

Profile

Experienced tertiary music educator and performer with over 30 years of teaching experience. Proven leadership in program coordination and curriculum innovation. Passionate practitioner of intercultural music and contemporary improvisation, with a strong record of original compositions and collaborative performance projects. Formal education in the fields of Western classical music, jazz, composition, improvisation and intercultural music.

Professional Skills

Teaching and Pedagogy

Teaching experience in tertiary music programs since 1993.

Developed and delivered contemporary music curriculum to train and prepare budding musicians for the music industry.

Specialist teaching skills in aural musicianship, theory, composition, jazz, intercultural music, in ensembles and on multiple instruments.

Music Performance

Professional performance experience on electric bass guitar, tabla and trombone since 1983, across a broad range of genres.

Performances as a band-leader and ensemble member for intercultural collaborations, music theatre, jazz bands, big bands, orchestras, chamber ensembles, Indian classical ensembles, and jazz/rock fusion bands.

Recording experience with original projects as well as commercial studio recording projects for T.V. and radio.

Composition

Composer of over 140 original compositions, including commissions from Arts Queensland, Brisbane Biennial Festival of Music, ABC Radio, and the Queensland Performing Arts Trust. Compositions for jazz ensembles, classical chamber music, theatre, and intercultural hybrid ensembles.

Over 40 years of arranging experience in the fields of jazz and contemporary music.

Teaching Experience

Melbourne Polytechnic: Senior Lecturer and Head of Program (2011-Present)

Responsible for operational management, coordination of teachers, curriculum development, subject coordination, teaching.

Led the program through reaccreditation cycles, involving innovative course design, benchmarking and implementing contemporary teaching practices, and meeting regulatory requirements.

Coordinated and delivered subjects including aural musicianship, performance major, and composition.

Implemented new systems to enhance scheduling and management of resources.

Managed ongoing and casual staff including budgeting, onboarding, pay cycles, professional development and scholarship.

Box Hill Institute, Melbourne: Lecturer in Music (2006-2010)

Delivered classes in VET and Higher Education in a range of subjects including aural musicianship, music theory, ensemble, music history, and music business.

Self Employed, Los Angeles & Boston: Freelance Music Teacher (2002-2006)

Delivered individual and group instruction in tabla, bass and musicianship.

Queensland Conservatorium, Griffith University, Brisbane: Lecturer and Head of Jazz department (1997-2001)

Responsible for operational management, coordination of teachers, curriculum development, subject coordination, teaching.

Queensland Conservatorium, Griffith University, Brisbane: Casual Lecturer in Music (1996, 2002)

Delivered lectures in aural musicianship, ensemble, instrumental tuition, arranging, history and aural musicianship.

Qualifications

PhD (Composition)

Folio of Compositions with Critical Commentary: An exploration of intercultural influences in contemporary composition

University of Queensland, Brisbane, 2019

Master of Music (Contemporary Improvisation)

New England Conservatory, Boston, USA, 2006

Graduate Diploma (Contemporary Improvisation)

New England Conservatory, Boston, USA, 1995

Bachelor of Music (Classical Trombone Performance)

Queensland Conservatorium of Music, Brisbane, 1992

Diploma of Vocational Education and Training Practice

Box Hill Institute, Melbourne, 2009

Certificate IV in Training and Assessment

Box Hill Institute, Melbourne, 2007

Professional Associations (selected)

Australasian Performing Right Association Limited (APRA), 1989-present

The Boîte, 2023-present

Music Victoria, 2019-present

Publications (selected)

Bass Riyaz - The practice workbook for the mastery of the 4, 5, and 6-string electric bass guitar (2005)

An exploration of intercultural influences in contemporary composition (2018)

Book review for Popular Music journal: SamBop NYC: Brazilian Jazz in New York City during the New Millennium (2025)

Performances and Collaborations (selected)

Australian Jazz/Improvisers

Paul Grabowsky, David Jones, John Rodgers, Tony Hobbs, Mike Nock, Scott Tinkler, Roger Dean, Darryl Pratt, Roger Frampton, Louise Denson, Sandy Evans, Stephen Magnusson.

Indian A-Grade Performing Artists

Pandit Abhijit Banerjee, Guru Karaikudi Mani, B.V. Raghavendra Rao, U Raju, Gulfam Sabri, U Rajesh, Pandit Purbayan Chatterjee.

American Contemporary Jazz/Improvisers

Ran Blake, Luciana Souza, Paul Livingstone, Matt Moran, George Russell, Bob Moses, Arthur Lipner, Nate Wood, Tim Davies.

Performances with these artists have been staged at such venues as:

- Jordan Hall, Boston, USA
- Disney Hall, Los Angeles, USA
- Sydney Opera House, Sydney, Australia
- Queensland Performing Arts Centre, Australia
- Singapore School of the Arts Concert Hall, Singapore
- Lincoln Centre for the Performing Arts, New York, USA
- Brisbane Powerhouse, Australia
- Pitt Inn, Tokyo, Japan
- Jaya TV hall, Chennai, India
- Melbourne Recital Centre, Australia
- Alexander Theatre, The Ian Potter Centre for Performing Arts, Australia

Referees

Available on request.