

Victorian School
VSPA
of Performing Arts

Teaching Staff



Nora Brownrigg
Cello

Nora Brownrigg completed her Bachelor of Music at the Liszt Academy of Music in Hungary. She worked with the Pecs Symphony Orchestra for four years and frequently performed in Germany, Austria, Italy, Luxembourg and Belgium.

After moving to Australia, Nora established a busy teaching career as well as regularly performing with various orchestras including Melbourne Musicians and Melbourne Opera Orchestra and appeared as soloist performing the Cello Concertos of Dvorak, Haydn and many others. She is a member and musical director of the Four Seasons String Quartet.

Nora completed her Master of Music studies at Melbourne University in 2003 and is currently teaching at St Margaret's School as well as other schools in the area and from her home studio.



Adrian Ferry
Percussion

Adrian Ferry began his music career in England where he worked as both a percussionist and flautist for theatre shows and also as a session musician. Adrian then became a member of the British Army and after spending a year at The Royal Military School of Music became a musician in the Royal Corps of Signals.

Following on from this, Adrian completed a three year Bachelor of Arts Degree at Brunel University and in his final year won the 1997 Stephen Thomas Memorial Prize for musical composition. Adrian began teaching privately whilst at university, however, due to playing and touring commitments he did not teach music as a full time occupation until January 2000.

Adrian migrated to Australia in October 2006 and since then has taught and provided workshops for the South Gippsland Music Service, Independent School music camps, several schools in and around Melbourne including St Margaret's School, Berwick Grammar School and VSPA.



Malcolm Huddle

Clarinet and
Saxophone

Malcom Huddle has been a woodwind teacher since 2008. During this time he also completed a Bachelor of Music in 2012 and a Bachelor of Education in 2014, both from Monash University. He has successfully taken students from Beginner to VCE and Diploma levels. In addition to teaching at St Margaret's School since 2008 and more recently at VSPA, Malcom has many professional engagements playing, composing, arranging and conducting.

In addition to his love of teaching, Malcom is heavily involved in community theatre across Melbourne, having played in many orchestras for a number of PLOS, CLOC, MLOC, Panorama, Nova, Babirra, Williamstown and Whitehorse productions as well as for many different schools.

Musical Direction credits include *The Secret Garden* (2011), *Footloose* (2012), *Annie* (2014) *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (2013) with Beaumaris Theatre Company. Malcolm has directed many shows for People's Playhouse including *Oliver!* (2011), *The Wizard of Oz* (2012) and most recently *Bugsy Malone and 13* – a new musical (2013). He also directed Bayside College's *Oliver!* (2011), *Barnum* (2012), McClelland College's *Joseph* (2012), and most recently *Hairspray* (2014) with Elisabeth Murdoch College.



Glen Impey

Bass

Glen Impey has been playing bass guitar for over 10 years, and graduated from Box Hill Institute of TAFE with a Bachelor of Music (Performance) in 2011. He has a wealth of experience in teaching bass guitar and performing. Through these mediums he has acquired a vast knowledge and great enthusiasm for teaching music.

Glen currently plays with several bands and musicians across a variety of genres, including the trad-pop jazz band The Royal Jellies, 50's Rhythm and Blues band, Miss Lizzy and The Night Owls, country songstress Tasha Amoroso (who is currently appearing on The Voice), and also singer/songwriter Rob Draper.

The Royal Jellies have also recorded with Aria award winning artist Clare Bowditch on her 2012 album, *The Winter I Chose Happiness*, and supported her on her 2012 album tour. The 'Jellies' also released their debut album in 2013, *Burrows St. Poolside*.



Yvette Leach

Flute

Yvette Leach is entering her second year as a classroom music teacher and her sixth year as an instrumental tutor. She currently teaches woodwind at St Margaret's School, Berwick Grammar School, VSPA and other schools in the Melbourne area.

Yvette holds a Bachelor of Music and a Graduate Diploma of Education from Monash University. She completed the Melbourne Youth Music (MYM) Summer School Course in Arts Administration under the artistic direction of Mr Richard Gill OAM and was subsequently given numerous Ensemble Coordinator roles within MYM's Ensemble Program, which is testimony to her hard work and dedication.

Yvette is an active member of the State Music Camp Committee and manages their Junior Orchestra each year. Over the past three years, she has played in The People's Playhouse Orchestra for 'Alice Through the Looking Glass', 'Oliver!' and 'The Wizard of Oz', as well as numerous other productions across the Peninsula and Melbourne.

Mark Mason attended the Victorian College of the Arts as a trombone major and gained his first professional playing experience as a casual with Orchestra Victoria. Working as a freelance musician over the following years, Mark has performed with various ensembles such as Opera Australia, recordings and live broadcast for Channels 7, 9, 10 and the ABC and has toured Australia and worldwide in both classical and commercial ensembles. Mark continues to play and tour as a member of the horn section for Big City Beat.

Mark has taught brass for almost 20 years across all levels from early primary to tertiary at independent schools in Melbourne and Gippsland. Mark has also been involved in conducting school Stage and Symphonic Bands and has also tutored at various camps and festivals such as Melbourne Youth Music Summer School. Mark is currently Head of Bands at St Margaret's and Berwick Grammar School.



Mark Mason

Brass

Born and raised in Melbourne, **Peter Nguyen** began his musical education at the age of eleven first on piano, closely followed by violin. Currently completing a Bachelor of Music at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, Peter is set to graduate in 2015 and hopes to follow this with an Honours degree.

Peter teaches piano and violin and also accompanies groups in the local area. His teaching focusses on all ages and his passion for the two instruments is obvious. Peter enjoys teaching all levels and is able to inspire young and old alike. His friendly disposition and attention to detail make him a fine young teacher and performer. Along with his studies, Peter dedicates his Sundays to accompany choirs during church services and sharing his music with others.



Peter Nguyen

Piano/Violin

Angela Patti completed her Bachelor of Music at the Conservatorium of Music, University of Melbourne in 1978 studying piano with Ronald Farren-Price and Diana Weekes. During that time she was organist at Newman College. Following this, she undertook further studies on the organ in Italy and later continued them at the Durham Cathedral in England.

Angela has taught at various Yamaha schools in Melbourne and also trained in the Suzuki and Kodaly methods. She trained, assisted and accompanied the Berwick Youth Choir for many years. She has also had extensive experience as an accompanist for vocalists and instrumentalists.

Her main love, however, is piano teaching. Angela started teaching during her student days and has taught piano for over 30 years; 18 of these at St Margaret's School. She takes her students from beginner to Diploma levels, their ages ranging from 3 years old to grandparents.



Angela Patti

Piano

Virginia Vuong's interest and love of music was evident from an early age and as a consequence her parents enrolled her in piano lessons when she was five years old. Virginia has never lost that passion and considers it a privilege to encourage and foster students on their own personal musical journey.

Virginia has been teaching students since 2007 and encourages students to experience both classical and contemporary repertoire. She teaches both at VSPA and at her home studio and in addition, undertakes some accompanying for AMEB examinations. Virginia is currently in the process of completing her Bachelor of Secondary Education at Deakin University.



Virginia Vuong

Piano

Having started guitar at the age of 13, **Kumar Shome** was performing as a soloist only two years later. He attended the Victorian College of the Arts (VCA) Secondary School where he was taught by Rob Burke and Peter Petrucci. There he had extensive training in Jazz and Theory. At the age of 17, he performed his first tour with a young jazz group led by Steve Sedergreen.

Along with a Bachelor of Music Performance at the VCA and Graduate Diploma of Education at The University of Melbourne, Kumar is a dedicated musician working hard on the scene over the last decade. As both a guitarist and sitarist he has performed and recorded with notable artists such as, The Cat Empire, The Bamboos, Mulatu Astatke, Dub FX, Daniel Merriweather just to name a few. Kumar has performed at many festivals around the country such as the Brisbane Festival, Generations in Jazz, Stonnington Jazz, St Kilda Festival as well as the Commonwealth Games Opening Ceremony held in Melbourne.

Kumar has released a self-titled album and is due to release his second album in August 2014. Kumar is considered one of the most respected musicians and guitar teachers in Melbourne.



Kumar Shome

Guitar

John Zuill is a writer, director, producer and actor with over 25 years' experience. His first acting role was as a policeman in a high school production of 'Arsenic and Old Lace' and in John's words 'I was terrible!' however he went on to fine tune his art and played many successful lead roles in college.

John directed the first and second *Shakespeare in the Park* productions in Hamilton, Bermuda. He relocated to Australia, where he married his girlfriend Rachael.

He soon directed 'A *Midsummer Night's Dream*' and 'Much Ado About Nothing' by William Shakespeare and 'Boston Marriage' by David Mamet as well as other Shakespearean productions; many in such exciting locations as, 'Macbeth' in a fort, 'Romeo and Juliet' in an insurance building and 'Julius Caesar' on the back porch of a coffee shop whilst a hurricane was raging.

John recently won the Lyrebird Award for Best Actor in a Drama for his appearance in *Sleuth* at the 1812 Theatre. He has produced and directed many plays, most often Shakespeare. Most recently John helped direct the 2014 production of 'Twelfth Night' for St Margaret's and Berwick Grammar School.



John Zuill

Director and

Producer