

Therese Milanovic is in demand in Australia as both performer and teacher. Her passions include contemporary music, collaborations with chamber and vocal accompaniment, and developing her growing expertise in musicians' health. She is also particularly interested in bringing contemporary classical music to wider audiences through innovative programming and presentations.

For six years, her primary performing commitment was with Collusion musical arts ensemble, of which she was a co-founding member from 2002-08. www.collusion.com.au. Highlights included a flourishing Brisbane subscription concert series, debut CD release *In Depth* with Move Records, ABC broadcasts, performances with Queensland Ballet's Vis-à-vis series, Musica Viva In Schools and Musica Viva's Country Wide touring, as well as acclaimed performances at Brisbane Powerhouse, Bangalow Festival, First International Conference of Messiaen Studies, Buddha Festival, Encounters Festival. Collaborations included dynamic presentations with painting, photography, dance, clowning, circus art and poetry. Reviews appraised the personable approach and audience interaction with set Collusion apart. "One can only imagine the exciting events to come in the group's further development – in offering something this unique, they deserve to become a prominent force on the national (and international) stage and a group definitely worthy watching." (Resonate, 2007.)

Her new performance venture is Ikon Music with soprano Emma Baker-Spink, www.ikonmusic.com.au, which encompasses all of her projects, including appearances with other collaborative artists. After a debut described as "enchanting" the duo already has confirmed performances for 2009 at Tyalgum Festival and St Stephens concert series, Brisbane, with more bookings to follow.

In 2003, Therese privately funded her participation in several intensive symposia in Italy and the USA on the Taubman Approach to piano technique, a method that has had remarkable success in helping pianists reach their full potential through overcoming injury and technical limitations. Through this study, Therese was able to transcend nearly a decade of playing-related injuries. Exploring other students' experiences of the Taubman Approach was then the focus of her Masters dissertation. With assistance from Arts Queensland, Therese returned to the USA to take part in two intensive Taubman courses in July 07, the Golandsky Institute at Princeton University and the Balanced Pianist in La Cross, Wisconsin.

Therese has presented on issues of musicians' health and the Taubman Approach at the Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University, given several lecture/demonstrations through the Music Teacher's Association of Queensland (MTAQ), both Townsville and Brisbane branches, and ASPAH's recent conference in Melbourne. Therese also applies her understanding of the Taubman Approach in her teaching, working with students from beginner to advanced level at St Peters Lutheran College, Young Conservatorium Griffith University, and in her private studio, with great success.

In 2009 Therese will undertake training with leading Taubman exponents Edna Golandsky and John Bloomfield to help Australian pianists, within Australia, by training as Australia's first Taubman teacher. This has been made possible through mentorship through Arts Support Australia and funding assistance from the Dame Joan Sutherland Fund, through the American Australian Association.

Therese graduated from QCGU with a Bachelor of Music (1st class Honours) and a Master of Music, studying with Natasha Vlassenko and Oleg Stepanov.