



PROVOST AND DIRECTOR

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To Whom it May Concern.

**Re: Jonathan Dimond**

I have been invited to speak on Mr Jonathan Dimond's artistry and professional reputation as a musician. I have known him since he was a trombonist in my Contemporary Music Ensemble at National Music Camps in 1990-1. At that time he was already a brilliant young musician - intelligent, searching, and able to cross musical boundaries, from jazz and world musics, through to classical genres. In those days, Mr Dimond was already professionally well-regarded in jazz and classical music fields, not only as a trombonist, but also as a bassist and composer/arranger.

Since that time I have become more and more aware of the breadth of Mr Dimond's talents and interests. It was only natural that on completion of his Bachelor Degree in classical trombone performance that he travelled overseas. Mr Dimond chose the New England Conservatory, Boston USA, where his Graduate Diploma in Contemporary Improvisation allowed him to study and excel in the areas of North Indian classical music, jazz, contemporary art music and improvisation, on bass, trombone and tabla.

To juggle all of these areas is no mean feat, and Mr Dimond's dedication and artistic prowess has constantly been tested and strengthened by the number and diversity of artistic projects that he has engaged in. It was his international performance and composition skills, as well as his ability to impart his knowledge of relevant artistic issues that, on his return from America, I offered him an appointment as a Lecturer in Contemporary Music here at the Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University.

Since joining the Conservatorium staff over four years ago, Mr Dimond has excelled as a performer and artist across a range of areas. In recent memory, he has recorded his second double-CD with his contemporary jazz group "Loops"; toured interstate; received music festival commissions for multi-media works, featuring archival recordings, classical musicians, children, and projected images; performed on tabla alongside visiting Indian musicians; and free-lanced on bass guitar. I have also worked with him on collaborative projects, the most recent being an educational project with young children, "Wide Awake", in which Mr Dimond composed all of the music and performed it with his group Loops and our trombone ensemble.

Mr Dimond's performing artistry is paralleled by a love of teaching, and we have been fortunate to have him as a full-time member of staff here at the Queensland

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