



**The Accompanists' Guild  
of South Australia Inc.**

**AGSA Newsletter April 2008**

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**For the Members and Friends of the Accompanists' Guild.  
Your Support is Needed - Now**

**Deadline - Early Bird Conference applications close April 21**

**Publicity:** The Malcolm Martineau visit is already "out there". We have a team of 3 working on publicizing the Festival of Accompanists including the 4 Martineau Masterclasses, Young Accompanists on Show, The Geoffrey Parsons Award and the Conference of Accompanists and Associate Artists. The Conference includes a sparkling array of presentations, masterclasses and short recitals related to the Accompanist & Associate Artists (Singers & Instrumentalists) plus Malcolm's Recital with Jonathan Lemalu.

Media response has been encouraging with reference to the Festival, Conference & Recital already appearing in The Advertiser and on ABC Classic FM. Martineau interviews are already booked with 3 ABC presenters soon after he arrives. We must thank AGSA Committee member Chris Wainwright for his flood of media alerts for this (It is great to have time and expertise donated to the cause).

**Members & Friends - please become part of our publicity outreach - encourage your family, friends, associates to attend something - our priorities are the Conference and the Martineau/Lemalu Recital which you can attend as part of the Conference or as a single event ( single event book through Bass 131 246)**

**Fundraising:** This is the most difficult area to confront a group of accompanists (ie the AGSA Committee). Our efforts began mid 2007. Initially it was extremely hard to ask for donations – yes! Money!! It's still foreign to us but at least we've grown thicker skins. We've had some exciting successes as well as many knock backs. We have attracted 2 grants from government sources (Arts SA and the Adelaide City Council) but the larger applications for the Martineau Residency (Arts SA) and for more extensive advertising (The Australia Council) drew a blank. We have secured one business partnership through the SA Premier's Arts Partnership Fund and much in kind support. Our greatest support has been from private donors. Wonderful/thank you.

**Members & Friends – you can support our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Festival most effectively by attending events in the Festival But don't stop helping with Fundraising. Remember donations made through AbaF are tax deductible.**

**Educating Potential Audience: Martineau/Lemalu Recital-** The perennial problem for accompanists is the view that their role is secondary. Most concert goers know who Bryn Terfel is - but do they know that Malcolm Martineau has accompanied Bryn for most of his CDs and recitals? Sopranos know who Barbara Bonney is, mezzos know Susan Graham and baritones know Sir Thomas Allen but do they know that Malcolm Martineau has backed them all on CD and stage? Expat Aussies can't believe we have Malcolm here for so long. From Austria Stacey Bartsch is distraught she can't be here, Katrina Barr from London alerted mother, Judith, with a "don't miss this musician!!" Before Malcolm reaches Adelaide he's on tour in the US with Bryn Terfel and has recitals with Magdalena Kozena in Dresden, Brussels, and Vienna and Barbara Bonney in Dusseldorf. After Adelaide he performs in Berlin (Susan Graham), Brussels (Schwanewilms) London (Terfel) (Sir Thomas Allen). Talk of accompanists & most know about Gerald Moore and Geoffrey Parsons. Malcolm Martineau represents the next generation of super – star accompanists. Youthful **Jonathan Lemalu** represents the next generation of opera /recital stars in the mode of Bryn Terfel but he's entirely his own man.

**Members and Friends – help us inform the concert going public about these outstanding musicians. The Guild can't afford lavish advertising but we can ask our ever widening band of supporters to undertake some positive publicity and encourage attendance to the June 1 Recital in Elder Hall and possibly to one/two/all days at the Conference. Please note day 3 of the Conference includes the Recital.**

**The Conference:** This unique Conference of Accompanists & Associate Artists is certainly the first of its kind in Australia. Piano teachers, flautists, violists and cellists all flock to conferences. This conference is in the name of Accompanists as well as Associate Artists - those who play with and need accompanists. With Martineau and Lemalu as guests there is a strong emphasis on singers. We need at least 60 paying registrants. At this point 25% have applied. Remember the **Early Bird date is April 21**. Check out the Conference Diary. Presenters and performers are descending on Adelaide from all round Australia. So much is included – recitals, masterclasses, lecture demonstrations, panel discussions and even the refreshments on Saturday and Sunday are part of the deal. There is no need to attend every day of the Conference. Those attending on Friday May 30<sup>th</sup> should ensure they have registered well before 12.30 as evidence of registration will be required for the 1.10 concert and reserved seats are no longer available after 12.45.

**Members and Friends – put aside regular weekend engagements. Make a special effort yourself to attend this once in a half century occasion which recognizes the significance of the Accompanist. Talk younger pianists into attending. Something in this Conference may prove a vital influence on the future careers of young pianists, singers and instrumentalists. Make this Conference of Accompanists & Associate Artists as significant as any comparable conference of musicians. Be involved.**

**What else?**

**Young Accompanists on Show** at Pilgrim Church on Wed May 28 is a 3 tiered project featuring secondary school accompanists with Wind Associates at 12.10 At 1.10 ex-Adelaide UK based accompanist, David Barnard, performs with ASO Wind soloists, Philip Hall (Principal French Horn), Geoffrey Bourgault du Coudray (Acting Principal clarinet) and Rebecca Johnson (flute) This includes an Australian premiere of Hall's latest work and is followed by lunch and a Master Class. All FREE - thanks to the sponsorship of the Adelaide City Council. Select one or more aspects of this project and - if you intend staying for lunch - RSVP to the secretary by May 21.

**Members and Friends - we've told the Adelaide CC we can attract 180 to this concert. Help us reach that mark. It's ideal for piano and wind students. We already have a class from Marryatville Special Music Centre attending. This project is equally ideal for the older concert goer who enjoys music at lunchtime!**

**Martineau Master Classes:** There are four 90 minute Masterclasses - May 26/7/8/9 at 7 pm - each one worth attending to observe Martineau the accompanist and vocal coach working with singer/pianist duos. The performers are mostly young professionals in their 20s and 30s the exception being the Yamaha sponsored youth masterclass on Thursday May 29. Places for participants are almost booked out.

**Members and Friends – we never expect large numbers at Master Classes but do encourage performers and music lovers alike to experience this intimate working situation where one can observe the master guiding the transformation of a performance by both singer and pianist.**

**Geoffrey Parsons Award:** Acknowledging the great Australian accompanist who was a significant mentor for Malcolm Martineau, the Guild is offering a once only Silver Anniversary prize pool of \$6000. Open auditions - late afternoons May 27/8 - Final Friday May 30<sup>th</sup> at 7.30.

**Members and Friends – let it be known!! Of course SPONSORSHIP would be ideal.**

**Conclusion**

**A lot of work and a lot of money are going into this Festival of Accompanists.**

**Help us make it a Festival to Remember.**

**The best way you can help?**

**BE THERE!**