

# NEWSLETTER

of

## The Sydney International Piano Competition of Australia and the Friends of the Sydney International Piano Competition of Australia

Editor: Daniel Mitterdorfer

September 2010

The September 2010 issue of the  
Newsletter of the Sydney International Piano

Competition of Australia is sponsored by

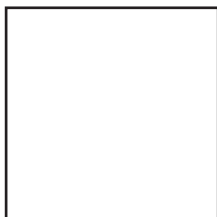


A.C.N. 001 467 536  
A.B.N. 15 001 467 536

### Inside:

- Page 2**
- From the President
  - What they are doing now
- Page 4**
- Vale Charles Mackerras
  - 2012 Application / Audition Booklet
  - Tatiana Kolesova's 2010 Tour
- Page 5**
- Vale Ernest Fleischmann
  - Vale Sir Bruce Williams KBE
- Page 6**
- Konstantin Shamray tour reviews - 2

## From the President...



In just two years from now the 10th Competition will be over and the Prize-Winners will be on Concert Tours throughout all states in Australia.

It is very pleasing to read *What they are doing now* to see how our Prize-winners and other competitors are making very good careers as performers in Solo Recitals as well as Concerto performances with Orchestras.

By the time you receive this Newsletter, Tatiana Kolesova will be back in Australia to give 25 Recitals over the period of two months which includes the Opening Recital and also the Final Performance for the Tyalgum Festival in Northern New South Wales.

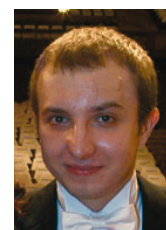
The Application/Audition Booklet has now been printed and sent to leading Music Schools in all parts of the world as well as being on our website, ready to be downloaded by pianists and teachers.

*Claire Dan AM, OBE*

The Ogden family has become one of the Competition's most important donors when they recently donated the travel component of Tatiana Kolesova's tour to Australia. Earlier in 2010, they also donated the travel for Konstantin Shamray for his Australian Tour.

## What they are doing now

**Alexander Gavryluk's** recitals in Australia have included a recital in City Recital Hall, Angel Place, at the Elisabeth Murdoch Hall in Melbourne, at Queensland Conservatorium of Music on their new Steinway D. In July 2010, Alexander performed in New York at Avery Fisher Hall.



**Alexei Volodin** continues with a very hectic schedule of Recitals and Concerto appearances in Europe in August to December 2010. In August 2010, Alexei has given recitals in San Sebastian, Spain, Tonhalle Big Hall – Zurich, Switzerland, Recital and Chopin's *Piano Concerto No 1* at the Mondsee Festival, Austria, Recital in Bard Reichenhall, Germany, Recital in Stadttheater, Olten, Switzerland. In October 2010, Beethoven's *Piano Concerto No 4* with the Orchestra National de Strasbourg in Köln, Germany, in Naples, Italy, in Reggio Emilia, Italy, in Modena, Italy and in Strasbourg, France. Recital in Herculessaal, Munich, Germany. In November 2010, Tchaikovsky's *Piano Concerto No 1* with the Mariinsky Orchestra conducted by Valery Gergiev in Alte Oper, Frankfurt, Germany and also Chopin's *Piano Concerto No 1* in Breda, Tiburg and Eindhoven, Netherlands and he will also perform a Recital in Moscow, Russia and at Universitat der Kunste in Berlin, Germany. In December he will perform Mozart's *Piano Concerto No 21* twice in Montpellier, France and in Lisbon, Portugal and Salerno, Italy.

**Charlie Albright** received the 2010 Gilmore Young Artist Award – this award is presented bi-annually to two American pianists under 22 years of age. He received USD15,000 and an additional USD10,000 to have a composer commission a new work for him. In November 2009, Charlie won the 1<sup>st</sup> Prize in the Young Concert Artists International Auditions and is now under management with Young Concert Artists Management. Music Critic Robert Sherman of the New York Times, who is a Member of our New York Audition Panel, has the following to say about Charlie: “[a] keyboard wizard who ‘played like an angel... with a level of polish pianists twice his age would envy”.



The young artist has performed many concertos with numerous orchestras around the United States, including the Seattle Philharmonic, the Metropolitan Opera Chamber Ensemble, the Hilton Head Symphony Orchestra, the Olympia Symphony Orchestra, the Port Angeles Symphony, the Harvard Bach Society and the Northwest Wind Symphony.

Charlie raised money through a benefit concert creating the Charlie Albright Scholarship which was given to seven students in 2009. He initiated a project to raise money for a Concert Steinway to be purchased for Corbet Hall at Charlie's *alma mater*, the Centralia College. The piano was purchased at the end of 2009 and was dedicated to him by the College.

*continued on page 3*

## What they are doing now

*continued from page 2*

The 2009-2010 concert season included performances in Skytop, Pennsylvania, Los Angeles, Bellingham, Paris, New York City and Boston, and six performances in Michigan as part of the 2010 Gilmore Keyboard Festival.

He will have 27 world-wide Concerts and Master Classes in the 2010-2011 Concert Season which will include performances with the San Francisco and Seattle Symphonies, his solo debut in Germany and debut in Boston.

**Sergei Saratovsky** took a tour of Eastern Canada arranged by Jeunesses Musicales of Canada. He performed more than 30 recitals in about 30 cities in the five Eastern Provinces in November and December 2009 and in February and March 2010. Amongst the biggest and well-known cities were Montréal, Toronto and Halifax.



On the 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2009, he gave a benefit recital in his native city of Petrozavodsk, Russia in the Concert Hall of the Junior Music School where he studied – all the proceeds went for the establishment of a scholarship fund for gifted students at the school. On June 5, 2010, he performed as a soloist with the Richmond Orchestra (British Columbia) - Beethoven's *Piano Concerto No 5 in E Flat Major Op 73 "Emperor"*. He is continuing his doctoral program (DMA – Doctor of Musical Arts) at the University of British Columbia and he has about one year before finishing.



**José Menor** has just completed the first recording of the complete solo piano works of Joan Guinjoan over two CDs. These new discs bring together some of the most important works of Guinjoan, not only from his piano output but from amongst his opera omnia, for they contain within them the stylistic traits that define the work of the Catalan musician and which have characterised his music over the fifty years of his composing career. These works reveal the composer's personal language, fashioned through a constant reflection upon the musical act and responding to a set of personal requirements and creative commitment rather than adhering to prevailing trends and tendencies. The works included on the recording amply illustrate these ideas.

"...Menor's unaffected, quiet approach belied his total mastery of the piano as he played with

impeccable technique, whether playing blistering-fast runs or tricky arpeggios, and thoughtful artistry, whether playing agitated octaves or light and mysterious melodies.." *The Press-Enterprise, Redlands, California - Sherli Leonard - May 17, 2010.*

**Alexey Yemtsov** was chosen to be the soloist with the Australian Youth Orchestra for its tour of China in July 2010. The first concert was in Canberra and he received an outstanding ovation for his performance of Prokofiev's *Third Piano Concerto* from the audience. The conductor for this concert was Englishman Sir Mark Elder, who will also be touring with the Orchestra in China, taking in Shanghai, Beijing and Tianjin.



**Mariangela Vacatello** received a Rising Young Star for the Gilmore Society for 2010 and 2011. She has had concerts in Wigmore Hall, London, Bridgewater Hall in Manchester, St John's Smith Square in London, Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles with iPalpiti Orchestra and Festival and has performed for and with the Stuttgart Philharmonic, RAI Orchestra and MiTo Festival in Italy, Odessa Philharmonic, given a recital at the Philharmonia in Krakov, and another for the IKI Festival in New York when she was invited by Prof. Jerome Rose to tour in South Africa with the orchestras in Durban, Capetown and Johannesburg in 2010. Her next CDs to be released will be: 12 Transcendental Etudes by Liszt for the label: La Botteda Discantica in Milan and also in winter, she will record the Sonata in B minor by Liszt.

By the time you read this, **John Chen** will have performed the "*Emperor*" Concerto of Beethoven with the Sydney Symphony conducted by Vladimir Ashkenazy at the Concert Hall of the Sydney Opera House at the farewell concert before the Sydney Symphony goes on tour to England and Europe.



John's piano trio participated in the Ravinia Steans Young Artist Program near Chicago where they performed several times and studied with well-known musicians, Menahem Pressler, John O'Connor, Igor Ozim, Ida Kavafian, Miriam Fried, Gil Kalish, Paul Biss and Martha Katz. They then did a short tour in Germany where they performed at some of the summer festivals.

## Vale Sir Charles Mackerras

Eminent Australian conductor **Sir Charles Mackerras** died in London on 14 July, 2010 at the age of 84 after a long battle with cancer. Sir Charles was a very famous conductor and musician and was Music Patron of the Sydney International Piano Competition of Australia in 1992 and 2000.




---



---

## 2012 Competition Application/Audition Booklet

The Booklet is now printed and appears on our website in full. This booklet has the following information: A Brief History of the Competition, Eligibility, List of Prizes and Encouragement Awards, Engagements in Australia and other countries, the Jury for 2012, Rules and Regulations, Audition Venues and Dates, Travel and Accommodation, Competition Stages, Repertoire required for the Competition and the Application Form. There is much more room to complete the Application Form if it is taken down from our website [www.sipca.com.au](http://www.sipca.com.au)

---



---

## Tatiana Kolesova's 2010 Tour

- Telephone numbers are for bookings

22 Aug	Yass Music Club, Yass Memorial Hall	2.15pm	02 6226 3514
27 Aug	Art Gallery Society, Art Gallery of NSW	8.00pm	02 9225 1878
29 Aug	Blue Mountains Concert Society, Springwood Civic Centre	3.00pm	02 4751 4915 or 0412 226 268
1 Sept	Friends SIPCA, Theme & Variations, Willoughby	8.00pm	02 9449 7281
3 Sept	Opening Recital Tyalgum Festival, Tyalgum Hall	7.00pm	02 6679 2244
5 Sept	Final Recital Tyalgum Festival, Tyalgum Hall	2.30pm	02 6679 2244
7 Sept	Scenic Rim Regional Council, Boonah Cultural Centre	8.00pm	07 5463 4817
or online: <a href="http://www.liveatthecentre.com.au">www.liveatthecentre.com.au</a>			
10 Sept	Peninsula Music Club, Loquat Valley School, Bayview	8.00pm	02 9999 1937
12 Sept	Mosman Music Club, Blessed Sacrement Church, Clifton Gardens	2.30pm	9908 1471 or A/H 9960 1738
15 Sept	Roseville Music Club, St Lukes Church, Roseville	8.00pm	02 9416 8972
18 Sept	Montville, Parklands House	7.00pm	07 5478 5667 or 0403 958 798
22 Sept	Tamworth Regional Conservatorium of Music, Capitol Theatre	8.00pm	02 6767 5300
25 Sept	Bathurst, Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre	8.00pm	02 6333 6161
26 Sept	Orange, Orange Regional Conservatorium	2.30pm	02 63617974
2 Oct	Murray Conservatorium of Music, St Matthew's Church	7.30pm	02 6041 4249
3 Oct	Wagga Wagga, Riverina Conservatorium of Music	2.30pm	02 6925 3522
6 Oct	Coffs Harbour Music Society, Education Campus D Block Auditorium	8.00pm	02 6658 8908 ask for Robin
8 Oct	Encore Concerts - Yungaburra, Yungaburra Village Chapel	7.00pm	07 4093 9018 or 0417 939019
9 Oct	Encore Concerts - Cairns, St John's Church	5.00pm	07 4093 9018 or 0417 939 019
10 Oct	Encore Concerts - Cooktown, Nature's Powerhouse	5.30pm	07 4093 9018 or 0417 939 019
14 Oct	Horsham, Wesley Performing Arts Centre	7.30pm	03 5382 0349
17 Oct	Wollongong Symph.Orch, Performing Arts Centre Wollongong	2.00pm	02 4224 5999
22 Oct	Manly Music Club, Cardinal Ceretti Memorial Chapel	8.00pm	02 4861 5672
24 Oct	South Coast Music Society, St Bernard's Catholic Church	5.00pm	0438 983 835

## Vale Ernest Fleischmann

A Member of the Jury in 1996, Ernest Fleischmann passed away at the age of 85 on 13 June, 2010. For three decades, he ran the Los Angeles Philharmonic and previous to this he was General Manager of the London Symphony Orchestra. "He organized *Star Wars* concerts complete with light shows; expanded and greatly enhanced the summertime offerings at the Hollywood Bowl. "...he functioned as impresario, talent scout, super-organiser, arts politician and policy-maker par excellence. He was the inventor of a whole new brand of cultural citizen: the concert manager as star."

## Vale Sir Bruce Williams KBE

Sir Bruce was an outstanding Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sydney. "He provided strong and dignified leadership which took the reputation of the University to even greater heights. Sir Bruce will be forever remembered with gratitude", said Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO, the University of Sydney, Chancellor.

Sir Bruce was also very much involved in the Sydney International Piano Competition of Australia on the Board of the Competition and Chairman of the Executive Committee from 1988-2003. He also helped establish the Cladan Cultural Exchange Institute of Australia which he chaired from 1976 to 1982. He held academic positions in Adelaide, Belfast and North Staffordshire – he became Professor of Economics at Manchester and consultant to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

While in England he took part in the creation of two innovative universities at Keele and Lancaster and became economic advisor to the Ministry of Technology and a member of the Prices and Incomes Board. His experience influenced his views while on the Board of the Reserve Bank of Australia from 1969 until 1981. Williams was a prolific writer and the author of 13 books on industry, investment and education.

*- Information taken from Sydney University News*



*Introducing the new Yamaha*  
**CFX**

*Setting a new benchmark for concert grand pianos.*

The culmination of 19 years of research and development, Yamaha's new CFX concert grand piano draws upon the inspiration, talent and experience of many of the world's greatest pianists in pursuit of perfection.

The goal? Not to imitate, but rather to go beyond existing instruments and offer musicians a new realm of almost unimaginable artistic possibilities.

At the 2009 Hamamatsu International Piano Competition, 15-year old acclaimed Korean pianist Cho Seong-Jin selected the new CFX for his performances of which he was awarded first prize honours.

Soon afterwards, the new CFX took centre stage in the United States at the prestigious National Chopin Piano Competition. The piano of choice for three out of four prize winners, the new CFX triumphed in the gifted hands of first prize winner Claire Huangci.

More recently starring at one of the world's most prestigious piano festivals, the International Chopin Festival in Poland, the new CFX was selected by the majority of the soloists demonstrating that this new concert grand piano is now considered to be the greatest piano to be produced in Yamaha's celebrated 108-year history.

www.yamahapremiumpianos.com

YAMAHA  
PREMIUM  
PIANOS

 **YAMAHA**

## Extracts from reviews of Konstantin Shamray's tour - 2

"After nearly two hours of exhilarating performance, Konstantin still had the energy to play four encores..... The patrons showed their appreciation by giving Konstantin a rousing standing ovation" *Goulburn Regional Conservatorium - 11/3/2010*

"The general response of the audience – excellent, standing ovation which is most unusual at our concerts." *Pam Larkin – South Coast Music Society (NSW) – 9/5/10*

"In Liszt's titanic *Sonata in b minor*, this young Russian musician was a master guide as he took the listener through this phantasmagorical musical landscape. I marveled at the maturity of expression brought to this most demanding of works." *Neville Cohn – West Australian – 27/5/10*



"Many said how much they enjoyed the programme, the items ranging from classic to modern Russian was appreciated." *Killara Music Club – Alf Reichhardt – 8/3/10*

"This recital is a high point in the history of the club – superlatives are almost inadequate!.....had us sitting on the edge of our seats." *June Howarth – Roseville Music Club – 10/3/10*

"As expected, it was a truly remarkable recital... in fact his performance was outstanding.... and our audience was most appreciative." *Christopher Luke – The Hutchins School, Hobart -11/6/10*

"Everywhere I go, people are talking about it (Rachmaninov Concerto No 3) and were so impressed with the concert and particularly with Konstantin." *Julie Pinazza - WIN Wollongong Symphony Orchestra – 22/5/10*

"He shone in a highly ambitious recital that harked back to those by the late great Russian masters of Sviatoslav Richter and Emil Gilels.....his control was unerring, as was judgment of the music's wide ranging and often awkward dynamics....two encores by Tchaikovsky's *Meditation* and *Polonaise* from Op 72 were the well-deserved balm, in turn returned by a chorus of cheers." *Chang Tou Liang – The Straits Times, Singapore – 3/3/10*

"General Response from the audience to the performance: "Awesome" "Brilliant" "Loved it" "Beautiful – it's something you have to be really passionate about and it's obvious Konstantin Shamray is passionate" "Amazing – Haven't heard anything like it." *Anita Freed – Mackay Entertainment & Convention Centre - 6/5/10*

"The sheer volume he produced, on every key on the piano, was extraordinary. Even up against the whole orchestra, his perfectly audible playing was refined and properly musical." *Timothy Jones – Christchurch Symphony Orchestra – 27/3/10*

"Konstantin made a big impact on our audience, in particular, I am glad to say among our younger members..... the feeling around the room was akin to witnessing the start of an extraordinary career in music-making and to have the chance.....to hear the start of such a career was very special indeed." *Francis Louran – Cranbrook School - 16/3/10*