

### SEPTEMBER 2016

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**Cover:** Combined NSW and Vic orchestra members at the Victorian Festival, Austrian Club on July 17, 2016. Story page 7.

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Margaret Berens & Holger Golinski



# Hello from the Editor

The Victorian Festival on July 17th was a huge success with Vic and NSW orchestra members performing together. I would like to thank the Melbourne ASA committee and George Butrumlis for organising a great festival . Summary and photos of the day are on pages 7-11. Sam Tripodi and Bob Bourne have kindly sent in articles sharing their Melb experience, pages 25 & 27.

Heinz Dabernig, a popular Victorian accordionist, ASA member and teacher (Upwey Music), has introduced a new feature for the Review titled 'Where are they Now". Heinz will send a questionnaire to some past and present accordionists to see how the accordion became part of their life, where it has taken them, their achievements, and where they are now. I know we will find the responses interesting and I am sure some of us will remember the person and the memories will come flooding back from possibly decades ago. Our first accordionist in this edition is Rhonda Bates (Creber) on page 22.

Thank you Joe Staltare for making the effort to keep us informed of what you and your accordion are up to in Griffith (page 17– 19). Also I love the photo of your Mother being serenaded, she looks fantastic for 90 years young, good Italian genes!!

ASA membership renewals are now due and please let me know if you do not wish to renew or you would prefer to be an 'Accordion Review Subscriptions' only member. Refer page 37 for membership renewal, page 38 for subscriptions only.

Our warm wishes go to June Jones who is currently unwell, may you have a speedy recovery, we are all thinking of you.

Keep your articles coming in and happy reading.

Cheryle Mílls

# Presidents Report

Welcome everybody to the time of change for the Accordion Society. We continue to implement changes which will mean that we will no longer print large amounts



of the Accordion Review for postage. We will now exclusively email copies to members. There will of course be exceptions for those of you who are not capable of receiving electronic copies. Through this method you will be able to keep your own digitised records for ongoing referral or more instant access through your many wireless devices.

There has been a dynamic shift away from print media toward electronic. Electronic forms of media provide us with more functional pages. You can use the multiple links contained within these articles to collect and confirm additional information in relation to upcoming events and activities. These changes save the laborious and time rich task of preparing the review for postage. Spare a thought for those who prepare it, they are volunteers and do not get paid for that work. Saving this time gives us the opportunity to better run the organisation. With these changes made we will be able to reduce the running costs of our organisation, we are looking to invest this in supporting upcoming musicians and bands.

The Accordion Society currently has a small online presence, we have just secured the name accordionsaustralia.com, this will be the address of our new website which will be launched officially on 27th October, we need to further increase our online presence and provide people with more information about who we are and what we do. Expanding our mailing list is of the utmost importance, could members please send me details of people who would like to receive information from us, details in front of Review. The more people who receive information about us the better. This is the beginning of our new era, it is time for us to grow our community.

With the formalities out of the way I would personally like to thank all the members who poured their energies into helping to create our Melbourne concert which ran concurrently with our annual meeting. Without you all this is not possible. It was great to see all members of this organisation working together to produce what was no small feat a grand concert with so many diverse ranges of styles and techniques. It was tremendous, we look forward to the next one coming up soon.

George and I have been looking at some cool New Orleans Band Scores to help us put a bit of punch into our music. Our focus this year is to try to shift the accordion away from traditional styles with the emphasis being on quality music not necessarily just accordion playing, we want to see accordionists in bands, playing with other instrumentalists, we encourage our players not to think as accordionists but as musicians. Music is far more than a collection of notes on a page it is a relationship where harmony marries rhythm and everything in between. Let us all see how much more interesting we can make this.

Keep changing the world kids

**Benny Pattínson** 

### Víctorían news

# Festíval at the Austrían Club

### by Cheryle Mílls

What a great festival of accordion music occurred at the Austrian Club in West Heidelberg on Sunday July 17th thanks to the organisation by the Melbourne ASA with special mention to the Berens and George Butrumlis. The NSW contingent including myself thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and it all started well

before the concert started.....

All eleven members of the NSW Accordions Alfresco made the trip from Sydney to Victoria, by car, plane or train and even our ex President Rob Scott-Mitchell flew down from northern NSW (Byron Bay) to attend the concert.





Saturday afternoon Victorian and NSW players joined up to practice and we were excited to see how the arrangement of 'African Market' by George Butrumlis would develop and we were not disappointed. The inclusion of percussion instruments, a guitar and a few segments of improvisation by a couple of players turned the repetitive bars into an exciting tune and we were certainly pleased with the result, well

done George. By the end of the practice we were all looking forward to tomorrows concert.

Saturday afternoon was free and some NSW players practiced together at their hotel and others went sightseeing. I stayed at Warneet with friends so had a long drive back but distance is not unfamiliar for me as I drive 120km each way to our weekly Monday night practice.



A big surprise to me was lunch organised by Melb ASA and wow what superb meals the Austrian Club had on their menu. Sadly I had too many of Silvias biscuits so could only manage a bowl of soup but other members enjoyed seafood, schnitzels and lots of other great food, thank you Melbourne.



A good crowd arrived at the club for the afternoons concert. A solo by George Butrumlis followed by John Kalkbrenner Jr and his band played some great music (even a Johnny Cash song). George and John highlighted the versatility of our wonderful instrument and really got the crowd enthusiastic.

Sunday morning the ASA Congress annual meeting was held with a good attendance and chaired by NSW Secretary Sandra Mackay.

One of the topics on the Agenda was ASA membership and how social media networks such as Facebook and our Websites have a positive impact on attracting members, especially younger members. Accordions Alfresco have attracted approximately four new orchestra members in the past 18 months from Facebook.

One of the special moments at the end of the meeting were the wonderful biscuits served with coffee, handmade by Silvia Kocic, thank you Silvia they were delicious! Melbourne orchestra then performed a few pieces including a West Side Story medley.



The finale was the combined orchestra playing 'Blues Factory' followed by 'African Market' with all the bells and whistles (percussion) previously explained and conducted by George, the audience loved it.



Some of our friends in the audience had never been to an accordion concert and were blown away with the sound of multiple accordions being played together in an orchestral manner. They were also impressed with the different sound an accordion can produce and the variety of music played. Everyone we spoke to thoroughly enjoyed the concert and thank you to Melbourne for having us and we hope you will invite us back.

Cheryle



PTO for more photos







### NSW news

Accordions Alfresco will be performing at the

### Griffith Multicultural Festival 15 October 2016



For the past seven years, this one-day festival of

food, dance and music has been celebrating the multicultural heritage of Griffith in the Riverina. In 2016, it's back with more great food, arts and crafts stalls, face-painting, henna painting, a spaghetti-eating competition, a jumping castle, balloons and more. On stage in Memorial Park, there'll be dance and music performances to keep everyone entertained for a fun day of community celebrations. Griffith is



home to around 20 different cultural groups and many of them are involved in this community event - Fijians, Samoans, Maoris, Chinese, Chileans, Italians, Aboriginal groups and more. You'll have the chance to eat locally-made ice cream and coffee, pizza and pasta and maybe a glass of local wine. Watch out for a few extra surprises this year! Last year it was bagpipes.

http://www.riverinatourism.com.au/events/griffith-multiculturalfestival.aspx



### Welcome Peter Lin

Accordions Alfresco would like to formally welcome our newest member Peter Lin to our group. Peter is an accomplished accordionist and pianist and came along to our Monday night practice 6 weeks ago after viewing our Facebook page. Peter is pictured (left) with our existing member Alex Zhao who joined approx 7 months ago and is a real asset to the group. We hope you both continue to enjoy the experience of playing with us.



### Moschella's Double Celebration

On the 11th of September Accordions Alfresco and friends were invited to perform and enjoy lunch for our dear friend Frank Mochella's (Vince Mochella's cousin) 80th birthday party and over 100 years of his family's arrival in Australia from Italy.

Accordions Alfresco were among many entertainers who performed on the day. The afternoon was filled with accordion music, singing, traditional dances and opera music along with lots of food.

The accordion society want to wish Frank a happy 80th birthday and many well wishes.



Back row: Jacob Maruco, Dominique Granturco, Frank Moschella, Ben Pattinson, Cheryle Mills, Peter Lin. Front row: Roberto & Vanessa Granturco, Sylvia & Vince Granturco, Sandra Mackay, Alex Zhao.

# COLES Sausage Sizzle

Our first COLES Sausage Sizzle was held at Five Dock and although the crowds were low, we made a profit of \$180 and according to Coles man-

agement we hold the record so far. Many thanks to the

#### ACCORDIONS ALFRESCO PERFORM AT ALL HALLOWS CHURCH JULY & AUGUST



Above and left: Concert and audience enjoying afternoon tea.

*Right:* Parish BBQ complete with accordion music.







# Gríffíth news

# Centennial Celebration

*by Joe Staltare* 

On 4th August 2016, Griffith commenced its centennial celebration at day break with Grant Luhrs from Radio Riverina interviewing our mayor John Dal Broi and many local people including Griffith Musicians Club President Pat Sergi , Don Hillam, and myself.





Many artists performed to approximately 600 guests at our Griffith Regional Theatre, more than 50 seniors, 90 years and over were invited by Griffith City Council free of charge. My mum Maria (left) was so proud to be part of the days activities.

Much was projected on a huge screen of the very dry desert town that Griffith was before irrigation started and to what is today a flourishing food bowl. Again a roving accordion was on hand to entertain as guests arrived



Friday Griffith witnessed the unveiling of the sculptures in the IOOF Park, then Saturday a grand street parade with



more than 130 floats which showcased their business, as some walked and some drove through the main street.

Griffith Musicians entertained the crowd from the memorial park stage with Bruno Peruzzi starting the afternoons entertainment

Joe

# Salamí Fíesta

Griffith Italian Museum Committee held another successful Salami Fiesta at pioneer park on Sunday the 28th August.

Judging took place at Yoogali Club on Saturday 27th and 24 people had

the task of tasting the 140 entries to determine a winner. The massive double marquee was home to 1,100 people, and were treated to a delicious meal, fantastic local award winning wines and great music.

Ioe



Pictured below is (back)Ben Ceccato sound (Pristine pro) Frank Wilson, Jim Salvestro on drums Dr Jaya, Joe and Kevin Jobbitt



# Great to Entertain the Old Folks

Griffith Italian Choir once again kept our seniors singing and tapping their hands and feet to the good old folk songs. This time Lou Forner joined in and it was so good to have two accordions. First we we went to Pioneer Lodge, Bupa Nursing Home then Scalabrini Village.

Cheers for now Joe

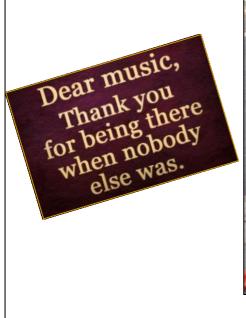




# SNIPPETS, GOSSIP & NEWS



We would like to wish June (Jones) a speedy recovery from her recent illness and hope she will be back travelling the globe real soon. Best Wishes from the ASA





# FERRAGOSTO FESTIVAL

Five Dock (Sydney) comes alive every year for the Ferragosto Festival and this year it was on Sunday August 21st. It is that time of the year when spring is at the door and Sydney's Italian Community come together to host a litany of events including wine tasting (FerraSagra), car show (FerraAuto), childrens show (FerraGiovanni), music (FerraMusica) and variety acts (FerraVarieta).

The FerraVarieta is where you get your Italian performance fix and features Italian choirs, Italian dancers, our own wonderful accordionists and solo acts with the headliner Maria Venuti AM as seen in the photo below with Ben Pattinson.

Amelia and Dominique Granturco also performed with their wonderful Italian accordion repertoire. Thanks to Ben, Amelia and Dom for promoting the accordion in such a professional manner.



Maria Venuti and Ben Pattinson



MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS ARE NOW DUE AND IT IS SO EASY WITH DIRECT DEBIT/ BANK TRANSFER

**REFER PAGE 37 FOR DETAILS** 

### WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

This new article is an initiative of Heinz Dabernig, and is based on a questionnaire sent to an accordionist to share with us what path their life has taken and 'where are they now', our first accordionist is.....

*Name*: Rhonda Bates (Nee Creber) Qld.

When and where did you start to learn the accordion? I started to learn the accordion after my parents kept telling me that one day I would learn the instrument in the case in the linen cupboard. The accordion belonged to my Dad (Alan Creber) and as children do, I pestered my parents about learning until they



eventually found someone to teach me. We lived at North Eton,  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour west from Mackay in Queensland and my Mum used to drive me through the back roads, some still unpaved in those days, to Alligator Creek, south of Mackay, where my first teacher lived.

*How old where you?* I began learning the accordion in my third year at school and was 7 going on 8.

*Who was your first teacher*? My first teacher was Lidia Rokic (nee Barbi). Lidia is of Italian descent and her house was behind her mum and dad's. I got a great insight into Italian things, with Mr Barbi giving us exotic vegetables from his garden and watching put out the tomatoes to be sundried. I have loved everything Italian (apart from the traffic in Rome) from this time on. Lidia had learnt from the great Enzo Toppano in her later years and I remember going to watch him in concert when he came to Mackay.

*Were there any other teachers involved in your musical education?* There were quite a few music educators involved in my learning, not all as my full time teacher. When I started to learn convertor accordion and play classical pieces, Lidia and I went to Anne Thompson, a highly distinguished piano teacher in Mackay, for advice on polishing the classic pieces. I actually remember playing something over the phone to Ross Lombardo once as well. Bert Beaton also helped myself and Lidia with certain aspects of pieces we were unsure on. I was lucky enough to have intensive training under the late Else Brandman in Sydney before I sat for my ASA Teacher's Diploma. I definitely found this very intimidating at first as I had never had any one teach with Mrs Brandman's mannerisms however her methods work and I did get my diploma.

I also studied theory of music under Mrs Pam Jensen in Mackay. Mrs Jensen took me on after the nuns at the Walkerston convent stopped teaching music. I had done Grade 1 Trinity of Music exam with them and then moved to Mrs Jensen for AMEB theory, completing up to Grade 7.

*Your first accordion was?* My first accordion was a very big and black Scandalli. I then moved on to a red Baillie followed by a Titano Parade (I thought I had hit the big time when I got this accordion). The last accordion my parents bought for me was a Titano Convertor Cosmopolitan. I still have this accordion albeit it does need some running repairs. It was great to play as it was a Ladies' model and therefore a little lighter and smaller. I remember getting this just before we took the ASA Orchestra to the Coup Mondiale in Auckland New Zealand in 1980. As it was brand new with pick -ups etc, it was actually played by Gianfranco Taviani for bass and I had to play his very heavy Titano. Needless to say I did get it back and it was a very faithful instrument.

*What make and model accordion do you have now?* A few years ago I bought a Guilietti from Fred Ferenczi, and now use it at any engagements. I will eventually get the Titano Convertor fixed as I love the ability to be able to play the correct octave in some bass work that I do.

Who or what most inspired you during your musical education? Inspiration for me came from a lot of different sources, not all accordion based. I was very lucky to live in a small community where I was often asked to play at fetes and fashion parades. This helped a lot with confidence in performance as well as perfecting pieces to play. Learning with Lidia was awesome, but there were very few of us who wanted more than just social music (until her beautiful children came along!) Competing in my first North Queensland Accordion Organization eisteddfod in Townsville was such an eye opener and I made great

friends all of who played the accordion. Meeting Bert Beaton and being offered a part in his accordion orchestra was also very special and inspiring. Admittedly I only got to play with them when in Townsville, but it was just and amazing experience. Attending ASA festivals and competing against accordionists from Australia and other countries was also a great injection of enthusiasm. I was also lucky to be asked to play for and with many local groups such as The Mackay Comedy Players, The Mackay Choral Society, Robert Burns Society, and Mackay Pipe Bank to name a few. These organisations allowed me to showcase the versatility of the accordion and leave behind the old "squeeze-box" label which so often formed in peoples' thoughts.

I have made my accordion double for flutes, trumpets, mandolins etc. If it was in the score and we didn't have one, I made it happen; great experiences for a young musician.

I must include Ross Maio as one of my inspirations. This man is a genius on the accordion and gives his time quite freely to help the ASA and up and coming students. I have played under his baton, attended his 50<sup>th</sup> birthday party in Sydney and had help from him when purchasing my last accordion. If only I could entertain as he does.....

### Musical Accomplishments:

1975 1<sup>st</sup> place NQAO Festival 12 years and under

1976 1<sup>st</sup> place NQAO Festival 12, 14 and 16 years and under.

1978 1st place Any Other Instrument Mackay Eisteddfod 16 years and under

1980 $1^{\mbox{\scriptsize st}}$  Place ASA 16 and under Stradella and Open Australasian.

Attended Coup Mondiale in Auckland NZ as part of ASA Orchestra.

1981 ASA State Stradella Champion

1981 1<sup>st</sup> place Junior Tape Competition

1982 ASA National Stradella Champion

1982 ASA Qld State Accordion Orchestra performs in Mackay

1984 ASA 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Stradella Honours

1985 1st Place NQAO Open Championship.

1986 ASA Teachers Diploma

1987 ASA 8th Grade Classical Exam Honours

1987 Mackay hosts ASA Festival

1987 Received 100/100 marks for duet with Heather Nibloe for Waltz of the Flowers

# Thanks Melbourne, we had a great time

### by Salvatore (Sam) Trípodí

I am still recovering from a wonderful extra long weekend in Melbourne. Maria, Vince and I got to Melbourne Southern Cross Station on Thursday night after 11 hours on the XPT Train then we transferred to the Bell Motel by Maxi Cab.

The following day we hopped on a couple of Trams and went to Music Junction to try a few accordions, followed by a nice dinner at the Local pub with a few ASA friends.

On Saturday morning Vince, Maria, Bob and I had a practice session for a couple hours in the Bell Motel Meeting Room free of charge (thanks to the generosity of the wonderful Bell motel Managers Paul and Sue Isles). Saturday afternoon we attended the combined orchestra practice and then another dinner at the local Pub, again with some ASA friends.

Sunday was the Highlight of the



trip to Melbourne with the ASA General Meeting in the morning then a huge fish platter for lunch. The afternoon was loaded with beautiful music and at night we went out for a pizza with Bob and Sue, Vince and Sylvia ,Vince Moschella and Maria.

Monday Morning everyone had already returned home except for Ben, Bob, Sue, Vince Moschella, Maria and I. Sue suggested we visit the Art Gallery to see an exhibition so we hopped on a tram and unknowingly got off a few stops too early and thinking we were there, we were in fact at the Melbourne Museum not the Art Gallery. So we started to walk towards this massive building across a beautiful and also massive park. I was so excited that I must have taken more than a 100 shots with my camera.



Anyway it was not the Art Gallery but the Museum so we got directions on

how to get there (long walk) and when we got there we were a bit tired so we stopped just outside to take a rest and enjoy a cappuccino.

Inside the Gallery we found out the exhibition required an entry fee which was a bit too much, also not knowing what kind of paintings were there so Vince, Maria and I decided to abstain while Bob Sue and Ben went in.

As we are about to go outside Maria spotted a security personnel and in no time she finds out that there are 2 floors of European Art, Oil Paintings, wood sculptures and some Egyptian, Greek and Central American objects, open to the public for free. So we went in and after 2 hours and not yet finished we got a call from Sue saying they were outside waiting for us. We told them to come up and have a look at this Euro-





pean Art collection, so we spent another hour there and after about a couple of hundred shots with my camera

We are outside thinking what is next while Bob and Ben are on the lookout for a water hole (particular Pub underground) so more walking and eventually

we got there, sat down for a few drinks while Ben stayed back in the City to watch a show

For the rest of us now there was just time to catch the Tram and off to the Preston local Pub for our last dinner together and back to the Motel before 8:00 to pay the bill, What a Day!

Monday morning we are up at 5:00am with only a couple of hours sleep then to the Southern Cross Station for another



11:00 hours on the XPT. Home at last at about 21:00 hours.

It has been a wonderful long weekend and I have enjoyed every minute of it. I

would like to thank everyone for their company, friendship and their generosity, and as Dominique already stated, the ASA concert in Melbourne has been a complete success, and as some have already payed tribute to the huge contribution made by Ben, Amelia and Dominique to bring the NSW ASA Orchestra together to a level presentable for a full house Club and to play jointly with the Melbourne ASA.

I also would like to thank Ben, Amelia and Dominique for their professionalism, constant support and encouragement and for their dedication to the ASA and helping everyone to grow musically.

I also would like to thank Cheryle for her contribution to the ASA, and the help she has offered me and anyone that plays part 3 accordion. She has been there for me every step of the way since I joined the ASA, helping me, encouraging me, playing with me in extra time before the normal practice and so on.

It was just about 2 years ago that I started to play with the ASA in preparation to participate with the AATAs 20<sup>TH</sup> anniversary mass orchestra. I went there and played only because of Cheryles encouragement, I am forever grateful.

I feel honoured and privileged to be a member of this great organisation, I would like to thank each an everyone for your friendship, sharing the music and the company.

Kind regards,

Salvatore (Sam) Tripodi

### Thanks to Melbourne for a great weekend

Our trip to Melbourne was enjoyed by all our orchestra members, and we were looked after quite well by our host at the Bell motel in Prestons. Practice and performance at The Austrian Club in Heidelberg went well and was enjoyed by all who attended with generous applause at the end. We were well catered for with the kitchen providing good food and plenty of it. The weather was kind and sunny and we were able to enjoy a day looking around some of the Melbourne sites, Federation Sq, the Art Gallery, Lygon St, The London Tavern, and the street vendors, etc. It was a successful event and we thank our hosts for their support.

Just a note to thank Melb ASA and our own hard working team, Vince, Sylvia, Amelia & Dominique Granturco, Ben Pattinson and our very creative magazine editor Cheryle who does such a good job. Ben has put a great deal of inspiration into the orchestra with plenty of new ideas, and we have been inspired by his and Amelia & Dominique's contributions. We have a great camaraderie and we all enjoy what we do. Thank you all!

Regards, Bob Bourne

# <u>ForSale</u> Selmer Invícta Píano Accordíon 120 Bass

\$700



<u>Contact</u>: Marilyn Hogg Townsville Nth QLD <u>marilyn.hogg@ergon.com.au</u> Mobile: 0419 653 938



# The Ten Commandments of Music

Mrs Brandman was my first and only accordion teacher who I admired and respected and I took my music seriously. In 1966 she gave me a copy of the 'Ten Commandments of Music', complete with her signature which I read without a thought.



While searching for some music last week I came across these commandments and after <u>fifty years</u> I have to wonder how it would be viewed today, especially the 2nd Commandment. I have included a copy on the next page. Does anyone else remember this document?

Cheryle Mills

# The Ten Commandments of Music

- 1. WHEN THOU PRACTICE THERE SHOULD BE UTMOST CONCEN-TRATION. Set yourself a "goal" each day. Aim at reaching perfection in each particular item. Rotate your "goal" daily. In this way you increase your skill and constantly raise your standard of musicianship.
- 2. THOU SHALT NOT IDOLISE COMPOSITIONS OF WHICH YOUR TEACHER HAS NOT APPROVED. Do not hesitate to ask their opinion.
- 3. THOU SHALT NOT PLAY MUSIC IN A PROFANE OR CARELESS MANNER. Use a metronome to maintain an even tempo, take care of correct note and rest values, fingering and above all, watch your key signatures, accidentals and dynamic signs.
- 4. **REMEMBER YOUR PRACTICE HOUR AND OBSERVE IT RELIG-IOUSLY**. Let nothing interfere with this daily routine. Do not be led into temptation by watching television or playing games when you should be practicing music.
- 5. **HONOUR THY TEACHER**. Follow your teacher's instructions obediently. If you do not have complete "faith" in your teacher, you had better get a new one.
- 6. THOU SHALT NOT KILL OR MURDER MUSIC BY APPROACHING IT IN A TIRED AND LISTLESS MANNER. Remember, the "best" time to practice is in the early morning, when your mind is fresh and alert. It also means you have the rest of the day free for other activities.
- 7. **THOU SHALT NOT COMMIT ADULATION TO THYSELF.** Be honest with yourself; self criticism prevents you from feeling guilty when others criticise you.
- 8. **THOU SHALT NOT STEAL FROM THE PRACTICE HOUR**: you will be robbing yourself. Use all available time to practice, use visitors as an "excuse" to play; by doing so you are constantly "paying interest" on time and money spent on your musical education.
- 9. THOU SHALT NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS OR BE JEALOUS OF OTHER MUSIC STUDENTS. Apply all criticism to yourself, adopt a kind and tolerant attitude towards others.
- 10. THOU SHALT NOT COVET THY FRIEND'S APTITUDE OR TALENT, for both are not worth anything without the hard and constant work at practice time.

Remember: the Essentials to Success in Music are:

### PRACTICE—PERSEVERANCE—PATIENCE

Yours Musically, Else M Brandman

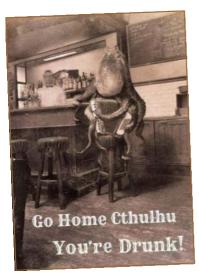




Warming up his fingers before the gig!









# Bach in The Dark

#### contributed by Ben Pattinson

Bach in the dark is a concert series founded by Rachel Scott. Rachel Scott is a well renowned artist around the world. Rachel aims to provide underprivileged students with access to a quality music experience in the classroom and is the education manager for the Australian Children's Music Foundation. As part of one of the music pro-

grams she runs, Rachel found herself in western NSW school in July 2008 She asked the children if they had ever heard a Cello before, the only response was silence. So she asked the children to lay on the floor (to feel the cellos vibration's) and began to play. Rachel played the children Bach as she had so many times before in her concert career. One child in particular said after the first movement "that was the most



beautiful thing I have ever heard" The children laid there and listened to six more movements.

Rachel got to thinking and wondered how many times she had played these suite, but never really listened to them herself as well as her audiences. Rachel wondered how to create a concert where people would just stop and listen. Now Rachel plays Bach in The Dark, both performer and listener travel for an hour without distraction. The concerts run for just over an hour. They are deliberately informal – each piece is introduced, so there's no need to look at your program. There is no dress code, no rule about when to clap, no rule about how you are meant to 'be.' Just make sure to dress for the season.

Rachel is joined by several guest artists. Sally Walker (flute), David Pereira (cello), Veronique Serret (violin) and Anthony Schulz (accordion). Anthony is a well-known artist from Melbourne. Said to be an individual voice in Australian improvised music, Schulz has developed and expanded all preconceptions of the Piano Accordion.

Unfortunately the two Sydney shows sold out two months ago. The remaining concerts are a little further out of the city but well worth the travel. There is a show on Oct 20<sup>th</sup> at Kiama Anglican Church and Oct 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Nolan on Lovel Gallery Katoomba. For further information and



future upcoming events go to http://www.bachinthedark.com

### Garance and the Mitochondries contributed by Ben Pattinson

I find myself from time to time looking for new music, something with an edge, some spice. It could be said that often accordion players can be the most sheltered of all instrumentalists who very seldom consider playing outside of Italian restaurants or Oktoberfest celebrations. This has at least been my experience in Australia. The accordion has a diverse range of tonal characteristics, dynamic ranges unheard of and further unlimited possibilities only conceivable of your imagination. Garance and the Mitochondries are a band that I recently stumbled upon and were blown away by. They are powerful and Evocative.

Garance Louis is a composer, singer and accordionist from Perpignan. Garance finds fresh new ways of interpreting the French Chanson tradition song with her formidable

band The Mitochondries. Garance finds influences from the Forro dance musique of Brazil, to Jazz and swing of New Orleans and traditional music from her home town Catalunya. A journey from subtle jazz to melodic trance with the perfect mix of strings, fat sax lines mixed with eerie accordion and that beautiful French voice.



In three years Garance travelled 41,000 miles, played 450,000 notes on her accordion, went to 14 different countries, played 406 concerts, went to 216 parties, had 106 hangovers, wore out 3 pairs of cowboy boots, created things and practised for 250,000 minutes, cryed 45 times, went busking 652 times, drank 14,600 cups of coffee, fell in love 'once', bought two new black accordions, one 'big', one 'tiny', but most importantly Garance wrote 20 new songs. The best of which they would like to put on their new album. They are currently looking for funding for this. They have the studio to record, the place to mix and master. They are looking for the funding for this, I recommend everyone listen to the album (you will think it is awesome) then purchase it and show vour support. The album available for purchase at https:// garanceandthemitochondries.bandcamp.com/ or look at their facebook page https:// www.facebook.com/GaranceAndTheMitochondries where you will find additional information about the group. The Accordion Society is Proud to support such wonderful talent. We hope that one day that they will travel to a 15<sup>th</sup> country and that will be Australia.



# John Kalkbrenner

Every Thursday and Friday nights

Sam Rauza Every Saturday and Sunday nights

'Hofbräuhaus' German restaurant 18-24 Market Lane, Melbourne. Phone 9663 3361

# Heinz Dabernig

Every Friday and Saturday night and Sunday lunch. Cuckoo Restaurant in the Dandenongs, Victoria

**Ross** *Maío* Please check Ross Maio Facebook for all his gigs and venues.

# Starr-Schulz & Friends: Musical Conversations

Starr-Schulz and Friends: Musical Conversations is a series of monthly collaborative events between Adam Starr, Anthony Schulz and two different artists per month. This exciting project is staged in conjunction with Open Studio. Curated by Adam Starr and Anthony Schulz, the monthly collaborations are designed to explore each artist's specific and individual qualities in an ensemble setting. Repertoire may range from arrangements to original compositions to conceptual.

Tuesday October 25 with Tim Wilson (Saxophone) and Jonathan Zion (Double Bass)

7.30 pm \$10.00/8.00 'Open Studio' 204 High St Northcote (http://openstudio.net.au)

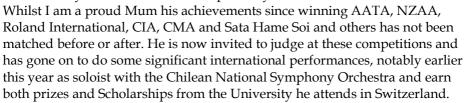
Tuesday November with Tim Wilson (Saxophone) and Jonathan Zion (Double Bass)

7.30 pm \$10.00/8.00 'Open Studio' 204 High St Northcote (http://openstudio.net.au)

### NEWS FROM NEW ZEALAND by Heather Masefield

# Grayson Masefield

It is fantastic that we have someone from Australasia that is doing all of these big Festivals in the States & Canada - even better as the headline act!. Graysons performances by all accounts went exceptionally well.



Grayson Masefield returned to New Zealand in December 2015 and held lessons and a master class for our members. The master class was very well attended. Grayson had held the same master class along with other master classes earlier in the year at the Las Vegas International Accordion Convention in the United States. Other international concerts were performed by Grayson in Canada, USA, France, Switzerland, Italy and Belgium. In January 2016, Grayson travelled to Santiago, Chile to perform as a soloist, Piazolla's Concerto Aconcagua with the Orquesta Sinfonica de Chile, the national orchestra conducted by Francois Lopez-Ferrer. Grayson performed three concerts in Chile receiving impressive reviews.

# Líonel Reekíe

In May 2016, Lionel Reekie travelled to the World Music Festival in Innsbruck, Austria. This is the largest accordion orchestra competition in the world and is staged every three years. Lionel subsequently gave a very informative talk to our members at our annual championships of his experiences at the festival. Former NZAA committee member, Alison Worthington performed in the London Accordion Orchestra at the event. This orchestra achieved a second placing in their category.

# Trevor Taylor R.I.P.

Sadly this year, we lost a prominent Auckland accordionist Trevor Taylor who passed away in May. He was a well known teacher and performer. In 1996, Trevor was awarded the Accordion Examination Board annual merit award for outstanding services to the accordion.

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I,	(full name o	f applicant)			
of(address)					
hereby apply to become a member <b>OR RENEW</b> my membership of the abovemen- tioned association. In the event of my admission as a member, I agree to be bound by the rules of the association for the time being in force.					
Signature o	f applicant	Date			
All memberships are renewable on 1 <sup>st</sup> August each year. A once only joining fee of \$5.00 is payable on all new memberships.					
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