

The Team of Pianists 2011

The activities for the Team of Pianists started for the year with the *Piano Marathon* at Rippon Lea on January 26. 100 pianists of all ages were invited to perform and 80 came to play and brought many friends and relatives to enjoy the day.

It was a beautiful day and many people had picnics in the gardens as well as listened to the music in the ballroom. A special price was also available for family and friends to visit the mansion house. It was an event that everyone found very attractive and was a successful fundraising event for the National Trust provided by the Team of Pianists. The Bernstein 218 grand piano was supplied by Bernies Music Land for the day. It sounded excellent and all performers enjoyed playing it. Special thanks are due to Team partner and Director, Professor Max Cooke, who had the unenviable task of time-tabling the day.

The National Trust has expressed the desire to have this as an annual event on Australia Day. Please email the Team of Pianists (info@teamofpianists.com.au) to express your interest in performing next year.

The Team's concert activities for 2011 commenced on Sunday, February 13 at the German Lutheran Church in East Melbourne. This was the first of our summer recitals in the Rigg Bequest series, *Classic Music in Historic Venues*. I had the pleasure of performing in this bluestone, nineteenth-century church, together with mezzo-soprano Sally-Anne Russell and with clarinettist Richard Doumani. We performed works by the American composer Mason, by Schubert and by Spohr. An enthusiastic audience welcomed us and seemed to enjoy the ambience of the elegant building.

On the weekend of Saturday, March 5 and Sunday, March 6, Team of Pianists partner, Robert Chamberlain, will perform with flautist, Derek Jones, at the Pioneer Chapel, Poowong. This beautiful wood-lined building dates from 1878 and has a quite special charm. Robert and Derek will perform works by Bach, Reinecke and Copland.

Another partner of the Team, Rohan Murray, will appear at Barwon Park, Winchelsea on Sunday April 3, together with clarinettist David Griffiths and violinist Elizabeth Sellars. They will perform works by Beethoven, Ives, Menotti, Brahms, Milhaud and Piazzolla.

The first of three concerts this year at the Team's East St. Kilda base, "Glenfern", will be held on Sunday May 1, when talented, emerging younger artists will appear. Horn player Julian Zheng and pianist Kevin Suherman will perform works by Strauss, Dukas and Rachmaninoff; pianist Victor Hu will perform Beethoven's Sonata Op. 53 ("Waldstein") and pianist Zhang Chi - completing his Master's degree at Monash University - will perform two Toccatas by Bach.

Visiting Danish violinist Benedikte Damgaard will be accompanied by Team partner Robert Chamberlain at Glenfern, on Sunday May 29. They will present works by Beethoven, Janacek, Wieniaswki and Gade.

The third of the three Glenfern concerts will take place on Wednesday, October 5, when visiting Canadian pianist Roger Lord will present an all-Liszt programme in homage of the 200th anniversary of the composer's birth. The Mephisto Waltz features in this programme.

The 18th season of *Twilight Chamber Music at Rippon Lea* commences on Sunday, April 17, with a programme of song featuring soprano, Louise Page, and Team partner, Robert Chamberlain. They will perform works by Liszt, Mahler, Alma Mahler, de Falla, Roy Agnew and Stuart Greenbaum. Other dates for this concert series are; May 15, June 19, July 17, August 21 and September 18.



Piano Marathon at Rippon Lea, January 26

The Team's educational events for the year will include three Teachers' Seminars at Bernies Music Land (April, June and July), as well as the 2011 Bernstein Masterclasses. Telephone Michelle Capicchiano on 9872 5122 for details of these events. The Team's annual *Spring Piano School* will take place at Glenfern in East St Kilda, in October. Details will be available in the next newsletter edition.

In December of last year, the Team recorded its ninth CD, *New Norcia - Spanish Rhapsody*, featuring piano works by Spanish or Spanish-influenced composers, as well as de Falla's Seven Popular Spanish Songs, with guest artist Louise Page. Recording, editing and production of the booklet are yet to be finalised, but the CD of this vibrant programme should be available around the middle of this year. It was recorded on two Schimmel 213 Konzert pianos. We would like to express our thanks to Bernies Music Land for their sponsorship contribution to this project.

All of the Team's events are performed either on Bernstein pianos or on Schimmel pianos. The Team of Pianists takes pride in performing on these instruments and in our long-standing collaboration with Bernies Music Land.

A brochure with details of all concert programmes and ticket bookings can be downloaded from the Team's website www.teamofpianists.com.au, or by phoning the Team's office on 9527 2851.

Darryl G. Coote, Team of Pianists

The Team of Pianists' TEACHER SEMINARS



"Running a Successful Private Practice" Mr. Darryl Coote
Wednesday 18 May, 9.30am - 12.30pm

"Fundamentals of Effective Teaching: What, How and When?" Mr. Robert Chamberlain
Wednesday 8 June, 9.30am - 12.30pm

"Teaching Technique: Tone Production and Pedalling"
Professor Max Cooke
Wednesday 20 July, 9.30am - 12.30pm

At Bernies Music Land, 381 Canterbury Road, Ringwood.
Tickets \$19. Please phone 9872 5122 to reserve your seat.