



# TEAM OF PIANISTS



## Spring Piano School 2015

for school-aged piano students

at 'Glenfern', East St Kilda

Tuesday September 29, Wednesday September 30 &

Thursday October 1

A 3-DAY WORKSHOP OF PIANO CLASSES AND INDIVIDUAL LESSONS

*Staff will allocate times for each student's individual lessons prior to the start of each session, when the lesson time-table will be displayed*

***Junior Programme*** – for primary school students

**9.30am-1.00pm each day** (15 places for primary school students of all music exam levels, plus Year 7 students up to and including AMEB/ANZCA grade 4 level)

***Senior Programme*** - for secondary school students

**2.00pm-5.30pm each day** (15 places for secondary school students of all music exam levels)

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**The Team of Pianists' Spring Piano School is designed to help piano students from ages 6 to 18 achieve their potential, irrespective of their level or background**

With world-class teaching, this 21<sup>st</sup>-century holiday programme takes place in the 19<sup>th</sup>-century Gothic National Trust mansion 'Glenfern', in East St Kilda. The young pianists work intensively to consolidate their musical and pianistic skills, they polish their repertoire pieces and they enjoy socialising with their musical peers. The Spring Piano School 2015 is a wonderful school holiday preparation for AMEB, ANZCA, VCE and other examinations, as well as for competitions. It provides a valued educational and social opportunity for piano students. Students attend either the Junior or the Senior Programme.

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## Junior Programme

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Students normally should have experienced a minimum of 2 years of individual piano tuition. Junior Programme participants should bring 3 – 5 works prepared to a secure standard. Year 7 students at AMEB/ANZCA Grade 4 level or below should attend the Junior Programme. In the group classes, the students will have the opportunity to hear others performing and will gain experience in playing before others. They will have individual lessons also. The Junior Programme will conclude with a public recital for friends and family members, including a scholarship presentation. Morning and afternoon teas are provided, however students should bring their own lunch and a drink.

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## Senior Programme

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Senior Programme participants will work with distinguished tutors and experience a range of teaching styles. The group lessons will encompass skills development and interpretation of repertoire, whilst the individual lessons will provide intensive teaching and coaching, all helping to provide each student with ideas and techniques to take their performance to the next level. This programme is ideal preparation for upcoming exams and recitals. The Senior Programme will conclude with a public recital for friends and family members, including a scholarship presentation. Participants in the Senior Programme should bring 3 - 4 works prepared to a secure standard. Morning and afternoon teas are provided, however students should bring their own lunch and a drink.

## Cost and Bookings – Student Participants

**Junior Programme participant: \$300**, includes 3 x 30-minute individual lessons (value \$150), as well as group classes

**Senior Programme participant: \$300**, includes 3 x 30-minute individual lessons (value \$150), as well as group classes

**Discount for two children from the same family and in the same programme: \$540** (\$60 discount)

*Bookings must be made online at <http://www.trybooking.com/IKVZ> (please note, a booking fee of 30c per student applies)*

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## Tutors and Programme

- Professor Max Cooke OAM, Bundesverdienstkreuz, founder and partner - Team of Pianists
- Darryl Coote, partner - Team of Pianists, piano faculty – Monash University
- Lachlan Redd, piano staff - Scotch College
- Robyn St George, former head of Teacher Training - Yamaha Australia
- Betty Vergara-Pink, former head of piano pedagogy - Musikhochschule Freiburg (Germany)
- Kevin Suherman, brilliant Indonesian pianist and teacher

### TIMETABLE - TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 29

- **9.30am-10.00am** - Introduction - Juniors
- **10.00am-11.15am** - Junior Piano Session 1 – Max Cooke

During this session, students may take 30 minutes out to attend an individual lesson with Betty Vergara-Pink, Robyn St George or Kevin Suherman (one lesson per day will be arranged for each student)

- **11.15am-11.30am** - Morning Tea
- **11.30am-1.00pm** - Junior Piano Session 2 – Darryl Coote

During this session, students may take 30 minutes out to attend an individual lesson with Betty Vergara-Pink, Robyn St George or Kevin Suherman (one lesson per day will be arranged for each student)

- **1.00pm-2.00pm** - Lunch (students bring their own lunch)
- **2.00pm-2.30pm** - Introduction – Seniors
- **2.30pm-3.45pm** - Senior Piano Session 1- Max Cooke: Focus on works by Beethoven and Chopin

During this session, students may take 30 minutes out to attend an individual lesson with Darryl Coote, Lachlan Redd or Kevin Suherman (one lesson per day will be arranged for each student)

- **3.45pm-4.00pm** - Afternoon Tea
- **4.00pm-5.30pm** - Senior Piano Session 2 – Darryl Coote: Focus on works by Debussy, as well as technique and pedalling for all composers

During this session, students may take 30 minutes out to attend an individual lesson with Max Cooke, Lachlan Redd or Kevin Suherman (one lesson per day will be arranged for each student)

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## TIMETABLE - WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 30

- **9.30am-10.45am** - Junior Piano Session 3 – Kevin Suherman

During this session, students may take 30 minutes out to attend an individual lesson with Betty Vergara-Pink, Robyn St George or Darryl Coote (one lesson per day will be arranged for each student)

- **10.45am-11.15am** – Morning Tea
- **11.15am-12.45pm** – Junior Piano Session 4 – Lachlan Redd

During this session, students may take 30 minutes out to attend an individual lesson with Betty Vergara-Pink, Robyn St George or Max Cooke (one lesson per day will be arranged for each student)

- **12.45pm-2.00pm** - Lunch (students bring their own lunch)
- **2.00pm-3.30pm** - Senior Piano Session 3 – Lachlan Redd: Focus on works by Bach and Mozart

During this session, students may take 30 minutes out to attend an individual lesson with Max Cooke, Darryl Coote or Kevin Suherman (one lesson per day will be arranged for each student)

- **3.30pm-4.00pm** - Afternoon Tea
- **4.00pm-5.30pm** - Senior Piano Session 4 – Kevin Suherman: Focus on works from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries

During this session, students may take 30 minutes out to attend an individual lesson with Max Cooke, Darryl Coote or Lachlan Redd (one lesson per day will be arranged for each student)

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## TIMETABLE - THURSDAY OCTOBER 1

- **9.30am-11.00am** - Junior Piano Session 5 – Max Cooke & Darryl Coote: Preparation for Junior Recital

During this session, students may take 30 minutes out to attend an individual lesson with Robyn St George, Betty Vergara-Pink or Kevin Suherman (one lesson per day will be arranged for each student)

- **11.00am-11.30am** - Morning Tea
- **11.30am-1.00pm** - Junior Recital (parents and friends are invited to this session free of charge)
- **1.00pm-2.00pm** - Lunch (students bring their own lunch)
- **2.00pm-3.30pm** - Senior Piano Session 5 – Max Cooke & Darryl Coote: Preparation for Senior Recital

During this session, students may take 30 minutes out to attend an individual lesson with Lachlan Redd, Kevin Suherman, or Betty Vergara-Pink (one lesson per day will be arranged for each student)

- **3.30pm-4.00pm** - Afternoon Tea
- **4.00pm-5.30pm** – Senior Recital (parents and friends are invited to this session free of charge)
- **5.30pm** – Conclusion of Spring Piano School 2015



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## Professional Development Observer Places

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### Piano Teachers are welcome too!

A limited number of *Professional Development Observer Places*, with lunch included, will be available each day for piano teachers or parents. Spring Piano School 2015 will showcase a wide range of abilities and achievement levels, plus contrasting and varied teaching approaches in a friendly environment. It's a great opportunity to meet others, recharge your enthusiasm and find answers to your questions. Book a *professional development observer place* (for any day/s) and attend the student recitals for no extra charge.

### Cost and Bookings – Professional Development Observer Places

**\$125 per day**, with lunch and certificate of attendance included

Online bookings at <http://www.trybooking.com/IKVZ> (please note, a booking fee of 30c per booking applies)

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## About our Guest Teachers

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### Lachlan Redd

Lachlan Redd won First Prize in the prestigious Virtuosi of the Year 2000 competition in St Petersburg. At less than twenty-four hours notice and without rehearsal, Lachlan replaced Bruno Leonard Gelber, in two performances of Rachmaninov's Piano Concerto No. 3 with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Yan Pascal Tortelier at Hamer Hall. In 2001, he won the Keyboard Final of the ABC's Young Performer of the Year and received the University Medal as the top student at the Australian National University. He was awarded a scholarship by the Queen's Trust to study at the Manhattan School of Music (USA), completing his Master of Music under Philip Kawin. Lachlan has played throughout Australia as soloist and recitalist, appearing with nearly all the major orchestras. He has performed extensively in Australia, Belgium, England, Germany, Russia, Scotland and USA, with leading conductors such as Nicholas Braithwaite, Janos Fürst, Michael Halasz, Yan Pascal Tortelier and Vladimir Verbitsky. The Tozer Estate offered Lachlan an exclusive contract to premiere a series of compositions by late Australian pianist, Geoffrey Tozer. Lachlan is an experienced teacher, being a member of the piano staff at Scotch College in Melbourne.

### Robyn St George

Robyn St George has specialised in teaching music students of Primary School age, having worked with Yamaha Music Australia for 30 years. As well as attending many overseas teaching seminars, she has prepared many students for International Concerts and has worked extensively training teachers in Australia and New Zealand.

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## Kevin Suherman

Indonesian-born pianist Kevin Suherman was a semi-finalist in the 14th International Ettlingen Youth Piano Competition (Germany) and performed in the Busoni International Piano Competition (Italy). Kevin is the national winner of the 2013 Australian Youth Classical Music Competition, currently completing his Bachelor of Music (Performance) studies at the University of Melbourne, under the Professor Max Cooke. As an artist of Schimmel Pianos (Germany) Kevin has recorded three CD's, the third being launched in August 2015. Kevin has performed a wide variety of piano concertos, most regularly with the Jakarta Sinfonia Orchestra. He is a staff member at Hello Music Studios.

## Betty Vergara-Pink

Betty Vergara-Pink was born in Sydney but spent her early years in country Queensland, where she learnt both piano and violin. She studied subsequently with Professor Max Cooke at the Melbourne University Conservatorium, where she completed a Master of Music in Performance. Betty was twice Victorian State winner and Commonwealth Finalist in the ABC's Concerto Competition and had established herself as a soloist and chamber music player. Following study in piano and piano chamber music at the Musikhochschule in Freiburg (Germany), she returned to Australia and was appointed Lecturer in Music at Queensland University of Technology (Brisbane), researching piano teaching methods in the USA and Canada. In 1993 she was appointed to a professorship in piano and piano pedagogy at the Freiburg Musikhochschule. Since 2012, Betty has been active in Melbourne's musical life, teaching, giving masterclasses, accompanying and adjudicating competitions. In a vibrant and active inter-action in her lessons, Betty aims to help young people develop independence, through an emphasis on aural memory and expressive understanding.

For biographies of Team of Pianists partners **Max Cooke** and **Darryl Coote**, please see <http://www.teamofpianists.com.au/partners/>.

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## Scholarships

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Some scholarships, donated by the *Friends of the Team of Pianists Inc*, will be offered before the start of the School, on the recommendation of the selectors, whilst others will be awarded during the School, on the recommendation of the teachers with whom the pianists have worked. The number of Scholarships is limited. Those selected for scholarships will receive a refund of part of their tuition fee. Scholarships may be awarded on the basis of helping with travel expenses, need, ability, encouragement, and recommendation from the student's teacher.

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## Other information

- Following the receipt of bookings, all students/parents will receive a document confirming enrolment and providing further details.
- Places are strictly limited and applications will be processed in order of receipt.  
*Early booking is highly recommended!*
- Enrolment cut-off date: Friday September 18, or whenever all places are filled - whichever is earlier.
- Places in the Spring Piano School 2015 are strictly limited, due to the number of teaching studios and staff available.
- We regret that refunds are not possible, as staff are engaged on the basis of enrolment numbers.
- Due to venue constraints and the number of enrolments that can be accepted, unfortunately part-enrolments are not possible – students enrol either for three mornings in the Junior Programme, or for three afternoons in the Senior Programme.
- The organisers are unable to organise accommodation for participants, however those requiring accommodation are advised to contact *Apartments Ink* located in Inkerman Street, St Kilda: <http://www.apartmentsink.com.au>. Other accommodation possibilities may be found at <http://expedia.com.au>.

### Testimonials on previous Spring Piano Schools

[www.teamofpianists.com.au/events/past-events](http://www.teamofpianists.com.au/events/past-events)

### Bookings must be made online at

<http://www.trybooking.com/IKVZ>

### Enquiries only

Professor Max Cooke

P.O. Box 286, Ashburton: 3147

Email: [info@teamofpianists.com.au](mailto:info@teamofpianists.com.au) or [maxcooke@bigpond.com](mailto:maxcooke@bigpond.com)

Tel: (03) 9822 2959

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## Some evaluations from the 2013 Spring Piano School

- *“Thank you for providing the great opportunity for my daughter to improve her piano skills and also socialise with friends who have similar interests - she really enjoyed everything that she experienced in the SPS.”*
  - *“It was interesting and fun...strange and interesting...useful...helpful...very educational.”*
  - *“...helped improve my repertoire greatly and quickly...”*
  - *“It gave me more confidence.”*
  - *“...helped me improve my skills by listening to other people playing and by showing me different techniques...the group repertoire sessions really taught me a lot.”*
  - *“All the staff members are really kind and helpful.”*
  - *“The group sessions enabled me to listen to advice for others and to apply that to my own performance. It was also great having one-on-one time, separate from the group. The wide range of teachers and opinions helped also. Group lessons were awesome...very inspiring and educational...”*
  - *“I had fun...was inspiring and humbling to meet so many good tutors and performers.”*
  - *“Great teaching...Encouraging environment...Workshops were excellent...A very enjoyable and educational experience. Great opportunity for students and teachers alike. Thank you!”*
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# Sponsors

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*The Team of Pianists thank the **National Trust of Australia (Victoria)**,  
**Bernies Music Land** for piano sponsorship, also  
**Friends of the Team of Pianists Inc.** for scholarship support*

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