

Pianists perform en masse in Adelaide for Accompanists' Guild of SA 2018 Festival: (13-17 June 2018)

For five days in June 2018 pianists young and old, professionals and students, will create untold excitement on many pianos—from two to 32 – uprights, grands and even professional toy pianos in private studios, school and public performance spaces. The culmination will be a Celebrity Recital in Elder Hall performed by acclaimed duo pianists LISA MOORE and SONYA LIFSCHITZ.

For just three days – Friday June 15 to Sunday June 17--Sonya and Lisa will join the Festival for classes at Marryatville High School, followed by the popular annual Accompanists' Conference and finally perform their duo recital "Handwork" in Elder Hall which is presented in association with Recitals Australia as part of their 2018 Virtuosi Series.

Highlights of the 2018 Festival will include:

- Acclaimed Australian duo pianists, New York resident Lisa Moore and Sydney musician, Sonya Lifschitz will premiere a new South Australian work by a rising star composer, for duo piano including the challenge to notate it specifically for iPad. The winner of the first Guild Composition Award in 2014 Jakub Jankowski, has had some fabulous successes since then. In 2017 he was commissioned by Musica Viva to write a cello sonata for international artists cellist, Nicolas Altstaedt and pianist, Aleksandar Madžar.
- 32 SA-pianists – aged from eight to 80-years old will perform two works during the PianoMax Multi Piano Extravaganza under the direction of Leonie Hempton (Director of Music, St Peter's Cathedral). Other works include: a Bach organ toccata arr. by Grainger for six pianists on three pianos, Kats-Chernin for five pianos, Stravinsky from *The Rite of Spring* for eight pianos, Wagner's *Ride of the Valkeries* for eight pianos, and, for 32 pianos, a new work by youthful local composer, Jesse Budel and Terry Riley's famous minimalist piece, *In C*.
- At the ever-popular Conference, pairs of pianos will be discussed and performed in masterclasses, presentations and concerts. Highlights of the day include a presentation by Martin Bresnick (Head of Composition, Yale University) on his composition *Handwork*, written for Lisa Moore and Sonya Lifschitz; a concert by the Young Accompanists' Showcase students with professional associates; a one man performance by local composer David Lang of his work for grand piano and toy piano and a "piano as orchestra" performance in an excerpt from Rachmaninov's *Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini*.

Described as "virtuosi maverick Australian-Ukrainian-American pianists" Sonya and Lisa join forces in the Sunday Elder Hall Recital to present a powerhouse journey on two grand pianos with masterwork music, J.S. Bach's *Goldberg Variations* (arranged by Australian pianist and composer Stephen Emmerson), the world premiere of a work by a Young South Australian composer, the Adelaide premiere of Martin Bresnick's mysteriously evocative *Handwork* and John Adams' jazz-infused, rollicking *Hallelujah Junction*.

ENDS.

Festival Partners:



Festival packages are now on sale at www.trybooking.com/TCLR. Recital only
<https://recitalsaustralia.org.au/sessions/14/tickets>

For further information, interviews and media resources, please contact:
Chris Wainwright, Honorary Publicist, 0438 829 728, cmwain@gmail.com

Accompanists' Guild of SA's 2018 Festival Calendar

Wednesday 13 June 2018

Lunch Hour Concerts at Pilgrim Church, 12 Flinders Street, Adelaide

12.10pm – JEMS – Our Primary School Junior Ensemble Musicians – with a range of ensembles including 2 and more pianists on 2 pianos including excerpts from Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf*

1.10pm FORJEMS-Saint Saëns' *Carnival of the Animals* presented by the Royal Commonwealth Society Ensemble, pianists Andrew Georg and Thomas Saunders with Narrator Keith Hempton.

Thursday 14 June 2018

5.00pm **PianoMax Multiple Piano Extravaganza in the Magill Road PianoMax Store**
Starts with two pianists on two pianos and gradually enlarges to three four, eight and up to 32 pianos with conductor extraordinaire Leonie Hempton's debut conducting the 32 pianos

Program to include: Bach arr. Grainger for three pianos, Kats-Chernin for five pianos, Stravinsky for eight pianos, Wagner's *Ride of the Valkeries* for eight pianos, Jesse Budel (new work) for 32 pianos and Terry Riley for 32 pianos

Friday 15 June 2018

11.00am to 1.00pm An active two-hour **Educational Outreach Session** at Marryatville High School led by our brilliant international Guest Artists LISA MOORE and SONYA LIFSCHITZ for a master class, discussions and a chance for students to observe the duo in rehearsal after the class. Australian born New York resident LISA MOORE and her duo piano partner, Ukrainian born Australian resident, SONYA LIFSCHITZ, have recently experienced great success touring as a duo in the States.

Saturday 16 June 2018

CONFERENCE at Marryatville High School

9.30am to 4.00pm – packed with demonstrations, master classes relating to the collaborative pianist and the duo piano combination– even something about the current trend of using “toy” pianos in serious composition. There is a special session with the Head of Composition at Yale University, Martin Bresnick – discussing how he wrote for two pianos in his composition *Handwork* to be performed in the Recital.

The post lunch concert is by the Guild's Young Accompanists Showcase six Secondary school pianists (joining forces with professional associates-clarinetist Mitch Berick and pianists (for duo piano works) Irina Lioubimova, Damien Mansfield and Thomas Saunders in the highlight of their four-month project.

Festival Partners:



Sunday 17 June 2018 – presented in association with Recitals Australia

2.30pm – **Celebrity Recital Handwork at Elder Hall with Lisa Moore and Sonya Lifschitz**

Bach Goldberg Variations BWV 988 (arr: Stephen Emerson for piano duo) and works by **John Adams, Martin Bresnick** and the Guild Composition Award Winner. Presented in association with Recitals Australia. Buy tickets online for Sunday concert only at: <https://recitalsaustralia.org.au/sessions/14/tickets>. Adults \$40, Concession \$32, Students \$15.

The Adelaide 17 June concert is part of Lisa Moore and Sonya Lifschitz's National tour of *Handwork*:

Wednesday 23 May 2018, 7.00pm

Larry Sitsky Room Australian National University, School of Music, Canberra
<http://music.cass.anu.edu.au/news-events/events/handwork-sonya-lifschitz-lisa-moore>

Thursday 24 May 2018, 1.00pm

Playhouse Theatre, Western Sydney University, Penrith Campus, Sydney
<https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/>

Monday 4 June 2018, 6.30pm

Twilight Notes Series, Queensland Performing Arts Centre, Southbank, Brisbane
<https://www.qpac.com.au>

Friday 8 June 2018, 6.30pm

Recital Hall West, Sydney Conservatorium of Music, 1 Conservatorium Rd, Sydney
<http://music.sydney.edu.au/event-listings>

Tuesday 19 June 2018, 6.30pm

Elizabeth Murdoch Hall, Melbourne Recital Centre, Sturt St and Southbank Blvd, Melbourne
<https://www.melbournerecital.com.au/events/2018/goldberg-variations/>

Accompanists' Guild of SA's 2018 Festival Pricing

Festival Package

Includes All Festival events

- Full price \$140
- Concession, Seniors, and members of Recitals Australia, Music Teachers Association SA and Friends of ASO \$110
- AGSA members \$105
- Full time Student \$70

Weekend Package

Includes Conference and Lisa Moore & Sonya Lifschitz Duo Piano Recital

- Full price \$125
- Concession, Seniors, and members of Recitals Australia, Music Teachers Association SA and Friends of ASO \$105
- AGSA members \$100
- Full time Student \$65

Conference

- Full price \$100
- Concession, Seniors, and members of Recitals Australia, Music Teachers' Association SA and Friends of ASO \$95
- AGSA members \$90
- Full time Student \$60

2nd Early Bird Prize donated by Ukaria

Go in the draw to win two tickets to Schubert's Farewell Trio with Paul Wright (violin), Michael Dahlenburg (cello), Caroline Almonte (piano) on 11 November 2018 at Ukaria. Deadline: 5pm, Monday 14 May 2018.



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Guest Artists' Biographies



Lisa Moore, piano

The New York Times writes 'Lisa Moore, an Australian pianist long based in and around New York, has always been a natural, compelling storyteller', *TimeOut New York* describes her as 'the wonderfully lyrical pianist' and *The New Yorker* refers to her as 'New York's queen of avant-garde piano'. Lisa has nine solo discs (Cantaloupe, Orange Mountain Music, Tall Poppies) ranging from Leoš Janáček to Philip Glass. Her latest CD *The Stone People* (Cantaloupe), featuring the music of John Luther Adams, Martin Bresnick, Missy Mazzoli, Kate Moore, Frederic Rzewski and Julia Wolfe, made *The New York Times Top Classical Albums of 2016* and the *2017 Naxos Critics' Choice*. Lisa has recorded over thirty collaborative discs (Sony, Nonesuch, DG, BMG, New World, ABC Classics, Albany, New Albion, Starkland, Harmonia Mundi). Her recent Steve Reich *Music for Eighteen Musicians* (Harmonia Mundi) with Ensemble Signal made *The New York Times Top Classical Albums of 2015* list.

Lisa collaborates with a large and diverse range of musicians, ensembles and artists – groups such as the London Sinfonietta, Bang on a Can All-Stars, Steve Reich Ensemble, New York City Ballet, Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Australian Chamber Orchestra, Sydney Symphony Orchestra and the American Composers Orchestra. She is a member of Grand Band, Ensemble Signal, TwoSense and the Paul Drescher Double Duo. Festival guest appearances include Lincoln Center, BAM Next Wave, Big Ears, Banff, Crash Dublin, Vienna, Graz, Rome, Turin, Aspen, Tanglewood, Gilmore, Chautauqua, Huddersfield, Paris d'Automne, Shanghai, Beijing, Hong Kong, BBC Proms, Southbank, Uzbekistan, Leningrad, Moscow, Lithuania, Adelaide, Perth, Brisbane, Sydney, Canberra, Israel and Warsaw. As an artistic curator Lisa produced Australia's *Canberra International Music Festival 2008 Sounds Alive* series, importing artists from around the world for 10 days of events at the *Street Theatre*.



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Having won the silver medal in the 1981 Carnegie Hall *International American Music Competition* Lisa moved to New York City in 1985. From 1992-2008 she was the founding pianist for the *Bang On A Can All-Stars* and winner of Musical America's 2005 *Ensemble of the Year Award*. Lisa has collaborated with over 200 composers – including Iannis Xenakis, Elliot Carter, Philip Glass, Steve Reich, Frederic Rzewski, Ornette Coleman, David Lang, Don Byron, Meredith Monk, Thurston Moore, Hannah Lash, Julia Wolfe and Martin Bresnick.

Sonya Lifschitz, piano

Praised by The New York Times and The Age for her “dynamic” and “powerful” performances, Ukrainian-born pianist Sonya Lifschitz is internationally recognized as one of Australia's most innovative and creative musical voices. In 2015, Sonya made her critically acclaimed solo debut in New York's BargeMusic series, with other season highlights including performances at the Banff Centre (Canada); Melbourne Recital Centre's Local Heroes and Spotlight series; Melbourne, Darwin and Port Fairy Festivals; Queensland Conservatorium of Music; and a collaboration between visual artist Angela Cavalieri, iconic Melbourne arts venue fortyfivedownstairs, and Sonya's contemporary ensemble Press, Play, of which she is the co-founder and artistic co-director.

Sonya is increasingly active as a music curator and director, pushing to expand the existing parameters of performance culture and concert experience in Australia. In 2015 she curated and directed a critically-acclaimed multi-disciplinary project (Canzone) for the Melbourne Festival, working at the intersection of visual art, music, and animation. This year, as a Fellow at the Australian National Academy of Music, Sonya will curate two large-scale projects reflecting her commitment to innovative and creative programming and community engagement.

A fierce advocate for new music, Sonya has commissioned and premiered numerous large-scale works, notably Kate Neal's piano concerto Particle Zoo II, Damian Barbelers Bright Birds, and two electro-acoustic suites for piano and electronics, by Steve Adam and Anthony Lyons amongst many others. Sonya debuted with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra at age 18, performing Rachmaninoff's Second Piano Concerto, broadcast on ABC Classic FM and SBS television. She has been a soloist with the Melbourne Symphony, Israel Symphony, John Hopkins Symphony, Western Australia Youth Symphony, Melbourne Symphonia, and Marroondah Symphony orchestras; has performed extensively in Australia, United States, Israel, Switzerland, Italy and England; and has been featured on ABC Classic FM, ABC Radio National, and 3MBS Fine Music stations. A Fulbright Scholar, Sonya studied under the legendary pianist-conductor Leon Fleisher at the Peabody Conservatory of Music (John Hopkins University, USA) and holds a PhD in performance from the University of Melbourne.

In February 2018, Sonya joined the UNSW School of Arts and Media as a Lecturer in Music Performance.

See Lisa and Sonya performing Stephen Emerson's arrangement of J.S. Bach's Goldberg Variations: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AzC9p3lgQ-k> and <https://youtu.be/Rzkftfg> -so

For further information, interviews and media resources, please contact:
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