the cello and clarinet duo, K.A.H.U. Ensemble.

She plays in other Auckland orchestras such as the Auckland Chamber Orchestra from time to time. She teaches both privately and in schools, and, through the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra Player in Schools Scheme, she mentors various projects and performs in the education ensemble, Mousike.

She has performed as soloist with several orchestras in New Zealand; and with Andrew, she commissioned, performed, and recorded with the Auckland Chamber Orchestra under conductor Peter Scholes, the Double Concerto for Bass Clarinet and Cello by Anthony Ritchie.

1989

Nicola Melville (Piano)

While a student of Judith Clark at Victoria University, Wellington, Nicola was the winner of both the National Concerto Competition and the Auckland Star Concerto Competition. She then went on to earn Masters and Doctoral degrees from the Eastman School of Music, NY, where she was awarded the Lizzie T Mason Prize for Outstanding Graduate Pianist, and the prestigious Performer's Certificate. She was also the winner of the SAI International Concerto Competition as a student at the Chautauqua Music Festival.

Nicola has served on the faculties of the University of Evansville, Indiana, and Heidelberg University, Ohio. She has recorded for the Innova and Equilibrium record labels, and is a founding member of the cross-cultural ensemble, Intersection.

Her live performances and recordings have been broadcast on Canadian, United States, New Zealand, South African, and Chinese radio, and she has been involved in numerous interdisciplinary projects with dancers, filmmakers and visual artists, including performances at the Kennedy Center, Washington DC, and Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, NY.

Nicola is Professor and Chair of the Music Department at Carleton College, Minnesota, USA, a selective liberal arts university. She is Co-Director of the Chautauqua Music Festival Piano Program in New York, and is pianist for the contemporary ensemble, Zeitgeist, performing forty to fifty concerts a year.

Graeme Cosslett (Piano)

After being a finalist in 1989 Graeme continued to study Classical Piano, moving to Victoria University for piano studies with Judith Clark. He undertook piano teaching full-time until he went travelling in 1995. Overseas, Graeme did some music teaching, but generally had a break from full-time music. After a couple of years, he returned to New Zealand, went to Teachers College and started school teaching. Music was always central to his teaching work with lead responsibility for choirs, rock bands, orchestras, school productions and usually anything music related within the schools he taught.

In 2008 Graeme left teaching to work at the New Zealand Council for Educational Research (NZCER) and he continues there to this day. Graeme has had a number of roles within NZCER and currently leads the organisation as their Chief Executive Officer.

Karen Chang (Piano)

Karen was a finalist also in 1991.

1990

James Bush (Cello)

James studied cello in Christchurch with Ellen Doyle before leaving to complete his undergraduate studies with Christopher Bunting and Derek Simpson, graduating with First Class Honours from the Royal Academy of Music, London. This was followed by a Master of Music degree with Timothy Eddy at the State University of New York, Stony Brook. James later studied baroque cello with Phoebe Carrai and Markus Möllenbeck at the Hochschule der Künste, Berlin.

Winner of the Television New Zealand Young Musicians Competition as well as the National Concerto Competition, James has appeared as soloist performing the Dvořák and Shostakovich Cello Concertos with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, Tchaikovsky's *Rococo Variations* with the Auckland Philharmonia, and Saint-Saëns' Cello Concerto with the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra.

James has worked for the last 10 years as Principal Cellist of Al Ayre Español, and Elbipolis Barockorchester, Hamburg, also appearing regularly with Akademie für Alte Musik, Berlin and orchestras such as Concerto Köln and B-Rock. He has been an invited Guest Principal Cellist for productions with the Semper Opera in Dresden and the Palau de les Arts in Valencia, and he was a founding member of Quartet Albada.

James has collaborated in three different productions with the dance company Sasha Waltz & Guests, performing from the Bach solo cello suites in over 50 performances worldwide of her work *Gezeiten*, and together with Akademie für Alte Musik in *Dido and Aeneas* and *4 Elemente - 4 Jahreszeiten*.

Concert halls where James has performed include the Musikverein Vienna, the Concertgebouw Amsterdam, the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées Paris, the Teatro Colón Buenos Aires, the Philharmonie Berlin, the Palau de la Musica Barcelona, the Royal Festival Hall London, Salle Pleyel Paris, the Konserthuset Stockholm, the Auditorio Nacional Madrid and Suntory Hall Tokyo.

Recent recordings in which James has been involved have been released by Deutsche Harmonia Mundi (SONY), Naïve, Harmonia Mundi, Challenge Classics and Winter & Winter.

Christine Bowie (Viola)

At the time of competing in the final of the Concerto Competition, Christine was studying at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music. After completing her Bachelor of Music, she continued her studies at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique in Paris, and worked with new music ensembles Court Circuit in Paris and l'Ensemble Contrechamps in Geneva.

She returned to New Zealand in 1998, working with the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra and the NZSO. A keen chamber musician, she has collaborated with many ensembles and festivals and has toured New Zealand as part of the Giverny Trio and Goldfingers Quartet.

Since the year 2000 she has been a member of the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra and has taught viola at both Waikato and Auckland Universities.

Dianna Cochrane (Violin)

1991

Marcus McLaren (Piano)

After completing his BMus (Hons) at Otago University under Terence Dennis in 1990, Marcus furthered his musical studies in Austria with help from three NZ awards and two scholarships from Bösendorfer. He was awarded the Performance Diploma in Piano from the Haydn Konservatorium

Eisenstadt (teacher: James McChesney), the Diploma in Vocal Accompaniment from the Vienna University of Music (David Lutz), and LRSM in Piano Teaching in London. He participated in master-classes and workshops with Paul Badura-Skoda, Piers Lane, Geoffery Tozer, Roy Howat, Tomislav Baynov, Jaime Padros, Herbert Wiedemann, Christa Ludwig and Marilyn Horne.

Marcus has performed concertos with the Auckland Philharmonia, Auckland Chamber Orchestra, Wellington Youth Orchestra, Vienna Chamber Orchestra, Fort Wayne Philharmonic, Voronezh Philharmonic and Kharkov Philharmonic, among others. He has played chamber music with members of the Vienna, Berlin and Ulm Philharmonic Orchestras, including at the Pacific Music Festival in Japan. He has accompanied many singers, for example opera soloists Peter Baillie, Rita Kapfhammer and Anna Agathonos. He has performed on antique instruments at the Vienna Hofburg, adjudicated competitions in Germany, recorded for CD, radio and TV, and authored books and newspaper articles.

Marcus has NZ and Italian citizenship and lives in Ulm with his German wife and two children. He continues a career as pianist, harpsichordist, teacher, composer and Assistant Director of the Langenau School of Music.

Karen Chang (Piano)

Karen was a finalist also in 1989.

Catherine McKay (Piano)

[See under 1993.]

1992

Elizabeth Hirst (Flute)

Liz was placed First Equal in the 1992 Competition Final, and for many years sat beside her co-winner, oboist Robert Orr, in the NZ National Youth Orchestra. Having previously studied flute performance with Ken MacDiarmid and Uwe Grodd in Auckland, she moved to Freiburg, Germany to study with Robert Aitken. She began working with the ensembles Surplus and Aventure, and was a member of the German National Youth Orchestra (Junge Deutsche Philharmonie). Following her graduation with a soloist's degree she undertook further studies in Cologne with Peter Eötvös and in Darmstadt with Carin Levine.

In 2002 she began regularly working with Cologne's musikFabrik and in 2010 she became a member of Ensemble Garage.

Currently she is encouraging composers in Finland to write for her subcontrabass flute.

Robert Orr (Oboe)

Joint-Winner of the 1992 Competition, Robert is currently Principal Oboe in the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra. He has also held the posts of Principal Cor Anglais and Associate Principal Oboe since he joined the NZSO in 1995.

Overseas, he has played as Guest Principal Oboe with the Australian Chamber Orchestra and Sydney Symphony Orchestra. While studying at the Royal Academy of Music, London, he also played with the London Philharmonic, The Philharmonia and the City of London Sinfonia.

Robert is an established recital artist, having appeared for both the New Zealand International Festival of the Arts and the Christchurch Festival of the Arts. He has also toured for Chamber Music New Zealand with pianist Richard Mapp, and with the Zephyr Wind Quintet. As a soloist, he has

appeared with the Southern Sinfonia, New Zealand Chamber Orchestra, and on several occasions for the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra.

Robert is an Artist Teacher at the New Zealand School of Music.

[Source: NZSO website]

Huy-Nguyen Bui (Violin)

Born in Hiroshima, Japan, but emigrating to New Zealand in 1987, Huy-Nguyen was still a pupil at high school when he was awarded Second Prize in the 1992 Concerto Competition and Third Prize in the Gisborne International Competition.

From 1995 Nguyen attended the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, taught by Charmian Gadd. Whilst studying towards a Bachelor of Music (Hons) he won a tutti position with the Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestra, based at Sydney Opera House. In 2003 he was promoted to Deputy Concertmaster, then Associate Concertmaster in 2008, also holding that position 2012-2015. He has led the AOBO in many recordings including *La Bohème*, *Tosca*, *La Traviata*, and the world premiere of Brett Dean's opera, *Bliss*. In 2006 he was Guest Assistant Concertmaster with the Orchestra of the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden, London. Whilst on sabbatical in 2014, Nguyen was a regular Guest Concertmaster with the Melbourne Symphony and Tasmanian Symphony Orchestras.

A keen chamber musician, Nguyen is a core member of the Australian chamber group Omega Ensemble.

[Source: concert programme]

1993

Rachel Thomson (Piano)

Following the National Concerto Competition in 1993, Rachel went on to study at the Cleveland Institute of Music (USA) with the help of a Fulbright Graduate Award and a QEII Arts Council scholarship. She gained first a Masters then a Doctor of Musical Arts degree, and was the winner of the MTNA Young Artist Competition (East Central Division). Rachel particularly enjoyed her collaborative studies; part of her focus was piano duo, but she was also very involved in accompanying and chamber music. In addition Rachel had the opportunity to study orchestral piano with the pianist for the Cleveland Orchestra.

Since her return to NZ Rachel has established herself as an active freelance pianist, performing in a number of chamber ensembles and duos. She has toured for Chamber Music New Zealand and worked as a casual orchestral pianist with the NZSO since 1998. She has also played with Orchestra Wellington and the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra.

She has recorded for Trust Records with flautist Bridget Douglas, performed at the NZ International Festival of the Arts, and regularly performs at lunchtime series in Wellington. She has a busy teaching studio and is an active committee member of the Wellington Branch IRMT. She has been an adjudicator for a number of competition societies, and also for the Chamber Music New Zealand School Music Contest.

Catherine McKay (Piano)

Catherine, a pupil of Terence Dennis and Diedre Irons, participated in two concerto competition finals (1991 and 1993). She was awarded an Associated Board scholarship to study with Irina Zaritskaya at the Royal College of Music, London, where she was a prize-winner in the Kendall Taylor Beethoven Piano Competition.

Later she moved to the Banff Centre, Canada, and then to the Université de Montréal where she completed the *Diplôme des Études Supérieures Spécialisées* under Marc Durand in Piano Performance and French.

Her many appointments have included being Performance Piano Tutor at the University of Waikato and Artist in Residence there as pianist of the Turnovsky Trio which competed in the ARD International Chamber Music Competition held in Munich, toured parts of UK, US and Europe, premiered many contemporary NZ compositions, recorded a CD on the Morrison Trust label of Russian Romantic Piano Trios and collaborated with many NZ guest artists such as Tim & Neil Finn, and Dame Malvina Major. She was on the staff of the New Zealand School of Music at Wellington's Victoria University, tutoring chamber music for the Young Musicians Programme. In 2008/9 she returned to the Banff Centre to work as collaborative pianist for two semesters. In 2011 she lived in Venice for two months playing daily on the Parekowhai piano for visitors from all over the world, and presenting piano recitals at the NZ Pavillion for the Venice Biennale.

Her activities as a soloist, accompanist and chamber musician have associated her with numerous well-known singers and instrumentalists, with the NZ String Quartet, the St Matthew's Chamber Orchestra (Auckland), the Wellington Chamber Orchestra and the NZ Air Force Band. She has been the soloist in performances of concertos by Rachmaninoff, Chopin, Beethoven and Gershwin, and she regularly collaborates with NZSO musicians in performing classical chamber music in recitals around Wellington. She also enjoys playing Argentinean tango music.

Catherine is currently based in Sydney as Piano Accompanist and Teacher of Music at Kambala School in Rose Bay.

Robert Loretz (Piano)

1994

Ashley Brown (Cello)

In his student years, Ashley won the Young Musicians Competition, the National Concerto Competition and the Young Achievers Award, plus prizes at the Adam International Cello Competition, the Gisborne International Music Competition and the ROSL Music Competition in London.

His academic history includes a Masters in Music (Canterbury), Artist Diploma (Yale) and Doctor of Musical Arts (Auckland), plus Cello Lecturer positions at the Universities of Waikato, Canterbury and Auckland. Ashley was a member of the Turnovsky Trio and Principal Cellist of the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra.

Currently, Ashley keeps a busy schedule of solo and ensemble recitals, concertos and recordings, and enjoys close collaborative relationships with musicians across the spectrum of genres. With Justine Cormack (violin) and Sarah Watkins (piano), he is a member of the NZ Trio.

Ashley plays the 1762 William Forster "Liberte" cello, affectionately known as 'Libby'.

[Source: NZTrio Patrons website]

Bridget Miles (Clarinet)

After coming Second in the 1994 National Concerto Competition Bridget completed her education at Northwestern University in Chicago, graduating in 1996 with a Masters Degree, and in 1997 with a Post-Masters Performer's Certificate. She returned to NZ for a year long NZSO contract, and that same year auditioned successfully for the position of Sub-Principal Clarinet with the Auckland Philharmonia. In 1998 she won the audition for Associate Principal Clarinet with the Auckland Philharmonia, a position she still holds.

Bridget has played casually with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, and has appeared as concerto soloist with the Auckland Philharmonia and the St Mathews Chamber Orchestra. She lives in Auckland with her partner and young son.

Bridget Douglas (Flute)

After appearing as a finalist in the National Concerto Competition, Bridget went to study in the USA with the assistance of a Fulbright Graduate Award. On completion of a MMus at the State University of New York at Stony Brook she was a member of the Chicago Civic Orchestra for a season.

While in the USA, Bridget won several competitions including the New York Flute Club Young Artists Competition and an Artists International Award, resulting in recitals at New York's CAMI Hall and Weill Recital Hall in Carnegie Hall. She was awarded Third Place in the Tilden Prize in New York and was a semi-finalist at the International Flute Competition in Markneukirchen (Germany). Bridget returned to NZ in 1997 to join the NZSO as Associate Principal Flute and was appointed Section Principal Flute in 2000. She is an Artist Teacher in Flute at the New Zealand School of Music. She is a member of the harp/flute duo Flight, wind quintet Zephyr and the contemporary ensemble Stroma. Bridget is actively involved in performing and commissioning contemporary music and has released four CDs that feature NZ music.

Bridget performs regularly as a soloist and chamber musician throughout Australasia and is regularly featured on Radio NZ Concert.

1995

Henry Wong Doe (Piano)

A student of Bryan Sayer at the University of Auckland, Henry was awarded First Prize in the 1995 Concerto Competition. Later study was undertaken in the United States, where he received a Masters degree from Indiana University, Bloomington, studying with Evelyne Brancart and Leonard Hokanson, and a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from The Juilliard School, studying with Joseph Kalichstein. His doctoral dissertation "Musician or Machine: The Player piano and composers of the Twentieth Century" examined the influence of the player piano on the works of Stravinsky, Hindemith, Nancarrow and Ligeti.

Henry has performed with the Pittsburgh Symphony, Sydney Symphony, Australian Chamber, and Israel Philharmonic, and collaborated with conductors Christopher Hogwood, Mendi Rodan, Fabio Mechetti and Edvard Tchivzel. In New Zealand, he has performed with the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra, Auckland Chamber Orchestra and Christchurch Symphony Orchestra. He has performed concertos by Rachmaninoff, Prokofieff, Mozart, Grieg, Stravinsky and Beethoven.

Appearances on television and radio include BBC Radio 3 (UK), ABC Classics FM and Channel 9 (Australia), Concert FM and TVNZ (New Zealand), WNYC Radio (New York), WFMT Radio (Chicago), WQED Radio (Pittsburgh), RTBF and Canal La Deux (Belgium), and Kolhamusica (The Musical Voice) Israel.

An avid performer of contemporary music, Henry's debut performance on a Yamaha Disklavier Mark IV instrument at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall in 2008 featured solo and interactive works for piano and computer-controlled piano. Following this recital, Henry was awarded an Arts Grant from Creative NZ to record Gareth Farr's complete piano works to date. That was the first of three commercial recordings he has now made.

Henry currently serves on the Music Faculty as Associate Professor of Piano and Keyboard Area Chair at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

[Source: personal website]

Ellen Pan (Piano)

Ellen graduated Bachelor of Music with Honours in Performance from Victoria University in 1996, and Master of Music in Performance with Merit in 1998.

She taught in Auckland Yamaha Music School and ABC Music Studio between 1999 and 2001, and in 2001 also became a member of the Institute of Registered Music Teachers of New Zealand.

For the past fifteen years she has been based in Auckland as a private piano, music theory and flute teacher.

Mariko Yamagishi (Piano)

1996

Julie Platt (Cello)

Winner of the 1996 contest, she was a pupil of Alexander Ivashkin, Dmitry Ferschtman, and Natalia Pavlutskaia. In 1996 she was awarded a Young Achievers Grant.

Apart from the fact that she is married to David Garner, a former cellist in the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra, no other information is currently available.

Dana Parkhill (Flute)

In 1996, after being placed Second in the National Concerto Competition, Dana graduated from Victoria University of Wellington with a BMus (Hons) under Dr. Alexa Still. She freelanced in Wellington for another 2 years, performing regularly as a contract player for the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra and Wellington Sinfonia (now Orchestra Wellington).

Dana left New Zealand in 1998 for a lesson tour in New York, Boston and Montreal before moving on to London. The following year she was successful in securing a place on the Master's Degree programme at McGill University, Montreal, but through lack of available finance had to decline the offer. Deciding to stay in London, Dana continued to perform and have lessons privately while working for the Royal College of Music. She returned to Hawke's Bay in 2006 with a young family.

Currently, Dana is very active as a professional performer and teacher. She is again on the contract player list for the NZSO, plays with the Hawke's Bay Orchestra, and is a member of the trio Confetti, which performs locally and in concert throughout the North Island.

In addition to a busy classical music schedule Dana also plays and sings with Irish band, The Bold Deceivers, and has recently formed ConFusion, a collaborative project involving Confetti and other local jazz/rock musicians.

Kirstin Eade (Flute)

In addition to being a finalist in both the National Concerto Competition and the TVNZ Young Musicians Competition, Kirstin was also a winner of the Rotorua Concerto Competition.

Since 2003 she has been a member of the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra and is currently the orchestra's Associate Principal Flute.

Originally from the Waikato, Kirstin completed undergraduate degrees in Music and English in New Zealand before moving to the United States where she received a Master's Degree from the University of Michigan and a Doctor of Musical Arts Degree from the Shepherd School of Music, Rice University in Texas. While in the US, Kirstin played in Orchestra X, and in the Beaumont Symphony, and was a contract player with the Colorado Symphony (Denver).

In 2010 she was invited to perform at the American National Flute Convention as part of the lifetime achievement awards of two of her teachers, Leone Buyse and Fenwick Smith, and was the Guest Artist at the Hamilton Flute Festival in that same year.

Kirstin has played in Orchestra Wellington, The Southern Sinfonia and the Auckland Philharmonia, and is an Artist Teacher of Flute at the New Zealand School of Music.

She is regularly invited to examine flute recitals and mark dissertations from universities in New Zealand and Australia. In addition to her NZSO responsibilities, she plays in the Wellington-based contemporary ensemble, Stroma, and is also a member of Kontiki Tangle, a celtic-influenced band.

Rachel McLarin (Saxophone)

In 1996, the same year Rachel appeared as a finalist in the NZ National Concerto Competition, she was the recipient of a Fulbright Scholarship, a TVNZ Young Achievers Award, a Creative NZ Jack Magill Award, and a Wellington Rotary Club Scholarship which enabled her to travel to Chicago, USA to complete her Masters of Music in Classical Saxophone with Frederick Hemke at Northwestern University.

She returned to NZ after her studies and recommenced her freelance career as a performer and tutor. Apart from a three-year period away from NZ travelling and taking lessons, Rachel was based in Wellington until 2009. She was a casual player for the NZSO, APO, Vector Wellington Orchestra (now Orchestra Wellington), a member of The Besser Ensemble, Latin bands Candela, Son del Monte, and Calle Cuba, and Afro beat band, the Scribes of Ra. As well as private tuition, she taught itinerantly at many Wellington high schools and at the Wellington Music Centre Saturday morning classes.

In 2003 Rachel started to develop early signs of focal dystonia in her hand and as a result she began to transition her career from performing to arts administration. She completed a Postgraduate Diploma in Business Studies in 2006 and began working full-time with Vector Wellington Orchestra as Administration Manager in 2007 as well as undertaking volunteer roles with the CANZ 2007 Asia Pacific Festival and the 2009 Cuba Street Carnival. Rachel stopped performing altogether in 2009 and moved to Sydney to start work with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra where she is still today. At the SSO she has held a number of positions, including Education Co-ordinator and Education Manager, but for the past two years Rachel has been the SSO's Emerging Artists Program Manager.

1997

Pei-Yu (Betty) Lee (Piano)

A University of Auckland graduate with a Bachelor of Music degree with First Class Honours, Betty was a student of Bryan Sayer when she won the National Concerto Competition, as well as numerous scholarships and other national awards, before she embarked on graduate study in Europe.

The recipient of a German Academic Exchange (DAAD) Scholarship, Betty worked with renowned pianists Gerhard Oppitz and Helmut Deutsch at the Hochschule für Musik und Theater in Munich, Germany, the faculty of which she joined in 2000, following her graduation with Meisterklassendiplom in Solo and Collaborative Piano.

Currently based in Munich, she is the official pianist for the prestigious ARD International Music Competition, the Aeolus International Competition for Wind Instruments, and the International Theobald Böhm Competition for Flute.

She has performed at such major venues as the Herkulessaal of Munich's Residenz, Prinzregententheater in Munich, Aachen Opera House and Vienna Konzerthaus, and at important festivals such as the Kurt Weill Festival in Dessau, Carl Orff Festspiele in Andechs, and

A•DEvantgarde festival in Munich; and appeared as soloist with the following orchestras: Sinfonieorchester Aachen, Münchner Symphoniker, Bad Reichenhaller Philharmonie and Christchurch Symphony Orchestra. Her performances have been featured on Concert FM (New Zealand), BR Klassik Radio, ARD Television (Germany), Kulturradio vom rbb and Deutschlandfunk.

As a chamber musician, Betty has collaborated with members of the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Berlin Philharmonic, the Munich Philharmonic Orchestra, the Bavarian State Orchestra, the Vienna Philharmonic and the Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra; and she has worked with many distinguished artists.

From 2000 to 2007 she was a member of *Live Music Now*, founded by Yehudi Menuhin to bring the joy and inspiration of live music to a wider audience, especially those who have limited access to conventional concert venues.

Kenji Fujimura (Piano)

Associate Professor Kenji Fujimura has many awards to his name as pianist and composer, including the William Lincer Foundation International Composition Award and the Australian National Piano Award. His recent CDs as pianist include: *The Messiaen Nexus* – 2014 Limelight Chamber Music Recording of the Year; *Romantic Piano Trios* – 2013 Musicweb International Recording of the Year; *William Hurlstone Complete Piano Music* – Musicweb International Recording of the Month (May 2015) and *Fanfare USA* critic Colin Clarke's 2015 'Top 5 Want List'.

His compositions have been performed globally, with recent performances including the *Ballade to Anxiety* (USA), *Echoes of the Silver Screen* (Australia), *Au Revoir* (2014 VirtualArtists International Competition winner –USA/Australia/Indonesia/Thailand), *Matsuri no Asa* (Singapore - 2015 Singapore Asian Composers Festival winner), and *Variations on a Highland Air* (Australia).

Regularly broadcasted internationally, Kenji has travelled throughout Europe, North America, Asia and Australasia for concert, master-class and adjudication engagements. A highly respected pedagogue, Kenji's teaching career at the tertiary level began while he himself was an undergraduate. He is currently Deputy Head of School, Co-ordinator of Classical Performance and Chamber Music at the Sir Zelman Cowen School of Music, Monash University and also an AMEB examiner. In 2015 he was elected an Associate of the Royal Academy of Music, London, for his 'significant contribution to the music profession'.

Mike Cheng-Yu Lee (Piano)

Mike's academic qualifications include BM from New England Conservatory and MM from Yale University, both in Piano Performance, and MA and PhD, both in Musicology, from Cornell University. His professional interest is performing on historical instruments spanning from the eighteenth century to the present day. His teachers have included Malcolm Bilson and Boris Berman.

At the invitation of Michael Tilson Thomas he appeared as fortepianist with the New World Symphony, Miami Beach, Florida, USA.

As a chamber musician, and integrating modern and period instruments, he has performed with many celebrated musicians including Joseph Lin (Juilliard String Quartet), the Formosa Quartet, and Cynthia Roberts. Solo recitals, chamber music, and guest teachings have recently taken him to Oberlin Conservatory, the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, 23Arts Festival (in New York), the Bloomington Early Music Festival (Indiana), and others.

He was awarded Second Prize and Audience Prize at the 2011 Westfield International Fortepiano Competition by a jury that included Robert Levin and Christopher Hogwood.

Mike has given lecture-recitals and presentations at universities and schools of music in USA and UK. He has served as Lecturer of Music Theory at Yale University and is Visiting Assistant Professor at the Jacobs School of Music, Indiana University, Bloomington.

[Source: personal website]

1998

Yoonjung Kim (Cello)

Chia-Nan Hung (Violin)

Chia-Nan was a finalist also in 2002.

Lara Hall (Violin)

Following her performance as a finalist in the National Concerto Competition, Lara completed her BMus at the University of Auckland. She then studied baroque violin for one year gaining a DipMus (Adv) also from that university before moving to Ann Arbor, where she gained her MM and DMA under Paul Kantor, and subsequently Yehonatan Berick, at the University of Michigan.

She has been Lecturer in Violin and Viola at the University of Waikato and Concertmaster of Opus Orchestra since 2006. She has performed in the US, UK, Europe, South America, and Asia as a member of the New Zealand Chamber Soloists, and has taught Master Classes at various institutions including at the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music (Singapore), Interlochen Arts Academy (US), Shanghai Central Conservatory, and the Royal Irish Academy of Music.

She has also recorded for the Atoll label on modern and baroque violin, covering a wide range of genres including chamber music, solo, and concerto music.

Ben Hoadley (Bassoon)

Soon after performing in the National Concerto finals, Ben Hoadley moved to the New England Conservatory of Music, Boston (USA) to continue studies on a full scholarship. Ben served as principal bassoonist with the Hartford Symphony Orchestra and as an extra player in the Boston Symphony Orchestra during this time, and also received Fellowships to the Tanglewood Music Center and the Weill Music Academy at Carnegie Hall.

After a season with the Trondheim Symphony Orchestra in Norway, Ben returned to New Zealand in 2007, and since then he has taught at the University of Auckland, while enjoying a busy career as a bassoonist, composer, and teacher on both sides of the Tasman.

1999

Alistair Watson (Piano)

After his success in winning the 1999 Concerto Competition, Alistair completed, in 2000, a Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy at Otago University, Dunedin, before achieving, with Distinction, a Master of Music degree in Piano Performance. In 2002 he was awarded LRSM also with Distinction, and went to the Royal College of Music, London, where he undertook a Postgraduate Diploma in Piano Performance, with singing as a second study. In 2004-2005 he attended the Guildhall School of Music and Drama on full scholarship and completed the Repetiteur Certificate Training Course.

Since then he has been an independent music professional, acting, from 2011 onwards, as a freelance arranger/transcriber for the Music Sales Division of the publishing firm, Faber Music Ltd. In addition, since September 2010 Alistair has also been a Lay Clerk at Salisbury Cathedral.

[Source: LinkedIn website]

Carolyn Wu [Johnson] (Piano)

Carolyn enjoys a varied career as a piano teacher, performer and international music examiner for Trinity College London. She graduated with a Bachelor of Music with First Class Honours from the University of Canterbury in 2001, studying with Diedre Irons and was awarded many of the university's major scholarships, including the Woolf Fischer Scholarship, NZ Federation of Graduate Women Scholarship, Anne Reid Memorial and Keith Laugeson Award.

In 2001 she moved to London to study with Professor Paul Roberts and Professor Ronan O'Hora at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, graduating with a Masters Degree in solo piano performance and teaching. Carolyn was awarded many prizes in competitions in the UK, including the Royal Over-Seas League Competition, Eastbourne Young Soloist Award, and the Guildhall 20th Century Prize and Chamber Prize.

She has performed in Europe and the UK including at London venues such as the Royal Festival Hall, St Martin-in-the-Fields, Overseas House and Fulham Palace. Performance highlights have included performing with the UK National Musicians Orchestra, and performing chamber works by Sofia Gubaidulina and Judith Weir in the UK BBC Modern Composers Festival in 2006 and 2007.

Carolyn embarked on further studies at the Guildhall in 2006, completing a Postgraduate Diploma in Piano Accompaniment and Chamber Music the following year. This led to many opportunities to perform extensively in the UK in partnership with singers and as a chamber musician, with invitations to participate in the Britten Pears Young Artist Programme, the Oxford Lieder Festival and the Prague-Vienna-Budapest Chamber Music Festival. She has attended master-classes led by Andras Schiff, Richard Goode, Murray Perahia, Paul Lewis, Graham Johnson and the Belcea Quartet.

In 2015 she returned to Christchurch where she is much in demand as a teacher and accompanist.

Oonoori Lee (Piano)

2000

Natalia Lomeiko (Violin)

Since winning the 2000 Competition Natalia has established herself as an international performing artist. In that same year she received the Gold Medal and First Prize in the Premio Paganini International Violin Competition (Genoa, Italy); and in 2003 she won First Prize in the Michael Hill International Violin Competition (Auckland).

Highly acclaimed recordings she has made include the three Greig Violin & Piano Sonatas (with Olga Sitkovetsky, 2001, for DYNAMIC), her recital in Cremona on Paganini's violin (2003, for FONE), French Sonatas (with Olga Sitkovetsky for Trust Records, released in 2004), one with her violinist/violist husband, Yuri Zhislin (2011, for NAXOS), and a disc of Prokofiev's music (released in 2013 for ATOLL).

Natalia has performed extensively as a soloist and chamber musician at the Carnegie Hall, Wigmore Hall, the Purcell Room, Kings Place, the Queen Elizabeth Hall, Buckingham Palace, the Barbican and the Royal Festival Hall. Distinguished musicians with whom she has been associated include Gidon Kremer, Yuri Bashmet, Natalie Klein, Tabea Zimmerman, and Dmitri Sitkovetsky, and she has toured in more than sixteen countries. She has performed with many of the world's most famous orchestras, and has been associated with many historically notable conductors such as the late Lord Menuhin, Vladimir Verbitsky, Miguel Harth-Bedoya, Eckehard Stier and Valery Poliansky.

She currently lives in London where she was appointed a Professor of Violin at the Royal College of Music in 2010.

[Source: personal website]

Simone Roggen (Violin)

Following her participation in the final of the 2000 Concerto Competition, Simone continued her musical involvement as an orchestral concertmaster and concerto soloist, appearing on National Radio and Television, and completing her Masters degree in 2004 at Auckland University, tutored by Mary O'Brien, and being awarded the Senior Prize for the highest postgraduate mark.

She continued her studies in Switzerland completing a Konzertdiplom with Monika Urbaniak at the Hochschule der Künste Bern, and was the first ever New Zealander to be accepted into the Thy Chambermusic Course in Denmark. In 2007 she began studying with Giuliano Carmignola in his Soloist Class at Lucerne's Conservatory of Music. She was awarded the Edwin Fischer Prize for best Soloisten Diplom 2009 and performed Chausson's *Poeme* as the soloist with the Lucerne Symphony Orchestra in the Kultur und Kongresszentrum Luzern.

In 2008 and 2010, she organised recital tours to New Zealand with her pianist, Petya Mihneva. In 2012 she was the soloist in Brahms's Violin Concerto in Paris, and won the position of Co-Leader of the Second Violins in the Geneva Chamber Orchestra. In 2014, she undertook a tour of New Zealand and Australia with the Faust Quartet (in collaboration with Chamber Music New Zealand).

In Bern, Switzerland, where she has been living for the last 12 years, she is the Concertmaster of Opus Bern and Orchestra degli Amici; is leader the Second Violins in the Berner Kammer Orchester; plays regularly in Camerata Bern; and is the First Violinist in the chamber ensemble La Strimpellata Bern. She also works in Geneva Camerata, Lucerne Festival Strings, Argovia Philharmonic and Kammerphilharmonie Graubünden as Concertmaster and tutti player.

Intentions for 2017 involve playing in concerts in Switzerland, Israel, England and Turkey, and performing Max Bruch's Violin Concerto in New Zealand and Switzerland, followed by a tour of New Zealand with the Paladino Ensemble (in collaboration with Chamber Music New Zealand).

Mark Cookson (Clarinet)

Following the 2000 National Concerto Competition, Mark returned to Brisbane to finish his postgraduate studies at the Queensland Conservatorium, and to perform regularly with the Queensland Symphony and Queensland Philharmonic Orchestras. After completing an MMus at Northwestern University in Chicago in 2001, he played with the Pacific Music Festival Orchestra in Japan, then moved to London, where he spent the next ten years as a freelance musician, performing in everything from chamber music to symphony orchestras to musicals. He was also heavily involved in music education, teaching and conducting ensembles in North London schools.

Since returning to New Zealand at the beginning of 2012, he has divided his time between caring for his young family and an ever-expanding portfolio of teaching, and performing chamber music, orchestral and band music, including with Orchestra Wellington and the Royal New Zealand Air Force Band.

2001

Beth Chen (Piano)

New Zealand-Taiwanese pianist, Beth (Wen-Hsing) Chen, winner of the 2001 Competition, completed a Master of Music in Piano Performance with Distinction at Victoria University, Wellington. She won additional awards at the Kerikeri International Piano Competition and the North Queensland (Australia) Piano and Instrumental Concerto Competition.

Before relocating to Brisbane, Australia, where she now lives, she spent time in Germany and the UK, furthering her musical education, teaching, and performing at venues such as London's St-Martin-in-the-Fields and Southwark Cathedral, Fitzwilliam Museum (Cambridge), and at the Edinburgh International Festival.

She has performed as piano soloist with the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra, Wellington Chamber Orchestra, Neues Telemann Kammerorchester, and on television and Radio NZ Concert FM.

Passionate about bringing music to the public, Beth started a Facebook video-based group, 'The Piano Room Project', with the idea of making piano music a part of everyday life.

[Source: personal website]

Hamish Robb (Piano)

After completing two Masters degrees, in Piano Performance and Musicology, at Victoria University, Wellington, Hamish studied on full scholarship at Princeton University (USA), completing there a PhD in Musicology.

Currently he is a Lecturer in Musicology at Te Kōkī New Zealand School of Music, Victoria University of Wellington. His research focuses on the embodiment of nineteenth-century piano music, incorporating critical, historical, and theoretical approaches to music, and investigating issues of musical meaning, embodiment, performance and analysis, and music-dance relationships. He has presented research at regional, national, and international conferences, and has published articles in the journals *Dance Research* and *Music Theory Online*.

Hamish has appeared as a piano concerto soloist with several orchestras, and continues to perform, mostly as a chamber musician and accompanist.

Kirsten Simpson [Robertson] (Piano)

After being a finalist in the National Concerto Competition, Kirsten graduated from the University of Canterbury with MMus, having been a student of Diedre Irons. She then studied at the Royal College of Music in London with Gordon Fergus-Thompson, John Blakely and Roger Vignoles. She was a finalist for the RCM Concerto Competition and was awarded two Distinctions for Piano Accompaniment. She graduated with PGDip and PGDip(Adv) in Performance, then later worked as a staff accompanist at the College.

In London, Kirsten performed at the Wigmore Hall, the Purcell Room, St James's Piccadilly and St John's Smith Square. She accompanied for five summers on the *Solti Te Kanawa Accademia Di Bel Canto* in Italy, with classes given by Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, Mirella Freni, Leo Nucci, Dennis O'Neill, Jose Carreras and Frederica von Stade. She has also accompanied master-classes by Teresa Berganza and Renée Fleming. In 2010 she received an AMP scholarship to study with US pianist Warren Jones and German pianist Michael Endres.

Kirsten has performed with Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, Dame Malvina Major, Sir Howard Morrison, Anna Leese, Hayley Westenra and violinists Natalia Lomeiko, Yuri Zhislin and Ben Morrison. She has accompanied for the Queenstown Violin Summer School, Dunedin Singing Competitions, Gisborne International Music Competition, NZ Opera, performed with the Amici ensemble and toured with Chamber Music New Zealand.

She currently works regularly with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra as Principal Keyboard and accompanies at the New Zealand School of Music. Kirsten is a member of the tango group, Bravo Ensemble, made up largely of NZSO musicians. In 2017 Kirsten will be an official accompanist for The Wellington International Oboe Summer School and will perform with the newly established vocal group, Tākiri Ensemble.

2002

Kerry Martin (Violin)

Kerry was the First Prize Winner of the National Concerto Competition in 2002 and a prize-winner at the Gisborne International Music Competition in the same year. She has appeared as soloist with

the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra, Christchurch Youth Orchestra and the Sydney Chamber Orchestra, performing concertos by Khatchaturian, Beethoven and Lalo.

She was the recipient of the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra's Alex Lindsay Memorial Award in 2004, which allowed her to spend two months in London having lessons with David Takeno, Felix Andrievski and Hu Kun. She was also selected to have master-classes with Regis Pasquier in Sydney.

From 2003 to 2007, with cellist Daniel Morris, she formed the Aoraki Duo, which gave numerous performances in the Art Gallery of NSW Sunday Lunchtime Concert Series, and concerts in the South Island of NZ, including premiering a work written for them by New Zealand composer Patrick Shepherd.

Kerry received a Masters of Music with Distinction in 2004 from the Australian Institute of Music studying with Alice Waten.

She has been a founding member and Artistic Director of Australian Chamber Orchestra since 2006, and from 2009 to 2011, directed the Parramatta String Players as part of the ACO's education programme.

Kerry is a current member of the Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestra, a casual player with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, and a member of the Enigma Quartet. She teaches violin at the Australian Institute of Music and tutors for the Conservatorium High Orchestra.

[Source: Enigma Quartet website]

Victoria Simonsen (Violin)

Chia-Nan Hung (Violin)

Chia-Nan was a finalist also in 1998.

2003

Joanna (Jae-Wan) Yi (Piano)

Angela Mi Young Lim (Piano)

Chi-Ting Kuo (Piano)

2004

Benjamin Morrison (Violin)

Since winning the National Concerto Competition at the age of 17 in 2004 with the Sibelius Concerto, Benjamin's career has developed steadily. In 2006 he moved to Wellington to continue his tertiary studies with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra's Concertmaster, Vesa Matti-Leppänen, and in the same year won the New Zealand School of Music's Concerto Competition. From 2006 to 2008 he was the Concertmaster for the New Zealand National Youth Orchestra.

In 2007, he won First Prize in both recital and concerto categories of the Rotorua National Music Competitions. In September of the same year, he moved to Austria to study with Professor Yair Kless at the Music University of Graz. In that country he has built a career as a soloist and chamber musician, leading many chamber and orchestral ensembles. He has been a prize winner in Austrian National Competitions, such as Martha Debelli and Gradus ad Parnassum, and in international competitions such as the Michael Hill International Violin Competition (2011) and the International Brahms Competition (2013). In 2010 he was awarded a prize from the city of Graz for outstanding achievement in the arts, and in the same year was a prize winner at the International Summer

Academy in Salzburg. His trio, the Morrison Piano Trio, has enjoyed much success in competitions and has performed in various venues around the world.

A recent engagement was performing Shostakovich's First Violin Concerto with the Color Philharmonic in Tokyo, Japan. In December 2016 he performed with his quartet, the Nikolai String Quartet at the Kennedy Center in New York.

Benjamin currently works full time for the Vienna Philharmonic and is a member of the Vienna State Opera Orchestra, both positions he has held since September 2014.

Benjamin has two violins as his main performing instruments: one made by his father, David Morrison in 2006, and a Giuseppe Nadotti made in 1785.

Malavika Gopal (Violin)

Originally from Wellington, Malavika completed her Bachelor of Music degree in Violin Performance at the University of Auckland with Mary O'Brien.

In 2005, she was awarded the prestigious Patricia Pratt Scholarship and moved to Boston to study with Miriam Fried and Masuko Ushioda at the New England Conservatory where she was loaned a beautiful French Vuillaume instrument for a year. She was a founding member of the Excelsa Quartet which was invited to Europe to study with the Alban Berg Quartet. In 2012, after a number of successes with the quartet in competitions all over Europe, Malavika left the group and joined the Gewandhaus Orchestra in Leipzig, Germany.

In 2015, she moved back to Wellington to take up a permanent position with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra.

As a result of many national and international competition successes, Malavika has appeared as a soloist with the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra, Auckland Philharmonia and University Orchestras, Wellington Youth Orchestra, and New England Conservatory Chamber Orchestra. She has participated in many festivals including those at Sangat, Prussia Cove and Schleswig Holstein, and has collaborated with some of the world's leading conductors, soloists and teachers.

Simon Brew (Saxophone)

Flight Lieutenant Simon Brew was appointed the Director of Music for the RNZAF Band in April 2013. He was previously the principal saxophone in the band from 2005-2006. Simon graduated from the ArtEZ Conservatorium, Netherlands, with a Masters of Music in classical saxophone and conducting. He is a contract player for the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra as well as appearing with the Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra, Auckland Philharmonic Orchestra, Netherlands National Orchestra, and Netherlands Blazers Ensemble. He has given solo and chamber recitals throughout NZ, as well as Austria, France, England, Germany, Australia, USA, and Scotland where he appeared in recital with Arno Bornkamp.

Since 2011 he has taught at Victoria University as well as giving numerous master-classes around NZ. Simon won numerous international prizes including the prestigious Grachten Festival Conservatorium Competition in Amsterdam, the Artez Kunstnacht Competition for top graduating student, the best saxophonist under 30 at the Melbourne International Festival of Single Reeds, as well as being a finalist in the New Zealand National Concerto Competition. He has appeared as saxophonist or conductor at numerous international festivals including the BBC Proms, Brandenburg Festival, Grachten Festival Amsterdam, NZ International Festival of the Arts and the Taranaki Arts Festival.

He tours regularly with Chamber Music NZ in various ensembles and has featured on radio and TV both in NZ and overseas.

2005

Fei Ren (Piano)

Fei received a Master of Music degree with First Class Honours at the University of Auckland's School of Music, where she studied with Tamas Vesmas. In 2005, as well as winning the National Concerto Competition, she received the Encouragement Award in the Lev Vlassenko Piano Competition.

At the Royal Academy of Music, in 2008, she graduated with a PGDip in Piano Performance (with Distinction), having studied with Christopher Elton, and was awarded the Lloyd Hartley Prize. The previous year she was a Finalist in the Keyboard section of the Royal Over-Seas League Competition.

Fei has performed with the Auckland Philharmonia, the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra, and the Auckland Youth Orchestra.

As a chamber musician, she has performed with various instrumentalists in venues such as St Martin-in-the-Fields and St James Piccadilly. As a choral accompanist she has also gained much experience with both professional and amateur choirs.

[Source: Berkhamsted Choral Society website]

Jun Bouterey-Ishido (Piano)

Subsequent to his participation in the 2005 Concerto Competition Final, Jun completed his Bachelor of Music (Hons) at Canterbury University (2008) tutored by Gao Ping, with whom he played in various recitals, occasionally as violinist. Later he went on to the Liszt Academy in Budapest, and the Stuttgart Musikhochschule, where he completed his Masters degree in Piano (2011) and graduated with Distinction from the Konzertexamen (Concert Artist) programme in 2014, under the tutelage of Péter Nagy and Kirill Gerstein. He has since given numerous recitals in many different countries, including Cyprus, Switzerland, Hungary, Germany, Chile, Japan and New Zealand.

He has received numerous awards, including First Prize at the 2008 Kerikeri International Piano Competition, and has been greatly supported in his overseas studies by the Anne Reid Memorial Trust Scholarship, the Kiwi Music Scholarship, and the Keith Laugesen and Tytheridge Travelling Scholarships. With composer Gao Ping, he has recorded the two-piano work *The Mountain* (for Naxos, 2010) and, as a violinist with the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra, *Questioning the Mountain*, performed at the 2013 Melbourne and Christchurch Arts Festivals.

As a member of the Calvino Trio, he has studied at the Academy of Music, Basel, under mentors Anton Kernjak and Rainer Schmidt. In December 2014 the trio was awarded First Prize at the competition Jeunesses Musicales Suisse (Neuchatel, Switzerland), and in January 2015 First Prize at the 'Orpheus' Swiss Chamber Music Competition.

[Source: various personal websites]

Jae Yeon Jung (Piano)

2006

Amalia Hall (Violin)

Following on from her success in winning the 2006 Concerto Competition, and study at the University of Auckland, Amalia studied at the Curtis Institute of Music with Pamela Frank and Joseph Silverstein. She has won a number of international competitions including First Prize at the Postacchini, Tunbridge Wells and Janáček International Competitions, and the Royal Over-Seas League Overseas Award. She has received laureate prizes at numerous others, including the Joseph

Joachim, the Premio R Lipizer, the Kloster Schöntal and the International Tchaikovsky Competition for Young Musicians.

She has been a regular soloist with orchestras in New Zealand, and has also performed as a soloist with a number of orchestras in Europe, including I Virtuosi Italiani, Brno Philharmonic, Munich Chamber Orchestra and NDR Radiophilharmonie. Her extensive performing experience includes recitals and chamber music throughout Europe, USA and NZ; touring for Chamber Music New Zealand, for Curtis on Tour and as a member of the NZ Chamber Soloists. She has recorded chamber music for Bridge Records and Atoll Records, and her performances are often broadcast on Radio NZ. Amalia is frequently asked to perform as Guest Concertmaster for orchestras in New Zealand including the Auckland Philharmonia and the Christchurch Symphony.

She has also given master-classes at institutions including Rossini Conservatorio, Vicenza Conservatorio and The Menuhin School, UK. In 2014 she held a teaching position on the University of Waikato faculty, and she will be returning to that position in 2017.

Blythe Press (Violin)

Blythe was a finalist also in 2012.

Christabel Lin (Violin)

In 2006, Christabel's quartet, the Antipodes String Quartet, was selected to study extensively through the Graduate String Quartet programme under the mentorship of the New Zealand String Quartet at the New Zealand School of Music, where she graduated with a Bachelor of Music in violin performance.

In 2012 she was a full time violin player in the ORF Radio Symphony Orchestra in Vienna, Austria before moving to Austin, Texas in 2013 to further her education at the University of Texas in the Artist's Diploma programme with Professor Brian Lewis.

Christabel has been the winner of numerous chamber music competitions and has been involved in extensive chamber music performances and tours, which have taken her throughout New Zealand, to Asia and the UK (including St. Martin-in-the-Fields in London, and the Edinburgh Fringe Festival). She has collaborated with artists from around the world and holds a Master's Degree from the Vienna Conservatory.

She has appeared as a soloist with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, Christchurch Symphony Orchestra, Taichung Symphony Orchestra (Taiwan), the Austin Civic Orchestra (Austin, Texas) and the Vienna Conservatory Chamber Orchestra in venues such as the Sydney Opera House and the Wiener Musikverein, home of the Vienna Philharmonic.

Christabel is currently on the faculty at the Austin Chamber Music Centre Young Artists Academy as well as in the CHAMPS programme as a chamber music coach, and she is a member of the Austin Opera. She holds a regular open chamber music and opera reading event, Classical Jams Austin, at the Butterfly Bar in Austin, Texas, and performs regularly as a member of the Austin-based band, Flamenco Symphony.

[Source: Christabel Lin website]

Serenity Thurlow (Viola)

At the University of Canterbury Serenity studied violin and viola with Jan Tawroscewicz and she was part of the inaugural Graduate Ensemble Programme at Victoria University, studying string quartet with the New Zealand String Quartet.

Serenity moved to Austria in 2006 to undertake further study at the Mozarteum in Salzburg. She completed her Masters there with Peter Langgartner and postgraduate studies with Thomas Riebl. She was a prizewinner in the Lionel Tertis viola competition in Salzburg. While in Austria she was

an active chamber and orchestral musician, performing across Europe and the USA with orchestras such as the Salzburg Chamber Soloists, Camerata Salzburg, Deutsche Kammerakademie Neuss among numerous others.

In 2010 she returned to Christchurch to take up the position of Principal Violist in the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra while occasionally returning to Europe to perform. In 2012 she was Principal Viola of the Aldeburgh World Orchestra, part of the Britten-Pears Festival, which subsequently toured Europe. In 2016 she premiered Chris Cree Brown's Viola Concerto for the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra.

She has been a regular tutor and performer at the International Akaroa Summer Festival since 2010 and teaches at the University of Canterbury and the Pettman National Junior Academy.

Serenity plays a Derazey viola and Malo bow with the generous support of Christopher Marshall.

2007

Chen (Tony) Lin (Piano)

Tony, a student of Rosemary Stott at the time, was the winner of the Fortieth National Concerto Competition in 2007. Further study in piano performance with Péter Nagy, Gao Ping and Judith Clark, and in composition with Chris Cree Brown, Elaine Dobson and Gao Ping, led to the completion of his Bachelor of Music with First Class Honours at the University of Canterbury in 2009.

Success as a prize winner followed at various competition festivals including the 2008 Kerikeri International Piano Competition and the 2011 Lepthien Piano Competition in Freiburg, Germany. Since then he has received many other scholarships and awards such as the Dame Malvina Major Foundation Arts Excellence Award.

After studying in Singapore for a short time, Tony gained a Master of Music under Gilead Mishory at the Hochschule für Musik Freiburg in Germany in 2013. As part of his graduation concerts, Tony formed his own chamber orchestra to perform, as well as conduct from the piano, a Mozart Piano Concerto. He recently graduated with Distinction from a Soloist Diploma (Konzertexamen) in Freiburg under Andreas Immer, while taking part-time studies with Balázs Szokolay at the Liszt Academy in Budapest.

Since 2009 Tony has been regularly invited as young artist by festival founder and mentor Edith Fischer at the 'Semaine Internationale de Piano et de Musique de Chambre' in Switzerland, and appeared there in 2016 as conductor. Recent highlights include performances of Bartók's First Piano Concerto in Freiburg, as well as appearing in the "Rising Stars!" Festival in 2015, performing as soloist with the Stuttgart State Orchestra.

As a composer, Tony has had his works played by the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, Auckland Philharmonia, Christchurch Symphony Orchestra and Christchurch Youth Orchestra. He is a four-time recipient of the Lilburn Trust Student Composition Award (2006-2009) and the 2007 NZSO Todd Young Composer Award.

Joo Hae [Joohae] Kim (Piano)

Born in South Korea, New Zealand pianist Joohae studied piano performance at the University of Auckland, New Zealand, completing her Bachelors and Masters degrees with First Class Honours under the guidance of Rae de Lisle. She has recently completed her doctoral study with Dr. Read Gainsford at Florida State University, and made her debut at Carnegie Hall.

In addition to her Second Place in the National Concerto Competition, she was awarded prizes in the Kerikeri International Piano Competition and the Kapiti Coast National Piano Competition.

Joohae has collaborated with the Bach Musica Chamber Orchestra, has broadcast over Radio NZ Concert in the 'Young New Zealand' series, and has been a Collaborative Artist in Whitehead Hall, Valdosta State University, Georgia, USA. She has been a teaching assistant in Florida State University and at its Summer Music Camp.

For her achievements in both teaching and performing piano, she has been awarded the University of Auckland Blues Awards for Achievement in Music. She is also a recipient of the Miss Willa Chapman Award from the Rotary Club of Tallahassee. Since 2012, Joohae has been a Collaborative Faculty Artist in the University of Southern Mississippi.

[Source: University of Southern Mississippi website]

Leigh Kereopa (Piano)

Leigh has a BMus (Hons) degree from YST Conservatory of Music (National University of Singapore) and a MMus degree from Peabody Conservatory (John Hopkins University) in Baltimore, USA. He is a freelance musician resident in Flat Bush, Auckland - a piano performer and accompanist, a teacher, and a composer.

[Source: personal website]

2008

Yoshiko Tsuruta (Marimba)

In 2008, the year that she was declared the winner of the National Concerto Competition, Yoshiko held the position of Principal Percussionist in the NZ National Youth Orchestra.

She graduated in Music performance from the New Zealand School of Music in 2010. Then she moved to Austria and completed her Master's Degree (1st Class) at the Anton Bruckner Privatuniversität in Linz, studying marimba with Bogdan Bacanu and percussion with Leonhard Schmidinger. In 2012 she reached the semi-final of the International Marimba Competition in Salzburg, and in 2016 she was awarded Second Place and a number of additional prizes at the International Australian Marimba Competition.

As a soloist, Yoshiko has performed marimba concertos with different orchestras, including the NZSM Orchestra, St Matthew's Chamber Orchestra, Bay of Plenty Symphonia and Hutt Valley Orchestra.

Since returning from Europe, she has endeavoured to promote the marimba and other orchestral percussion in New Zealand, especially in solo and chamber music performance. With various artists she regularly performs chamber music, and in 2016, with Jeremy Fitzsimons, she undertook a tour under the Chamber Music NZ Encompass Series as 'Marimba and Percussion Duo'.

Yoshiko teaches and gives master-classes/workshops and school concerts on different occasions, such as at the National Brass Band Championships, where she was the jury for the percussion solo/ensemble section in 2013. She is currently the Principal Timpanist of Opus Orchestra.

Yuuki Bouterey-Ishido (Cello)

After competing in the 2008 Competition Final, Yuuki moved from the Pettman Junior Academy at Canterbury University to the Purcell School of Music, on the outskirts of London, where he studied with Natalia Pavlutsкая and Pal Banda, and graduated in 2012.

He undertook further study in Switzerland at the International Menuhin Music Academy under Niall Brown and Pablo de Naveran, and is now a student of Hannah Roberts at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester, UK.

From time to time he has joined his older brother, Jun, a finalist in the 2005 Competition, in presenting joint recitals for piano and cello in centres around New Zealand.

[Source: personal websites]

Alex [Alexandra] Lomeiko (Violin)

Successes that Alexandra has enjoyed subsequent to being awarded Third Place in the Concerto Competition of 2008 have included winning the prize for the Best String Player at the Gisborne International Music Competition (2012), the Province of Terni Soloist Award from Associazione Mozart Italia (2014), the Henry Weinrebe Scholarship at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, London (where she was a student of David Takeno), the UK's Kenneth Loveland Gift Award (2016) and the Development Prize at the Michael Hill International Competition (2016).

In 2014 she commenced postgraduate study at the Royal College of Music, London with Radu Blidar and Zuri Zhislin. She is an RCM Lark Scholar there, supported also by a Leverhulme Arts Scholarship and awards from the Countess of Munster Trust, the Martin Music Scholarship Fund, the Drake Calleja Foundation and the Help Musicians UK Foundation. During her time in London she has founded and directed the un-conducted ensemble Silk Street Sinfonia - their first CD was released in 2014 -, she has performed for BBC Radio 3, and she has been a soloist, chamber musician and orchestral player throughout UK in more than 13 other countries. She is a regular performing musician with the Russian Virtuosi Ensemble of Europe.

Venues in which she has performed include the Royal Festival Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Buckingham Palace, Wigmore Hall, the Barbican, Cadogan Hall, and LSO St Luke's. Orchestras in which she has played include the Oxford Philomusica, The London Symphony Orchestra and the BBC Symphony Orchestra. Alexandra has participated in many international master-classes associated with international artists, including the Takacs Quartet and the Endellion Quartet. She plays a violin made in 1687 by Carlo Tononi of Cremona, on loan from the Royal College of Music.

[Source: personal website]

2009

John-Paul Muir (Piano)

A year after winning the National Concerto Competition, and having received top honours in major music competitions throughout the country, John-Paul graduated from the University of Auckland with a Master of Music degree under the guidance of Rae de Lisle, and moved to London to study with Joan Havill at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama. He has since graduated with Distinction from the school's Artist Masters Programme and is currently enjoying a freelance career based in London.

John-Paul hosts a weekly jazz night at Goodenough College in Bloomsbury featuring an ever-evolving roster of guest musicians, and also enjoys a strong association with the Royal Over-Seas League, having often performed at their concert series at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in both classical and jazz programmes. He is currently developing a new jazz project which is planned for release in early 2017. This will feature his own compositions.

In 2015 he was appointed Programme Manager for the Bloomsbury Festival, a five-day arts festival held annually in October that features over one hundred events across multiple artistic disciplines.

Joong-Han Jung (Piano)

Born in South Korea, Joong-Han obtained the degrees MMus and BMus (First Class Hons) at Auckland University before moving in 2009 to study in Rochester, New York at Eastman School of Music, where he completed the degrees of Master of Music (2011), Master of Arts in Theory Pedagogy (2015), and Doctor of Musical Arts (2015). Over the years his mentors have included Barry Snyder, Rae de Lisle, Read Gainsford and Thomas Schumacher, and he has been a participant in master-classes conducted by Joseph Banowetz, Piers Lane, Martin Roscoe, Vladimir Tropp and others. He has been a Guest Artist at Texas State International Piano Festival in Marcos, Texas, has performed in USA, NZ, Australia and Japan, and has broadcast over Radio NZ and World TV. He has

been a concerto soloist with Eastman Philharmonic Orchestra, the Korean Philharmonic Orchestra of NZ and the University of Auckland Symphony Orchestra.

Joong-Han has taught at Southwestern Oklahoma State University as Assistant Professor of Piano and Music Theory, and recently he joined the Piano Faculty at Jones County Junior College in Ellisville, Mississippi.

[Source: personal website]

Jason Bae (Piano)

After competing as a finalist in the 2009 Concerto Competition, Jason won Second Prize in the Lev Vlassenko International Piano Competition in Brisbane, Australia. As a student of Rae de Lisle at Auckland University, he was awarded BMus with First Class Honours and later MA (Distinction) in Piano Performance. He was a finalist once again in the 2010/2011 Competition, when the Christchurch earthquakes prevented the Final Concert taking place.

For a number of years up until 2013 he studied at the Aspen Music Festival and School with Ann Schein and John O'Connor, and in that year he was the Grand First Prize Winner of the New Zealand Inaugural Wallace National Piano Competition.

In 2015, Jason gained his DipRAM at the Royal Academy of Music (London) under the tutelage of Christopher Elton and Joanna MacGregor, and released his first solo CD, *Marylebone*, with Austrian Gramophone.

He has performed as a concerto soloist with the New Zealand National Youth Symphony, the Queensland Symphony Orchestra of Australia, the Auckland Youth Symphony Orchestra and the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra, and has given recitals throughout UK, USA, France, Indonesia, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand.

In the 2016-2017 season, Jason will be giving recitals in London at St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Steinway Hall and St. Mary Magdalene Church, and at the Korean Cultural Centre in UK, The Quarry Theatre in St. Luke's in Bedford, and the University of Auckland School of Music where he has been appointed a Visiting Fellow. Jason will be making his chamber music debut with Odyssey Ensemble at King's Place in London, and with violinist, Dr. Simon Shiao at the University of North Florida.

Parallel to his career as a pianist, Jason is now a student of conductor Sakari Oramo, and he has now conducted the Berlin Sinfonietta and the GOODEN.SEMBLE in London for the 2016 Bloomsbury Festival. He will conduct the University of North Florida Symphony Orchestra in the USA this year.

2010

Edward King (Cello)

Berlin-based New Zealander Edward King is a graduate of the University of Waikato, the Leopold Mozart Center (Augsburg), and the University of the Arts in Berlin, having studied under James Tennant, Julius Berger, and Wolfgang Emanuel Schmidt respectively. Regularly invited to perform as a chamber musician and as soloist in his home country - including with the New Zealand Symphony, Opus Chamber and Christchurch Symphony Orchestras - Edward also maintains a busy schedule of concerts and festival appearances in Europe and in the UK.

Laureate of the Witold Lutoslawski International Cello Competition and the Markneukirchen International Competition, Edward also won a Special Prize at the International Penderecki Cello Competition for his interpretation of Penderecki's *Divertimento* - presented personally by the renowned composer. Edward is both a prizewinner of the ROSL Music Competition and a recipient of the Pettman/ROSL ARTS International Scholarship. Many other scholarships and awards have supported his studies, including the Patricia Pratt Scholarship, Sir Henry Cooper Memorial Scholarship, the Australian Cello Awards, and the Sir Edmund Hillary Medal.

Edward plays on a cello of the Vuillaume School, on loan from the Deutsche Stiftung Musikleben. In 2017 he will take up a position as Associate Principal Cellist in the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, based in the Sydney Opera House.

Emma Yoon (Violin)

Emma was born in Seoul, South Korea. She was awarded Second Place and the Audience Choice Award in the 2010 Concerto Competition Final.

In 2012 Emma moved to Germany after being accepted into the Hochschule für Musik Theater und Medien, Hannover to study with Elisabeth Kufferath.

She has participated in numerous master-classes for both solo and string quartet with such artists as Pinchas Zukerman, Ida Haendel, Donald Weilerstein, Wolfgang Emanuel Schmidt and Mikhail Kopelman, and has performed in numerous festivals such as Convivium Musicum in Serbia, and EuroArts in Halle, Germany.

In September 2016, Emma won an internship with the NDR Radiophilharmonie Orchestra in Germany.

[Source: Anchorage Chamber Music Festival website]

Harry Ellerm (Violin)

2011

[Due to the Christchurch earthquakes, no Final Concert was held. Finalists are listed alphabetically.]

Jason Bae (Piano)

[See under 2009]

Grace Francis (Piano)

Since reaching the finals of the concerto competition at the end of 2010, Grace has gone on to establish a broad and varied career in the music community. She took an internship with NZ Opera in the summer of 2011, and is now contracted as a repetiteur for their major projects, notably *The Mikado* (currently playing in Wellington) and Gareth Farr's new work *The Bone Feeder*. She has made two concerto debuts – as a pianist with Bach Musica, and harpsichordist with the Age of Discovery Orchestra; and has twice been a semi-finalist in the Wallace National Piano Competition.

During her time at the University of Auckland, where she completed her BMus (Hons) First Class, she competed in the Pettman/ROSL ARTS Chamber Music Scholarship and was awarded the Carl and Alberta Rosenfeldt Prize for Chamber Music. As a pianist and vocal coach she has worked with choirs at St Kentigern College and Kristin School, two award-winning groups at the Big Sing Finale. After completing her degree, Grace became the Assistant Director of the Auckland Youth Choir, which toured to New York and performed in Carnegie Hall in February 2016. She has also returned to the university as a staff accompanist for student recitals. This year Grace will travel to Brisbane to participate in ChoralFest, and to the Choral Institute at Oxford as a Junior Conducting Associate.

Tina Kim (Piano)

Following study with Rae de Lisle, Tina was accepted into the Masters course in Piano Accompaniment at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, London in September 2015.

Earlier, Tina with her two sisters, Stella (violinist) and Sally (cellist), formed the Trinity Trio while at Auckland University. They were guest artists at the 2014 Akaroa International Music Festival and during that time they met Tasana Nagavajara who invited them to perform concerts in Bangkok,

Pattaya, Hua Hin and Khon Kaen. Soon after, the Trio won the prestigious Pettman/ROSL Arts Chamber Music Scholarship which entitled them to tour and perform more than twelve concerts around the United Kingdom, including at the International Edinburgh Music Festival, at the Lake District International Summer Music Festival, and at St James Church Piccadilly, London.

[Source: Rotorua Music Federation website]

2012

Santiago Cañón-Valencia (Cello)

Born in Bogotá, Colombia in 1995, Santiago was a student of James Tennant and studying for a Bachelor of Music degree at Waikato University when he won the 2012 Concerto Competition. Further advanced studies were undertaken at Southern Methodist University in Dallas (USA) under Prof. Andres Diaz.

He has regularly performed with pianist Katherine Austin and with her he released his debut disc under the Atoll label in 2013 containing pieces by Gaspar Cassadó, Alberto Ginastera, György Ligeti, and Zoltán Kodály. This has been followed by a disc of Russian sonatas. Other successes with awards and competitions have included the Lynn Harrell Concerto Competition in Dallas (2014, Second Prize), and the Pablo Casals International Competition in Budapest (2014, Third Prize). He has performed with orchestras in Colombia, Australia, New Zealand, the USA, Canada, and Hungary.

Santiago has played as a soloist with Yuri Bashmet and the Moscow Soloists, and with the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra. He has also collaborated with world renowned musicians such as Alisa Weilerstein, Shlomo Mintz, Dmitri Berlinsky and Wendy Chen, among others, and he has also shared the stage with Maxim Vengerov, Li-Wei Qin and Phillipe Muller. He has been a guest artist several times at the Cartagena International Music Festival and was one of eight cellists selected worldwide to attend the Verbier Festival Academy 2016.

He started his Masters Degree with Wolfgang Emanuel Schmidt at the Hochschule für Musik Franz Liszt, Weimar, in October 2016, sponsored by the Mayra & Edmundo Esquenazi Scholarship through the Salvi Foundation, and as a recipient of the MPower Artist Grants 2016 from the Sphinx Organization.

[Source: personal websites]

Hilary Hayes (Violin)

Hilary holds a Bachelor of Music with First Class Honours from the University of Auckland and is currently in her second year at the Australian National Academy of Music (ANAM) where she studies with Robin Wilson and Sophie Rowell. Individual competition successes include being placed second in the 2012 National Concerto Competition and winning the 2014 Graduation Gala Concerto Competition.

In 2012, the Leonari Trio, with an already established reputation of international success, and in which she is the violinist, completed a concert tour as part of the Encompass Series of Chamber Music New Zealand.

Hilary has performed with a variety of orchestras including OPUS Chamber Orchestra, the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra, the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, the Melbourne Chamber Orchestra and the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra. Recently, she was named one of the Australian Chamber Orchestra's Emerging Artists for 2017.

Blythe Press (Violin)

Blythe was a finalist also in 2006.

2013

Andrew Leathwick (Piano)

Since the time of winning the Concerto Competition, Andrew has completed his MMus in Piano Performance at the University of Waikato. Last year he began his studies at the Australian National Academy of Music (Melbourne) on full scholarship.

In 2017 he will tour with Chamber Music NZ as part of a piano quartet with Wilma Smith, Concertmaster Emeritus of the NZSO. A special feature of the tour programme will be the performance of his first commissioned work as a composer.

Stephen Watson (Piano)

Following on from the 2012/2013 competition, Stephen graduated with a Bachelor of Music degree with First Class Honours. He followed this with a Master of Music degree with Distinction supervised by Dr. Jian Liu, Head of Piano at the New Zealand School of Music. He received numerous prizes and scholarships throughout his university career and performed as a soloist and accompanist in many concerts, including accompanying violinist Professor Natalia Lomeiko, and performing alongside Dame Malvina Major. He also presented an all-Chopin programme for the visit of the former President of Poland, Bogdan Borusewicz.

Stephen is a Fellow of the Royal Schools of Music (awarded with Distinction), and he was awarded a Study Scholarship for Foreign Graduates in the Field of Music, funded by the Deutsche Akademischer Austausch Dienste, as well as the William Georgetti Scholarship. He is currently studying with Professor Alfredo Perl, in Germany.

Kent Isomura (Piano)

[See under 2015.]

2014

Matthias Balzat (Cello)

After coming First Equal in the Concerto Competition, at the age of 14, Matthias entered the Bachelor of Music soloist specialisation programme at Waikato University studying under James Tennant.

In 2015 he was awarded First Prize at the PACANZ Competition, and was also guest soloist with the NZSSSO. The same year he performed as Guest Cellist with the Turnovsky Ensemble and the CSO at the Christchurch Summer Sparks Concert in the Park. He was a finalist in the ROSL Chamber Music Scholarship, gained Second Prize at the Gisborne International Competition, and was a recipient of the Sir Edmund Hillary Scholarship and a Blues Award.

2016 was a year of more major achievements for Matthias. He was soloist for the Wellington Youth Orchestra; he was part of the winning ensemble in the Chamber Music Competition at Waikato University; he was the winner of the inaugural Wallace International Cello Competition; he completed his BMus degree; and for a second time, he earned a place in a Final of the National Concerto Competition – the 2017 50th Anniversary Contest.

Matthias is currently investigating various tutors in Europe and hopes to secure a place studying under a Masters programme later this year.

Arna Morton (Violin)

With her husband Alex, Arna currently resides in Melbourne, Australia. She is a Performance PhD Candidate and Academic Assistant at the University of Melbourne's Conservatorium of Music, and a recipient of the Australian Post-Graduate Award. Her research focuses on producing a performance manual of Britten's Violin Concerto, which discusses the methodology she employed in learning and performing the work.

Following her success as Joint-First Prize Winner in the National Concerto Competition performing Szymanowski's Violin Concerto No.1, Arna went on to win the 2015 Melbourne Conservatorium of Music Concerto Competition, which gave her the opportunity to perform Britten's Violin Concerto with the University of Melbourne Symphony Orchestra in the Melbourne Recital Centre in October 2016. Also in that year, Arna's Melbourne-based string quartet, the Curve Quartet, was selected as one of three Emerging Artist groups to participate in the 19th Mimir Chamber Music Festival in Fort Worth, Texas.

She is also a current member of the Adam Chamber Music Festival outreach ensemble, the Troubadour Quartet, having just recently performed in the 2017 Festival, and the quartet will be touring nationally in July this year with Chamber Music New Zealand.

Nathaniel Smorti (Clarinet)

After gaining Third Place in the 2014 Concerto Competition, Nathaniel toured with the Trust Waikato Symphony Orchestra performing the solo in Weber's 2nd Clarinet Concerto. At Waikato University, he studied with Peter Scholes, Andrew Uren, Philip Green, and Rowan Meade, receiving in 2015 the Sir Edmund Hillary Medal, one of two annual awards for excellence in academia, leadership, and a sport or art.

In 2015 also, he was accepted into the Chigiana Academy Summer School in Siena under Alessandro Carbonare, and attended that year's International Clarinetfest in Madrid.

Nathaniel is currently undertaking a Masters of Music degree at the Queensland Conservatorium of Music under Paul Dean. He is an experienced teacher, coach, and conductor, and the clarinet tutor at Canterbury College, Waterford, Queensland.

2015

Bradley Wood (Piano)

Since winning the Concerto Competition with his performance of Rachmaninoff's First Piano Concerto, Bradley has had much success both in N.Z. and abroad. In 2015 he was the winner of the Auckland University Graduation Gala Concerto Competition and a finalist in the Wallace National Piano Competition.

His violin and piano duo, The Tasman Duo, were the winners of the Pettman/ROSL Arts Chamber Music Scholarship, which included a tour of the United Kingdom as part of the prize. While overseas on tour he performed solo and chamber music at prestigious concert venues, including St James, Piccadilly and St Martin-in-the-Fields in London, and in the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

He is currently completing his Masters degree at Auckland University under Rae de Lisle and Stephen De Pledge, and plans to travel to the UK for further study starting in late 2017.

Kent Isomura (Piano)

Kent was a finalist in the Concerto Competition in two years: 2013 and 2015.

In 2014, Kent was one of three finalists in the University of Auckland Graduation Gala Concerto Competition; was a semi-finalist at the Malta International Music Competition with his piano trio, the Akato Trio; and he completed Master of Music with First Class Honours under the tutelage of Stephen De Pledge at the University of Auckland School Of Music.

In 2015, he world-premiered *Das Lied Von die Fisch* for Soprano and Piano, a new work by Scotland based composer Lyell Cresswell, at the Karlheinz Festival. The concert was recorded for Radio NZ Concert.

Chosen as one of four pianists to participate in the inaugural collaborative Piano Fellowship for the Heifetz International Music Institute in United States, Kent received coaching from Timothy Eddy (Juilliard School/Orion String Quartet), Atar Arad (Indiana University Violist), Steven Doane (Eastman School of Music Professor of Cello), Hagai Shaham (Tel Aviv University), Lawrence Dutton (Emerson String Quartet Violist), Patinka Kopec and Nobuko Imai.

Currently, he is the official Staff Piano Accompanist at the University of Auckland School Of Music. A recent recital in Japan with his violinist brother, Shauno, billed as the ISOMURA BROTHERS was sold out.

Liam Wooding (Piano)

Liam completed a Bachelor of Music degree at Auckland University, studying under Rae de Lisle, before moving to Waikato University where he has been studying with Katherine Austin and is in the final stages of completing a Master of Music degree.

Since his appearance in the Final of the 2015 Competition, Liam has performed concertos with the University of Auckland Orchestra, the Auckland Chamber Orchestra, the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra and the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra. During 2016 he presented a series of recitals across New Zealand with flautist Ingrid Culliford and performed in the sold-out season of Unstuck Opera's *Dido and Aeneas* recomposed.

In 2015 and 2016, he was the resident pianist for the Nelson Composers Workshop and received a Lilburn Trust Performance Prize.

He is actively engaged in the Whanganui community, participating in the initiative for redeveloping the Sarjeant Gallery, spearheading the City Council's new Musician-In-Residence scheme and serving as a piano accompanist at the NZ Opera School held in Whanganui each year.

This year he will begin studies at the Australian National Academy of Music under the tutelage of Timothy Young.

2016

Sam Lucas (Cello)

The winner of the 2016 Competition, Sam is now in Düsseldorf, Germany, as an undergraduate student of Pieter Wispelwey. Since being in Europe, he has participated, as guest young soloist, in the Karwendel International Music Festival, held in the Bavarian Alps in August; travelled to Austria and competed in the Brahms International Cello Competition, gaining Sixth Prize; and given his debut performance in Wigmore Hall, London – the highlight of his first year overseas.

At the beginning of 2017, Sam was invited by Martin Kirchharz (a conductor in Bonn, Germany) to perform the Saint-Saëns Cello Concerto with the Bonn University Symphony Orchestra, in two performances, each of which received standing ovations. Recently, he has been accepted into the Semi-Finals of the Rubinstein International Cello Competition, and he will perform in that round on 23rd March.

Three more competition auditions, as well as future recitals in Germany, are in the pipeline.

Heather Lewis-Baker (Cello)

Kate Oswin (Violin)

Since participating in the Concerto Competition, Kate has graduated from the Royal Academy of Music in London with Master of Arts (Distinction), receiving the Amadeus Award, and the Regency Award for Outstanding Achievement. She was appointed CAVATINA Chamber Music Fellow at the Academy for the 2016/2017 academic year as First Violin in the Behn Quartet.

Kate performed as Young Artist at the West Cork Chamber Music Festival in 2016; she gave the world premiere performance of Sir Peter Maxwell Davies' final work at St John's Smith Square, London; and performed *Metamorphosen* by Richard Strauss at Kings Place, London.

Future performances include live on BBC Radio 3 "Hear and Now" programme; recitals throughout the UK and Netherlands with the Behn Quartet; and a performance at Wigmore Hall of the Schubert Octet, in which she is to be Guest Leader of the Temple Ensemble.



National Concerto Competition®

Finalists 1968 - 2016

- 1968 **Christine Cuming (A) (Piano)**, David Bloom (W) (Flute), Suzanne Purnell (C) (Piano), Martin Lamb (C) (Piano), Pauline Drain (C) (Clarinet), Joan Wallace (W) (Cello)
- 1969 **(Piano) Michael Redshaw (A)**, Suzanne Purnell (C), Michael Houstoun (SC)
- 1970 **Peter Wilton (W) (Oboe) 1st equal, Ivan Andrews (A) (Cello) 1st equal**, Felicity Bunt (C) (Flute), Alison Kay (A) (Violin)
- 1971 **(Piano) Michael Houstoun (SC)**, Richard Mapp (C), Patrick O'Byrne (A), Christine Lockwood (PN)
- 1972 **Anthony Ferner (C) (Flute)**, Brian Shillito (C)(Viola), Belinda Bunt (C) (Violin)
- 1973 **(Piano) Stephen Collins (W) 1st equal, Richard Mapp (C) 1st equal**, Mary Tzambiras (W)
- 1974 **Keith Spragg (C) (Clarinet)**, Peter Laurence (C) (Horn), Mark Walton (C), (Saxophone), Vere Smyth (C) (Trumpet)
- 1975 **(Piano) Christopher Norton (W)**, David Guerin (A), Stephen Lewis (C), Denis King (W)
- 1976 **Roger Brown (C) (Cello)**, Kenneth Young (C) (Tuba), Wilma Smith (A) (Violin)
- 1977 **(Piano) Patrick O'Byrne (A)**, Terence Dennis (C), Sharon Joy Vogan (D)
- 1978 **Rachel Skinner (C) (Flute)**, Wilma Smith (W) (Violin), Alison Catanach (C) (Flute)
- 1979 **(Piano) David Butler (C)**, Catherine Riley (A), Bronwen Murray (W)
- 1980 **Peter Barber (W) (Viola)**, Sally-Anne Brown (A) (Cello), Craig Williams (A) (Violin)
- 1981 **(Piano) Sharon Joy Vogan (Sd)**, Paul Maskill (C), Robert Logan (W)
- 1982 **Mary Scott (W) (Clarinet)**, Ruthchen Evans (W) (Violin), Anthony Lawrence (C) (Cello)
- 1983 **(Piano) Read Gainsford (A)**, Denis King (W), Fiona Steedman (C)
- 1984 **Rachel Thompson (W) (Viola)**, Jane Dawson (D) (Flute), John Robinson (W) (Clarinet)
- 1985 **(Piano) Richard Chandler (C)**, Louise Baker (W), Lois Van Waardenberg (A)
- 1986 **Mark Menzies (HB) (Violin)**, Simon Ansell (A) (Violin), Catherine Bowie (A) (Flute)
- 1987 **(Piano) Jill Pears (C)**, Timothy Emerson (C), Siu Dea Law (A).
- 1988 **Hamish McKeich (C) (Bassoon)**, Martin Riseley (C) (Violin) 2nd equal, Tanya Haddock (A) (Oboe) 2nd equal, Katherine Hebley (C) (Cello)
- 1989 **(Piano) Nicola Melville (W)**, Graeme Cosslett (UH), Karen Chang (Mstn)
- 1990 **James Bush (C) (Cello)**, Christine Bowie (A) (Viola), Dianna Cochrane (A) (Violin)
- 1991 **(Piano) Marcus McLaren (W)**, Karen Chang (W), Catherine McKay (HB)
- 1992 **Elizabeth Hirst (A) (Flute) 1st equal, Robert Orr (Kp) (Oboe) 1st equal**, Huy-Nguyen Bui (C) (Violin)
- 1993 **(Piano) Rachel Thomson (W)**, Catherine McKay (C), Robert Loretz (A)
- 1994 **Ashley Brown (C) (Cello)**, Bridget Miles (W) (Clarinet), Bridget Douglas (W) (Flute)
- 1995 **(Piano) Henry Wong Doe (A)**, Ellen Pan (W), Mariko Yamagishi (C)
- 1996 **Julie Platt (C) (Cello)**, Dana Parkhill (W) (Flute), Kirstin Eade (W) (Flute), Rachel McLarin (LH) (Saxophone)
- 1997 **(Piano) Pei-Yu (Betty) Lee (A)**, Kenji Fugimura (Melb), Mike Cheng-Yu Lee (A)
- 1998 **Yoonjung Kim (C) (Cello)**, Chia-Nan Hung (C) (Violin), Lara Hall (A) (Violin), Ben Hoadley (A) (Bassoon)
- 1999 **(Piano) Alistair Watson (D)**, Carolyn Wu (C), Oonoori Lee (A)
- 2000 **Natalia Lomeiko (C) (Violin)**, Simone Roggen (A) (Violin), Mark Cookson (C) (Clarinet)
- 2001 **(Piano) Beth Chen (W)**, Hamish Robb (C), Kirsten Simpson (C)
- 2002 **Kerry Martin (Ra) (Violin)**, Victoria Simonsen (A) (Violin), Chia-Nan Hung (C) (Violin)
- 2003 **(Piano) Joanna (Jae-Wan) Yi (C)**, Angela Mi Young Lim (C), Chi-Ting Kuo (C)
- 2004 **Benjamin Morrison (C) (Violin)**, Malavika Gopal (A) (Violin), Simon Brew (W) (Saxophone)
- 2005 **(Piano) Fei Ren (A)**, Jun Bouterey-Ishido (C), Jae Yeon Jung (A)
- 2006 **Amalia Hall (A) (Violin)**, Blythe Press (W) (Violin), Christabel Lin (A) (Violin), Serenity Thurlow (C) (Viola)
- 2007 **(Piano) Chen (Tony) Lin (C)**, Joo Hae Kim (A), Leigh Kereopa (PN)
- 2008 **Yoshiko Tsuruta (W) (Marimba)**, Yuuki Bouterey-Ishido (C) (Cello), Alexandra Lomeiko (C) (Violin)
- 2009 **(Piano) John-Paul Muir (A)**, Joong-Han Jung (A), Jason Bae (A)
- 2010 **Edward King (A) (Cello)**, Emma Yoon (C) (Violin), Harry Ellerm (C) (Violin)
- 2011 **(Piano) Jason Bae (A)**, Grace Francis (A), Tina Kim (A) (Finals cancelled due to earthquake)
- 2012 **Santiago Cañón-Valencia (H) (Cello)**, Hilary Hayes (C) (Violin), Blythe Press (W) (Violin)
- 2013 **(Piano) Andrew Leathwick (H)**, Stephen Watson (C), Kent Isomura (A)
- 2014 **Matthias Balzat (A) (Cello) 1st equal, Arna Morton (C) (Violin) 1st equal**, Nathaniel Smorti (T) (Clarinet)
- 2015 **(Piano) Bradley Wood (C)**, Kent Isomura (A), Liam Wooding (Wanganui)
- 2016 **Sam Lucas (H) (Cello)**, Heather Lewis-Baker (W) (Cello), Kate Oswin (C) (Violin)

Key	
A	Auckland
C	Christchurch
D	Dunedin
H	Hastings
HB	Hawkes Bay
LH	Lower Hutt
Melb	Melbourne
Mstn	Masterton
PN	Palmerston Nth
Ra	Rangiora
SC	Sth Canterbury
Sd	Sydney
T	Timaru
UH	Upper Hutt
W	Wellington