



TEAM OF PIANISTS



www.teamofpianists.com.au

The Team of Pianists acknowledges gratefully the following sponsors: Professor Anona Armstrong AM, Australian Cultural Fund, C & C Rigg Bequest, Henkell Brothers Australia, Schimmel Pianos, as well as all other donors.

We thank Bernie's Music Land for their generous sponsorship of the Team's concerts. Bernies Music Land are agents for Schimmel pianos and their superstore is located at 381 Canterbury Road, Ringwood, Tel. 9872 5122.

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Piano technician: Vincent Tarin

The Team partners acknowledge gratefully the committee and members of the Friends of the Team of Pianists Inc. for their support.

TEAM OF PIANISTS

C & C Rigg Bequest Classic Music 2025 at Rippon Lea Ballroom

Take Four: Eight Hands at Rippon Lea! The Team's End-of-Year Celebration Recital

Tuesday December 9, 2025 - 6:30pm
Rippon Lea Ballroom, 192 Hotham Street, Elsternwick, VIC, 3185

Kevin Suherman, Rohan Murray,
Darryl Coote & Robert Chamberlain

Rachmaninoff - Fantasy Suite Op. 5 for two pianos

1- Barcarole

2 - A Night for Love

3 - Tears

4 - Russian Easter

Darryl Coote - piano 1, Robert Chamberlain - piano 2

Beethoven (arr. **Liszt**) - Scherzo from 9th symphony for two pianos

Kevin Suherman and Rohan Murray

Rossini (arr. **Liszt**) - William Tell Overture

Kevin Suherman - piano solo

Liszt - Grand Galop Chromatique for eight hands at two pianos

Piano 1 - Kevin Suherman (primo) & Darryl Coote (secondo),

Piano 2 - Rohan Murray (primo) & Robert Chamberlain (secondo)

- I N T E R V A L -

Smetana - Sonata in one movement for eight hands at two pianos

Gounod - Waltz from Faust for eight hands at two pianos

Ravel - Bolero for eight hands at two pianos

Tchaikovsky - Waltz from Sleeping Beauty for eight hands at two pianos

Piano 1 - Kevin Suherman (primo) & Darryl Coote (secondo),

Piano 2 - Rohan Murray (primo) & Robert Chamberlain (secondo)

About the Artists

Kevin Suherman - piano

Indonesian-born pianist Kevin Suherman has appeared internationally since the age of 10, after being awarded the Indonesian National Records Award (MURI) as the youngest pianist to perform 50 classical, pop and jazz pieces, in a concert for 3 hours non-stop and all music memorised, broadcasted on live national TV.

Kevin has performed as a soloist in over 30 cities and at major concert venues throughout the world, including Wigmore Hall, Steinway Hall and St. James's Piccadilly in London, the Hamer Hall and the Melbourne Recital Centre, Singapore's Esplanade, Penang's Performing Arts Centre and Aula Simfonia Jakarta in Indonesia. Kevin was awarded in honour by the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Singapore, for his debut recital at Singapore's Esplanade Recital Studio at the age of 10. He also held a charity concert for the 2006 Yogyakarta earthquake victims, which was featured on Indonesian national TV. As an artist of Germany's Schimmel Pianos Kevin has made 3 solo albums, with his third highlighting Chopin's 24 Preludes. Kevin started learning the piano at age 6 with Stephen Sulungan in Bandung, and he also studied jazz with Bambang Nugroho.

Kevin has worked with world-class musicians such as Menahem Pressler, Paul Badura-Skoda, Andrea Bonatta, Tamas Ungar, Alessio Bax, and at the Internationale Sommerakademie in Mozarteum, Salzburg with Karl-Heinz Kämmerling, Rolf Plagge and Roland Krüger. Kevin has also worked with eminent conductors such as André de Quadros, Sian Edwards, Stephen Tong and Martin Rutherford – and orchestras including the Jakarta Simfonia Orchestra, Yogyakarta Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Strings of Melbourne and Royal Academy of Music Symphony Orchestra. Kevin performed his first piano concerto with orchestra at the age of 12, and has since performed over 13 piano concertos. His performance of the Rachmaninoff Piano Concerto No. 3 with the Jakarta Simfonia Orchestra under Stephen Tong in 2015 was received with critical acclaim – the first ever performance of this Concerto in Indonesia.

On the competition platform, Kevin has won national first prizes from the Australian Youth Classical Music Competition, Royal South Street Chopin Competition, Vera Bradford Concerto Competition, and the Melbourne Recital Centre Great Romantics Competition. Kevin competed in the 60th Int. Busoni Piano Competition in Italy, and was a semi-finalist in the 14th Int. Ettlingen Youth Piano Competition in Germany. Additionally, Kevin is

the winner of Royal Academy of Music's 2017 Wilfrid Parry Prize, 2018 Delius Prize, the Elsie Cross Contemporary Piano Prize, and the Isaacs & Pirani Piano Trio Prize.

As an active chamber musician, Kevin frequently collaborates with cellist Ye Jin Choi, as the Orix Duo. The Duo has won several prizes at the Royal Academy of Music, including the Delius Prize. Subsequently, the Orix Duo was invited by the Delius Society to perform at Madingley Hall, Cambridge, where they were praised for their interpretation of the Delius Cello Sonata. Kevin has worked with renowned chamber musicians such as Michael Dussek, Christoph Richter, Adrian Brendel and Trio Owon. Kevin was also invited to perform in the 2019 Bloomsbury Festival in London, and together with the Orix Duo they performed in the New Wave Concert Series, with a programme inspired by the 50th anniversary of the first landing on the moon.

Kevin obtained the Advanced Diploma in Performance degree from the Royal Academy of Music in London, under the Steinway & Sons scholarship. As a student of renowned pianist, Professor Joanna MacGregor CBE, he specialised in Liszt's Transcriptions of Beethoven Symphonies. Additionally, Kevin obtained his Master of Arts and Professional Diploma degrees from the Royal Academy of Music and was awarded with DipRAM (Diploma of the Royal Academy of Music) for an outstanding final recital. Kevin also holds a Bachelor of Music (Honours) degree from The University of Melbourne Conservatorium of Music where he studied with Professor Max Cooke OAM, and he graduated as the Valedictorian of the Year 2016. Kevin is an alumnus of Melbourne Grammar School, where he was awarded the Sir Brian Hone honorary medal for his service to music. Kevin is a teaching associate at The University of Melbourne, and piano staff at Scotch College. In 2025, he was awarded an Associate of the Royal Academy of Music (ARAM).

kevinsuherman.com

Darryl Coote - piano

With interpretation described by Paul Badura-Skoda as "poetic", Australian-Irish pianist Darryl Coote is a founding partner of the *Team of Pianists* (www.teamofpianists.com.au). His professional life has encompassed activity as solo pianist, chamber musician, concerto soloist, teacher, adjudicator and administrator. He studied piano in Korumburra with Rennie Sullivan, then at the University of Melbourne with Max Cooke

(a pupil of Alfred Cortot), where he completed a Bachelor of Music with Honours and subsequently, Master of Music. Following initial training in Australia, Darryl studied for a year with Kurt Bauer at the Musikhochschule in Hanover (Germany). In 1985 he was Victorian State winner of the keyboard section of the ABC's Instrumental and Vocal Competition, as well as the inaugural winner of the national Hephzibah Menuhin Memorial Scholarship. A few years later, he met the brother of Hephzibah Menuhin, Sir Yehudi Menuhin, accompanying the maestro at virtually no notice in a recital encore.

Darryl has appeared in concert in all states of Australia and in many of Victoria's metropolitan and regional venues. Over 25 years he performed frequently in the *Team of Pianists'* long-running concert series, *Twilight Chamber Music at Rippon Lea*. An all-round ensemble performer, he has performed many piano duets with the late Max Cooke, as well as major two-piano works with Robert Chamberlain. He is a sought-after chamber musician and accompanist, having worked with artists such as Anne Gilby (oboe), Stephen Robinson (oboe), David Thomas (clarinet), Richard Doumani (clarinet), Jacob Lawrence (tenor), Paul McMahon (tenor), Robert Macfarlane (tenor), Timothy Reynolds (tenor), Sally-Anne Russell (mezzo soprano), Brian Hansford (baritone), Kristy Conrau (cello), Rohan de Korte (cello), Josephine Vains (cello), Michelle Wood (cello), Christopher Cartlidge (viola), Lerida Delbridge (violin), Judith Hickel (violin), Charles Castleman (violin), Miwako Abe (violin), Roy Theaker (violin), Kathryn Taylor (violin) and Elizabeth Sellars (violin). Among numerous other works, his chamber music performances have included all the works for cello and piano by Beethoven, all three violin sonatas of Brahms, the two cello sonatas by Brahms and Messiaen's *Quartet for the End of Time*. A fluent German-speaker, he enjoys presenting German art-song/Lieder, having performed Schumann's song-cycles *Frauen-liebe und -Leben* (with Sally-Anne Russell), *Dichterliebe* (with Robert Macfarlane), *Liederkreis Op. 39* (with Michael Petruccelli) and Schubert's song-cycles *Die Schöne Müllerin* (with Timothy Reynolds) and *Winterreise* (firstly with Brian Hansford, later with Timothy Reynolds). A collaboration with mezzo-soprano Sally-Anne Russell, titled *Janet and Gerald: A tribute*, presented some of the favourite repertoire performed by Janet Baker and Gerald Moore. He is a member of the Australian-German-Association.

Darryl has recorded and broadcast extensively on Australian radio networks, including ABC Classic FM and 3MBS FM. He features prominently on all nine CDs produced by the *Team of Pianists*, including

having made the first Australian recording of Bruch's Concerto for Two Pianos and Orchestra, with duo-pianist partner Robert Chamberlain and the New Monash Orchestra, conducted by André de Quadros (all recordings are available in the *iTunes* store, under *Darryl Coote* or *Team of Pianists*). He is an experienced teacher, examiner and adjudicator and has been a member of the piano faculty at Monash University since the mid-1990's. He has adjudicated many music competitions in Victoria and interstate, as well as in Malaysia and China. He has presented masterclasses in Malaysia, Germany, China, various universities around Australia, Boston University (USA), the Eastman School of Music (USA) and the Kunitachi Academy in Tokyo (Japan). In 2012, he taught at Chethams Summer Piano School (Manchester, UK).

He has held administrative and leadership roles in music administration, including as organising secretary of the 2003 Australasian Piano Pedagogy Conference in Melbourne. An honorary Life Member of the Victorian Music Teachers' Association (VMTA), he was a Council member of that association for ten years, including a term as President between 2008-2011. Together with Max Cooke, he was one of the co-founders and a past adjudicator of the Australian National Piano Award, ANPA (www.australianpianoaward.com.au), a major national competition held every two years, for pianists aged between 21 and 35. Since late 2012, he has been President of the Award board.

With heritage from both Australia and Ireland, he is a citizen of both countries.

Rohan Murray - piano

Rohan Murray completed the first performance PhD in music at the Victorian College of the Arts (later VCAM). He is a member of the Golden Key Honour Society, and was a grand finalist and prize-winner at the 2000 Australian Piano Award. Rohan has performed as soloist with various orchestras and has been the recipient of a number of awards and prizes. He has performed in the Team of Pianists Rigg Estate Recital Series, as well as a number of festivals performances. Rohan has collaborated with a number of composers and has given numerous world premiere performances. He is a partner in the Team of Pianists and his performances have been the subject of broadcasts on ABC Classic FM, 3MBS FM as well as on the Team of Pianists' 'Schimmel Artists' Series' and 'New Norcia' CDs.

Robert Chamberlain - piano

Robert Chamberlain gained Bachelor and Master degrees in Australia under

renowned Australian pedagogue Max Cooke, studied in Vienna as a winner of the *Apex/Robert Stolz Scholarship*, and also at the Banff Centre for the Arts, Canada. He is active as a performer, adjudicator, presenter and pedagogue and is a partner in the Melbourne based *Team of Pianists - Artists in Residence* for the *National Trust of Australia (Vic)*. Between 2004 and 2013 he developed and directed the *Team's* annual *Spring Piano School*, an intensive enrichment program for school aged pianists aged from 6 to 18 years. Along with the other *Team of Pianists* partners, he performs in and co-directs their annual concert series, supported by the *Colin & Cicely Rigg Bequest*.

Concert engagements with Australian and international colleagues have taken him to Turkey, Malaysia, Brunei, Thailand, Canada, as well as around Australia. His recordings on around 15 CD's encompass music for solo piano, two pianos, chamber music, voice and piano, for the *Team of Pianists* as well as on the labels *Tall Poppies*, *Naxos*, *Move Records* and *VoxAustralis*. Concert performances with leading Australian musicians in recent years have included chamber music recitals in Sydney and Melbourne with colleagues from the *Sydney Symphony Orchestra*, programs with vocal colleagues Justine Anderson, Vivien Hamilton and Jeannie Marsh from *Icon Trio*, trios and duos in *The Four B's* (Brahms, Beethoven, JS Bach) and *A Musical Flower-Garden* (Bach, Bruch, Zemlinsky) with Robert Schubert clarinet and Josephine Vains cello, chamber music programs with Judith Dodsworth soprano and Roman Ponomarev horn, multiple piano programs with Team partners including two piano repertoire with Darryl Coote, plus many other recital programs.

Performance projects for 2025 have included the premiere recording of Piano Sonata no 2 (2025) by Australian composer Lachlan Brown, released in November on YouTube, chamber recitals with Robert Schubert, clarinet and Josephine Vains, cello, as well repertoire for solo piano, two pianos, four and eight hands with the other partners of the *Team of Pianists*, Darryl Coote, Rohan Murray and Kevin Suherman.

Robert has been on the piano staff at the *Sir Zelman Cowen School of Music and Performance* at Monash University since the 1990's and in 2019 he filled a temporary 12-month role as *Coordinator of Piano* in that school. His scholarly work has included a critical edition of Australian composer Margaret Sutherland's Sonata for Violin and Piano (Currency Press, 2000), while his academic interests include piano teaching, learning and performance, creativity in piano pedagogy, and style and technique in piano

performance.

Robert was Secretary of the organising committee for the 15th Australasian Piano Pedagogy Conference, held at Monash University, Clayton Campus in July 2024. Links to papers and articles and a fuller biography of Robert may be found at <http://www.teamofpianists.com.au/partners/robert-chamberlain>.

Sponsors

Robert, Darryl, Rohan and Kevin acknowledge gratefully the sponsorship of **Bernies Music Land** tonight, in providing the fine Schimmel K 219 Konzert Series grand. The Schimmel K 213 grand was also purchased from Bernies Music Land some years ago, with the support of the National Trust, the Friends of the Team of Pianists, and many individual supporters. You can visit **Bernies Music Land** at 381 Canterbury Road, Ringwood, <https://musicland.com.au/> or speak during tonight's interval with Managing Director Mr Bernie Capicchiano and view the instruments.

The Team of Pianists thank the **Friends of the Team of Pianists Committee** for their sponsorship of tonight's event. Find out more about the Friends (FOTOPS) at <https://www.teamofpianists.com.au/fotops>, or speak with committee members Leona Joregensen, Vincent Tarin or Yani Lam. FOTOPS committee support has subsidised substantially the cost of refreshments tonight, while committee members have assisted organisation of this event, including being here in person to assist. We extend special thanks to Leona, Yani and Vincent.

We welcome and extend thanks to our Patron, Professor Anona Armstrong AM, here with us tonight, as well as thank Equity Trustees for their support via the Colin and Cicely Rigg Bequest. We thank Showtime Event Group and the National Trust for enabling us to use the Rippon Lea ballroom and we thank Showtime Event Group for supplying the refreshments.

Colin and Cicely Rigg Bequest Classic Music Series - 2026

Currently we are planning recitals for 2026, featuring outstanding guest artists and Team partners. Keep an eye on our website for the announcement of the 2026 Rigg Bequest concert series.

You can also sign up for the Team's email mailing list at the base of the home page at <https://www.teamofpianists.com.au/> or follow the Team's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/teamofpianists/> or on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/teamofpianists/>.

We acknowledge First Nations people as the Traditional Custodians of the Lands on which our events take place. We pay respect to their Elders, celebrate their continuing culture and acknowledge the memory of their Ancestors.

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SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Rippon Lea: National Trust of Australia (Victoria)

Piano technician: Vincent Tarin

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TEAM OF PIANISTS RIGG BEQUEST CLASSIC MUSIC IN HISTORIC VENUES 2025

Acclaimed for their artistry and professionalism, the Melbourne-based *Team of Pianists* has presented solo and chamber recitals, concerto performances, CDs and broadcasts over many decades and is also committed to encouraging and promoting young musicians through masterclass programmes and concert opportunities. The Team has produced many CDs covering a wide range of music, including a number of exciting, yet rarely recorded works, as well as two innovative videos and various publications on the art of piano playing and musicianship. The Team presents recitals in historic venues in and around Melbourne. The Founder of the Team was the late Professor Max Cooke OAM and the four partners are Robert Chamberlain, Darryl Coote, Rohan Murray and Kevin Suherman.

**Details of forthcoming recitals are available at
www.teamofpianists.com.au**

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