

Wednesday, 17 October, 2012
"Australian Country Report on Recent Contemporary Music"
2012 Asian Contemporary Music Festival (30th Asian Composers League Festival &
Conference), Tel Aviv, Israel, 14-20 October, 2012
Felicja Blumental Music Center, Jaffa, Tel Aviv

The 'Australian Country Report' includes information about Australian contemporary music since the previous 2011 Asian Contemporary Music Festival (29th Asian Composers League Festival & Conference), 26 November – 3 December, 2011, Taipei, Taiwan.

The Melbourne Composers' League

The Melbourne Composers' League is a non-profit organisation with charitable status, which promotes the indigenous and art music of Australia in an Asian Pacific context.

It produces professional concerts of Australian and Asian-Pacific new music with premier musicians including Michael Kieran Harvey, Peter Neville, Speak Percussion, Barrie Webb, Deborah Kayser, Geoffrey Morris, Carl Rosman, Mark Knoop, Isin Cakmakcioglu, Rachel Atkinson, Andrew MacGregor, Mark Kruger, Edit Golder, amongst many others. It has performed the music of many Australian composers including Brenton Broadstock, Julian Yu, Stuart Greenbaum, Peter Tahourdin, Ros Bandt, Thomas Reiner, Andrián Pertout, Helen Gifford, Scott McIntyre and Brendan Colbert.

Since its inception in 1997, the MCL has presented 404 works in concerts, many with ABC FM and 3MBS FM broadcasts, of which 317 works have been Australian, 71 from Asia-Pacific, 4 from Latin America, while 12, European. Twenty-nine concerts have been performed which juxtapose the music of Australia with that of another country, including music from New Zealand, Japan, Thailand, Hong Kong, the Philippines, Indonesia, Sumatra, Romania, Israel, Turkey, Taiwan, Chile, Malaysia and Italy.

In 2001, it presented Federation Music Week, with sixteen concerts and four seminars involving Asian Pacific and Australian music, to create a forward looking relationship for Australia with its neighbouring countries for coming years. In this event, as in most of our concerts, the composers were invited to come to Melbourne to meet Australian composers, musicians and audiences.

In 2008, the MCL and independent producer Anna Monea presented Below the Star-Stretched Sky – a concert of new music for trombone and string quartet from Australia and Korea featuring Barrie Webb and Silo String Quartet at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, New York, NY, USA.

In addition, the MCL produces café concerts for members, as well as composition workshops and CDs. In July 2008, a new double CD entitled 'Rear Vision' was released featuring twenty-seven Australian composers and numerous Australian performers.

Melbourne Composers' League, PO Box 2518, Fitzroy Business Centre, Victoria 3065

Email: info@melbournecomposersleague.com Website: <http://www.melbournecomposersleague.com>

At present the Melbourne Composers' League has eighty members. The MCL's present Executive Committee is Andrián Pertout (Chairman), Eve Duncan (Secretary), Antonio Tenace (Treasurer), James Wade, Johanna Selleck, David Keeffe, and Silvia Simons.

For further information:

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www.myspace.com/melbournecomposersleague

The Melbourne Composers' League will host two concert events in 2012, which include:

'Four Colours: Indigo' and 'Four Colours: Orange' – part of the MCL 'Four Colours: Gold, Silver, Orange and Indigo' concert series of four concerts in 2012-2012.

The curatorial vision of this concert series is of four contrasting art music concerts that explore identity in Australia and the Asia Pacific after recent catastrophes through tonal colour and atmosphere. The unique environmental colours and musical tone colours of Australia and the Asia-Pacific are implicit in the title: Four Colours: Gold, Silver, Orange and Indigo. Victoria has recently experienced catastrophic flood and fire, and the colour and sound of its identity at this moment calls to be explored through the arts. The Asia Pacific region likewise has had significant experiences including Japan's natural and nuclear disasters, Thailand's political upheavals, Israel's tense and violent episodes, Korea's flooding and nuclear threat, and New Zealand's mining and earthquake disasters.

Four Colours: Indigo – featuring new chamber music for string quintet from Australia and Hong Kong performed by the Veldman Quintet: including Tim Veldman (violin), Alister Barker and Chien-Hsiu Ong (violoncello). This concert will incorporate the music of composers Brendan Colbert, Eve Duncan, David Holyoake, Paul Moulatlet, Andrián Pertout, Ada Lai Ting, Peter Simondson, Silvia Simons, and Anthony Wilson, and will take place on the 24th of November, 2012 at Trinity Uniting Church, Brighton, Melbourne, Australia.

Four Colours: Orange – featuring new chamber music for clarinet, trombone, percussion and string quartet from Australia, New Zealand and Turkey featuring Robert Schubert (clarinet), Barrie Webb (trombone), Peter Neville (percussion), and Silo String Quartet (Aaron Barnden – violin, Andrea Keeble – violin, Ceridwen Davies – viola, Caerwen Martin – violoncello). This concert will incorporate the music of composers Brenton Broadstock, Paul Moulatlet, Andrián Pertout, Haydn Reeder, Antonio Tenace, Ahmet Yürür, Chris Watson, and Anthony Wilson, and will take place on the 9th of December, 2012, at Richmond Town Hall, Richmond, Melbourne, Australia. The concert will further serve to celebrate Brenton Broadstock's 60th birthday (Professor of Music and Head of Composition between 1982-2006 in the Faculty of Music at the University of Melbourne).

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The Melbourne Composers' League New CD Project

As part of the 10 year celebrations, the MCL released a double CD entitled 'Rear Vision' launched on Sunday, 20 July, 2008 at Dante's in Gertrude Street, Fitzroy. The event included a performance by Rachel Atkinson of Peter Tahourdin's *Music for Cello* (included on the CD) as part of his 80th Birthday Celebrations. The MCL double CD featured the music of members; the works of 27 Australian composers. In 2012-13, the MCL will produce a new CD celebrating the music of MCL composers. In striking contrast to the previous CD, which set out to present music performed in live concerts, relating directly to MCL events, this new CD will focus on studio recordings.

2012 Art Music Awards

The Australasian Performing Right Association (APRA) and the Australian Music Centre (AMC) announced the "winners of the 2012 Art Music Awards at a gala event held at the Playhouse, Sydney Opera House, on Tuesday 3 April 2012, honouring winners across ten national categories and in seven state awards."

Work of the Year

Nigel Westlake – *Missa Solis - Requiem for Eli* (Orchestral)

Brett Dean – *Sextet* (Instrumental)

Clare Maclean – *Osanna Mass* (Choral)

Andrea Keller – *Affectations* (Jazz)

Performance of the Year

West Australian Symphony Orchestra for its performance of James Ledger's *Two Memorials (for Anton Webern and John Lennon)*.

Award for Excellence by an Organisation or an Individual

Percussionist Claire Edwardes for the *Flash: Marimba Miniatures* recording project.

Award for Excellence in Music Education

Gondwana Choirs for their 2011 program.

Excellence in a Regional Area

The Moorambilla Voices for their engagement with local community.

Award for Excellence in Experimental Music

Sound installation specialists Madeleine Flynn and Tim Humphrey for their 2011 activities.

Award for Excellence in Jazz (for works, people and events)

24-year-old jazz guitarist and composer Quentin Angus, who recorded his debut album in 2011.

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Distinguished Services to Australian Music
Presented to composer Peter Sculthorpe.

Dr. Andrián Pertout
BMus (Hons) MMus PhD *Melb* HonFNAM SKG

Australian delegate of the ACL (Asian Composers' League), Chairman of the Melbourne Composers' League, Honorary Fellow at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music (University of Melbourne) and National Academy of Music (Thessaloniki, Greece)

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