

THE ACCORDION SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA INC.

ACCORDION REVIEW



SEPTEMBER 2018

VOLUME 35 ISSUE 3

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Cover: Joe Staltare and Bruno Peruzzi, story page 12

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Hello from the Editor

It is such a pleasant experience to play music with other musicians and something I have always enjoyed with Accordions Alfresco and will miss their Monday night practice sessions and laughs.

Since my recent move to Mallacoota, a small town of about 1000 residents, I have met many musicians that live here and there is even a couple of accordionist, one of which has insisted I learn several Clifton Chenier 'Zydeco' pieces and play a duet with him 'Bel Viso' Polka by Frosini! Jam sessions and open mics are common here and some musicians venture from Melbourne and Canberra to organise and participate, and I have included a brief article on page 21. It is a new experience for me and to push oneself outside their comfort zone, no matter what age you are, certainly has benefits and I encourage other accordionists to give it a go. I would like to thank my ASA colleagues for giving me encouragement to do just that.

Happy 80th birthday to Bruno Peruzzi in Griffith and great to see you are still entertaining the Griffith folk with our other maestro Joe Staltare. Thanks Joe for keeping our readers up to date with the happenings in Griffith, pages 11 to 14.

Adelaide accordion group has a new name '*Adelaide Accordion Orchestra*' and with Octoberfest approaching the orchestra and the Smiths will be very busy with the many German venues in Adelaide. Page 16 has all the news, and meet Heidi and Herman on page 18.

ASA Annual General Meeting will be held on Nov 17 and the current office bearers have been in the role for a 3 year term specified by the constitution so nominations are necessary for election or re-election so please send in your nominations, also send any items you may wish to add to the Agenda, details page 7.

Thanks to those who contributed to this edition and to our Sydney readers, we hope to see you at the Accordions Alfresco & Evergreen Wednesday Singers Concert on Nov 4th at Drummoyne, page 8. Bye for now.

Happy reading.

Cheryle

Presidents Report

Willkommen it's Oktoberfest.

Oktoberfest is a great time for accordion players. There are many shows and functions available for us in this 6 week celebration. We



are always looking for people to play these shows as we get that busy we unfortunately have to decline many shows. If you have what it takes please contact me and you could be donning a pair of lederhosen or a Dirndl and playing some of the most enjoyable shows of your life.

The Bavarian and Bavarian Bier Café is one of the most enjoyable venues for accordion players and most venues have accordion players entertaining Friday and Saturday nights all year round. You will find people such as myself, Julie Wisniewski and Phillippe Wittwer and others playing at Parramatta, Rouse Hill, Castle Hill and Miranda Bavarians on these nights not to mention the Munich Bier Café in the rocks which has music all week long. We hope to see you all there.

As I mentioned in my last report the NZAA, AATA and ASA have been putting together a group of Australasian accordion players for the World Music Festival in Innsbruck in 2019. We have now recruited many accordion players and have begun to allocate the parts of our chosen pieces. We currently have 13 players in the group and are looking forward to our first rehearsals in the next few weeks. There are still some vacancies, please let us know if you would like to play with us. This is a

fantastic opportunity for accordion players from Australia to see the accordion at its best. The festival focuses primarily on group and ensemble playing.

Recently I attended a function at the Canada Bay Club. The function gathered together all the organisations that they provided funding to over the last 12 months. The Canada Bay Club provided us with funding and a discount on the room we hired for our 2018 masterclasses. While Sandra Mackay and I were meeting some of the other recipients I met Paul from the Balmain fund run. He thought it would be a great idea if I competed in the Balmain fun run which is 5 km's long, with an ACCORDION! whilst playing the accordion for 5KM'S!!!!. The Balmain fun run is held on the 18th of Nov. The run starts at 8:00am and I will also be providing musical entertainment during the warmup session. So come on down and check it out, better still bring your accordion and see if you can keep up with the boss.

Puffed out just thinking about it.

Best wishes,

Benny



2018 AGM

*ASA Annual
General Meeting*



*The Accordion Society of Australia will hold their
Annual General Meeting on:*

*17th November 2018
3.30 pm*

at

*Croydon Park Club (Sydney)
55 Seymour Street,
Croydon Park NSW 2133*

All members are invited to attend

Agenda Items—any items you would like to have included in the Agenda are to be sent to Sandra Mackay by October 10th.

Nominations—an election of office bearers will be due this year so please send your nominations for election or re-election of those you wish to hold particular roles.

SKYPE will be available for Committee and General members who do not live in Sydney or for those that cannot make it to the venue.



**ACCORDION SOCIETY
OF AUSTRALIA
PRESENTS**

**ACCORDIONS
ALFRESCO &
EVERGREEN
WEDNESDAY
SINGERS**

SUNDAY **04**TH NOVEMBER

TIME **3:00** P.M.

COST: \$10

FREE TEA AND COFFEE

CHILDREN UNDER 12 FREE

CANADA BAY CIVIC HALL


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(CORNER OF LYONS ROAD AND

MARLBOROUGH STREET)



 <https://www.facebook.com/accordionsocietyofaustralia>

Accordioneers Bus it to entertain ASA members



On July 8th, the NSW Orchestra travelled as a group to Bupa Nursing Home in Yagoona to play a few sing-a-long numbers to ASA member & friend John Cras. John always enjoys the ASA visit to entertain the residents. John no longer plays his accordion however he is captured in the above photo with Finns accordion.



The group then travelled to Bowral, an hour plus drive from Yagoona, to play for ASA friend, Alan Jones and the residents at the Anthem Nursing Home.

It was a happy day but sad that June (Alans wife) was no longer with us to share the day. The day was well received by all and special mention to Finn who played a few solos dressed as Elvis. Alan is captured below with the NSW group, also photos of the group enjoying lunch at a local cafe.



Happy Birthday to a Griffith Legend

Well the middle of June may have been very cold in Griffith but Bruno Peruzzi received a very warm welcome from many friends that took time out to attend an open house on his 80th birthday.

As many know, Bruno has been entertaining with his Accordion since his teens and this marks well over half a century, actually more like sixty five years of continuous playing for parties, weddings and giving his time for so many fund raising dinners in Griffith.



Bruno from all your friends, god bless you're a legend and still entertaining your friends until today.

Many Happy Returns from us all, and we look forward to you continuing to entertain for many years.

Cheers

Joe Staltare

PS The ASA also wish you a very happy birthday.



Griffith Can Assist

Sunday September 9th was the first luncheon organised by Olga Forner for our local fund raiser Can Assist (for many years it has been a Dinner Dance).

Can Assist is a committee giving financial help to those local families that need to travel out of Griffith for Cancer Treatment, well done Olga! All money goes to your very helpful group of volunteers for our city .

Thanks to Mandy for comparing the day and Bruno for inviting me along and sharing some wonderful tunes .

Joe

Photos from right clockwise: Olga (left) with Mandy: Mandy drawing the raffle; Joe and Bruno ready to entertain.



Bishop visits Griffith to celebrate Sacred Heart Fiesta

Griffith was blessed to have Bishop Columba McBeth Green who travelled from the Wilcannia/Forbes Diocese for the celebration of the Griffith sacred heart fiesta.

After mass Bishop Columba led the procession then entered the hall playing the Bag Pipes, just amazing!



Entertainment then continued with the Paul Barlow Quartet, Song and Dance from all different age groups, Griffith Italian Choir plus a roving squeeze box kept all entertained till late afternoon.

Cheers

Joe Staltare



Salami Fiesta

Weekend of August 25th was another fun filled few days in Griffith with some Tourist buses arriving Friday and Saturday for the 19th consecutive year of the Salami fiesta.

Judging began Saturday morning and over 140 Home made Salami were tasted by the cross section of celebrities from around Australia, plus local men and ladies totalling 24 judges. More than 100 visitors passed by Yoogali Club while on their tour around Griffith to note how the Salami was judged. Accordion sounds filled the room to entertain judges , officials , and guests.

This year Giacomo Salvestro kept the beat going with his custom made portable bongoes. On Sunday eleven hundred people joined the celebration of the humble salami at Pioneer Park, enjoying food, wine and dancing . Music comprised of old Italian favourites and some good old rock and it was all enjoyed.



The band comprising of Jim Salvestro ,Frank Wilson, Dr Jaya, Kevin Jobbitt and Joe Staltare entertained the crowd until very late afternoon . A Big thanks to Mark Macedone from Pristine Productions for great P A set up .

Great weekend was had by all .
Cheers

Joe Staltare

The band from left to right Joe , Kevin ,Frank ,Jim ,Jaya ,(Mark, sound engineer)

Tulip Festival in Silvan (Vic)

By Edda Klug

Some of Victoria's accordionists played for a second year at the annual Tulip Festival at Silvan on the weekend of Sept 22,23. There were 9 accordionists, a guitarist, a drummer and John Kalkbrenner conducting, this is the first time we have had a conductor.

We played on Saturday and Sunday, twice each day. Saturday was a lovely sunny day with many people walking around and listening to us play. Unfortunately on Sunday the temperature dropped and we were freezing. There were many stalls with Dutch cuisine and most tulips were flowering and people were enjoying the weekend. We hope we can play there again next year.

Regards, *Edda*



News from South Australia

It has been a busy and exciting few months in Adelaide. Here is a brief update on what we have been up to:

Adelaide Accordion Orchestra

Did you notice? Yes, we have changed our name. The "Elite Accordion Group" which has been a part of the South Australian German Association for many decades has decided to rename itself to "Adelaide Accordion Orchestra". The reasons are not hard to guess... the word "Elite" is somewhat overstated; and although there is a long history of the group being called "Elite", we really see ourselves more as a friendly group of accordion enthusiasts who enjoy playing music together and having fun as a social group. We feel our new name is more friendly and appropriate.



Octoberfest is coming up soon and we are preparing for several German themed festivals around Adelaide and also the Horsham German Fest to be held in November. This will be the third time we will play in Horsham and we are really looking forward to our "road trip", always a lot of fun and a great

chance to spend time together socialising as well as playing music. In December we have been asked again by the Rotary Club to give a performance in their "pleasant Sunday afternoon" concert series, and our last gig for the year will be a show in the beer garden of the Wheatsheaf Hotel who have been great supporters of our group over many years.

Another exciting event we participated in recently was the AMEB Centenary Online Orchestra, which brought together 1,900 musicians from around Australia to play a special arrangement of Waltzing Matilda. You can find the link to the video on our facebook page - just search for Adelaide Accordion Orchestra. On our facebook page you will also find the dates for all our upcoming performances.

Steampunk Festival

Emma Smith recently participated as musician in the Adelaide Steampunk Festival, held annually at the National Railway Museum. Amazing costumes, music, food and markets as well as train rides and museum tours were all part of this unique and exciting festival. Emma played a few of her favourite pieces of music, including the Toccata in D by JS Bach, which was met with plenty of applause.

There was also a costume competition where participants could show off their amazing Steampunk costumes. Emma is looking forward to participating again next year.





Heidi & Herman

Paul and I have been performing accordion duets as regular Friday evening performers in the German Club bistro under the names "Heidi & Herman" and are looking forward to playing at various hotels and restaurants for upcoming Oktoberfest lunches and events. We both have a German family background, so it has been a lot of fun to dress up in Lederhosen and Dirndl, to research and learn more German Music ... and making it a habit to speak more German, too!

Best wishes from Adelaide

Yvonne Smith



Ferragosto 2018

by Amelia Granturco

On Sunday 19th August, 2018, the city of Five Dock celebrated their annual Italian "Ferragosto" celebration on Great North Road. The street was blocked off and stalls set up with food and coffee for as far as the eye could see. A number of stages were set up and the Coro D'Abruzzo choir were set up and ready to start off the proceedings as the first artist of the day.

The choir is conducted by Amelia Granturco. They feature Dominique Granturco and Jemma Kassis on Accordion as accompanists for the choir and newly recruited on the left we have Vince Granturco singing with the Bass section. Another wonderful performance for the group on a lovely Sunday morning.

Amelia





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Accordionists Out and About

CROAJAMALONG GATHERING

Music in Mallacoota is in abundance and there is always a jam session or band playing sometime in this little Victorian town. I recently moved here from Sydney and over the weekend of August 24th - 26th there were gigs and jam sessions over the 3 days.. In the photo below taken at the end of the session, I am with Michael Porter (banjo) visiting from Canberra with his wife Dianne (they run 'Jammalong' in Canberra) and Jose Garcia (guitar) from 'Jammalong' in Melbourne. They kindly came along to support the Mallacoota community effort of many of the folks in the hope these weekend music festivals will continue to grow in the future. I had a great weekend and appreciate their support and encouragement. Lookout for jam sessions in Canberra organised by Dianne and Michael Porter and Jose Garcia in Melbourne, it is good fun.

Cheryle Mills

Note: Croaj**am**along is a play on the name Croajingolong which is the surrounding area where Mallacoota is situated.



SNIPPETS, GOSSIP & NEWS

Why Music?

- I. Music is a Science.
- II. Music is Mathematical.
- III. Music is a Foreign Language.
- IV. Music is History.
- V. Music is Physical Education.
- VI. Music Develops Insight and Demands Research.
- VII. Music is all these things, but most of all,
Music is Art.

That is why we teach music:

Not because we expect you to major in music . . .

Not because we expect you to play or sing all your life . . .

But so you will be human . . .

So you will recognize beauty . . .

So you will be closer to an infinite beyond this world . . .

So you will have something to cling to . . .

So you will have more love, more compassion, more

gentleness, more good –

in short, more LIFE.

Would you like to support the ASA?

*If so, then now is the time to re-n
ew your Membership or accor-
dion review subscription, or you
may like to become a member.*

*It is so easy with direct debit/
Bank transfer.*

Refer pages 36, 37 for details



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK



FACEBOOK GOALS 2018

The Accordion Society of Australia has set a goal for 2018 to get to 1000 Likes on our page by the end of the year

The page is used to keep members up to date daily on what is happening in the Accordion World, particularly in Australia and connecting Accordionists

We are currently at **624 Likes**

If you are on Facebook and haven't yet liked our page please go to:
<https://www.facebook.com/accordionsocietyofaustralia/>

News from the Paddington Music Studio (Sydney)

by Zeljko Bedic

Dear ASA members / accordion friends,

Early last year my good friend Ross Maio asked me if I would like to take over teaching one of his accordion students, Hongqian Zhang (Draven) who was studying Bachelor of Music (B Mus) at the **University of Newcastle (UON)**, majoring in performance on the Accordion. I gladly accepted the challenge. The first step of the process was that I had to undergo their rigorous induction to become a UON Academic. This was carried out by **Dr Helen English**, School and Community Engagement Director, Senior Lecturer in Music and **Dr Philip Mathias**, B Mus Programme Convenor, Conductor from the Echology School of Creative Industries, Faculty of Education and the Arts, OUN. Once this was successfully completed, I then commenced tutoring Draven for his B Mus university requirements for which he had to travel all the way from Newcastle to Sydney, to my Paddington Music Studio on a regular basis. After around one and a half years, I am delighted to announce, that with a lot of hard work, commitment and perseverance, Draven has been successful in being **awarded with his Bachelor of Music Degree (performance major on Accordion)** at the end of his final semester in the **middle of 2018**. This is another outstanding achievement and big win for the Accordion in Australia, which I am honoured and proud to have been a part of. Congratulations Draven, well deserved!

Along with some of my other accordion students, I invited Draven to one of Ross', Marchello's and Lukas' performances in March this year at the Camelot Lounge. He came down from Newcastle with his girlfriend and thoroughly enjoyed some of the best accordion performances in the country. He said that it was very inspirational. Thank you Ross and sons for an absolutely fantastic and memorable accordion extravaganza!

New AMEB Accordion Syllabus status update:

As you would all be already aware from my previous article on this topic some time ago, Tania Marx, Milica Krga and I have been working on reviewing and completely overhauling the current AMEB Accordion syllabi (Technical requirements, List Pieces and all of the other associated components) over the last four years. It has taken us hundreds of voluntary hours of our time and has been a challenging process due to our work, teaching and family commitments. However, I am glad to say that we got there in the end, and I am extremely pleased and excited to announce that we have submitted the **new AMEB Accordion syllabus** to **Mr Bernard Depasquale, Manager AMEB Federal** on **7 Feb 2018** for the AMEB's review and approval. I have recently spoken to Mr Depasquale on the progress of this process and he advised that everything is going very well and that they are now sending the new proposed syllabus to be reviewed by a panel of AMEB examiners. He was very hopeful that the new syllabus will be released for examining by the end of 2018. This is fantastic news for all accordion teachers and students all over Australia.

We are appealing to all accordion teachers across Australia to put forward as many students for Accordion AMEB exams so that we can keep the Accordion syllabus alive for many years to come. We are hopeful that the new, freshly updated syllabus will start to see a significant increase in the number of candidates sitting for their Accordion grade exams and all the way up to AMusA and LMusA Diplomas, the latter, which I'm examining a candidate for in October with the **AMEB NSW Head of Keyboard**

If numbers stay very low as they have been for a number of years now, or even worse, decline even further, the AMEB will remove the Accordion syllabus from being able to be examined, and that would be an absolute tragedy after all of the incredibly hard work that has been done to have the Accordion included into the AMEB examining system and now to completely overhaul the syllabus in an attempt to bring it into the 21st Century. Everyone, please

help us keep it alive.

NB Due to the lack of any candidates for Free Bass Accordion, this syllabus has already been removed in by AMEB Federal in 2017 and is no longer examinable. The new Accordion syllabus will replace the existing Free Bass and Stradella (Standard Bass) syllabi i.e. there will only be one syllabus moving forward called Accordion. I will let you all know when I receive the final announcement from Mr Depasquale later in the year.

Lastly, my wife Sonya and I went on a beautiful six week holiday to **Cuba, San Francisco and New York** from the beginning of June to mid July this year, where we enjoyed some amazing live music along the way, such as Latin, Jazz, New Orleans Jazz etc. The reason for the trip was to celebrate Sonya's 50th Birthday which was in June when we were in New York (she's always wanted to go there). When we were in **San Francisco**, we visited the infamous **Alcatraz** prison, which is on a small island off the coast of the San Francisco mainland. While we were walking around, having a look at some of the prison cells and taking a few photos, we stumbled across one of the cells that had an **Accordion** lying on the bed. I found that to be fascinating and took a photo to share with you all. It was the only instrument in any of the cells, well how about that:) Enjoy!



I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Yours musically,

Zeljko Bedic

Director—**Paddington Music Studio**

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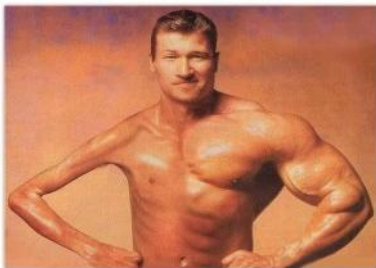
Senior Adjudicator at International, Australasian and National Competitions / Championships

University Academic - student preparation for Bachelor of Music Degrees

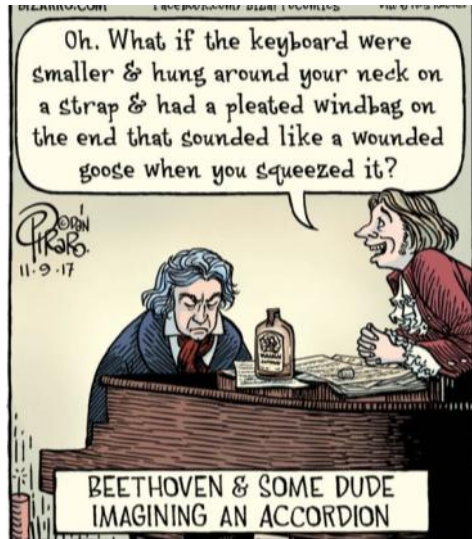
Time for a laugh



"Good news, Mr. Burgess. We've successfully removed the tune that was stuck in your head."



Typical Accordionist



Accordions Alfresco & Evergreen Wednesday Singers

Sunday November 4th at 3pm,
Canada Bay Civic Hall, Drummoyne. Sydney.
Refer page 8 for details

Ross Maio

Please check Ross Maio Facebook page for his gigs and venues.

Ben Pattinson with Medusa's Wake

Please check Medusa's Wake Facebook page for details and gig guide.

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



*NEWS FROM
NEW ZEALAND
ACCORDION ASSOCIATION*

NZAA Presidents Report - July 2018



In August 2017, the 70th Coupe Mondiale championships were held in Osimo, Italy. This year, the official New Zealand delegation consisted of myself, Harley Jones, Grayson Masefield and Heather Masefield. Harley Jones also attended in his capacity as CIA Public Relations officer along with Grayson Masefield in his capacity as a CIA music committee member and member of the international jury together with Heather Masefield and Stephanie Poole. Amber Masefield and Tamba Carleton from the NZAA committee also attended. A large group of Kiwis travelled over for the event including Kiwis now based in Europe and participated in World Accordion Orchestra IX at the final concert. Some extended their stay to enjoy the accordion festival in nearby Castelfidardo which immediately followed the Coupe Mondiale. There were no candidates competing for New Zealand but NZAA member Owen Fan did a fine job competing in the junior virtuoso entertainment category representing China.

Grayson Masefield released two CDs at the Las Vegas Accordion Convention in October 2017. He recorded a third CD of Baroque transcriptions in New Zealand and is currently recording a fourth CD with his Piazzolla group in Italy. Grayson has given masterclasses in Italy, USA, China, New Zealand and Germany. He has provided performances for many national accordion organisations including at the Berlin Philharmonica Hall as a

soloist with the string orchestra.

In January 2018, Lionel Reekie gave a very polished and informative interview on all things accordion for Radio New Zealand with Jesse Mulligan as part of their weekly music feature.

Harley Jones has covered accordion events in Shenzhen and Shanghai. He also attended the CIA winter congress in Kokkola, Finland in February 2018 as a delegate for the NZAA together with Alison Worthington.

Sadly this year, we lost one of our life members. Gerald Ryan passed away in May 2018. Gerald gave up a lot of his time to assist our association in its inception. As a solicitor, Gerald was instrumental in drafting our constitution.

Our annual competitions and festival were held over Queen's Birthday weekend. Over the last five years, we have been fortunate enough to obtain funding to cover the cost of our venue hire from Pub Charity and the Four Winds foundation. This financial assistance has proven to be invaluable. We thank both organisations for their continuing support.

Our guest artists, the trio Maestro Accordion from Russia provided us with entertaining performances over the weekend. We also had competitors and performers from China and Australia. It was pleasing to see such a group of international performers as it always enriches our event.

The farewell concert featured the Auckland Accordion Symphonietta, the South Pacific and New Zealand solo accordion championship winners, other special performances from the weekend and Maestro Accordion.

Heather Masefield

September 2018—Congratulations Harley Jones

The NZAA congratulates Vice President Harley Jones for the following award in Chicago

ATG International Accordion Hall of Fame Member

Harley Jones

*THE ACCORDIONISTS & TEACHERS GUILD,
INTERNATIONAL*

*Member Confédération Internationale des Accordéon-
istes (CIA),
International Music Council (IMC), an NGO Official
Partner of UNESCO*

Takes great pride in selecting

Harley Jones

*As a member of the ATG International Accordion Hall
of Fame.*

Harley Jones has shown his expertise and musicianship as an accordion soloist in many different countries. He has also proven his abilities as teacher of and continuing mentor for scores of accordion students. However, it is his keen vision and significant success in establishing www.accordions.com for a more informed and united world accordion community which has made a commanding impact upon accordionists throughout the world.

ATG recognizes and acknowledges these accomplishments through the presentation of this award.

*Awarded on July 27, 2018 by the ATG Board of Directors
Presented at the 78th Annual ATG Accordion Festival
Lisle, IL*

kennedy-center.org

THE KENNEDY CENTER

Millennium Stage
Free Performances Every Day



Grayson Masefield
7/9/2018 at 6:00 PM

The American Accordionists' Association conference brings Grayson Masefield for a concert that demonstrates the capabilities of the accordion, with selections of songs from the Baroque period to modern compositions. The performance will include transcriptions and original works for accordion, including songs by Bach, Scarlatti, Mozart, Chopin, Angelis, Hermosa, and Nuevo Tango.

Multi World Champion winner Grayson Masefield was sponsored by the American Accordionists' Association (AAA) to perform at the Kennedy Center Millennium Stage and promote the 80th Anniversary Festival of the AAA which started two days after this concert.

The concert program was designed to demonstrate the musical capabilities of the accordion showcasing Baroque & Classical periods through to original works for the accordion in both concert and entertainment styles. Composers included Bach, Scarlatti, Mozart, Angelis, Hermosa to modern styles like Nuevo Tango.

The Kennedy Center broadcast the concert live and some 60 minutes after the concert ended, the video was then placed in the Kennedy Center video archive library for viewing at any time.



A picture of the very large video screen above the Millennium Stage. The video featured lots of close ups which was interesting for the large audience to be able to see closely both bass and treble fingerwork.

You can watch this concert on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jr5LshZta24>

Also appearing at the AAA Festival in Washington to celebrate its 80th Birthday was Lionel Reekie as demonstrator for Titano Accordions USA. Lionel also performed at a lunchtime concert and an evening concert. He also promoted the accordion on both television and radio.



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APPLICATION/RENEWAL FOR MEMBERSHIP OF ASSOCIATION



ACCORDION SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA (Incorporated NSW)
(incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 1984)

I,
(full name of applicant)

of
(address)

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