



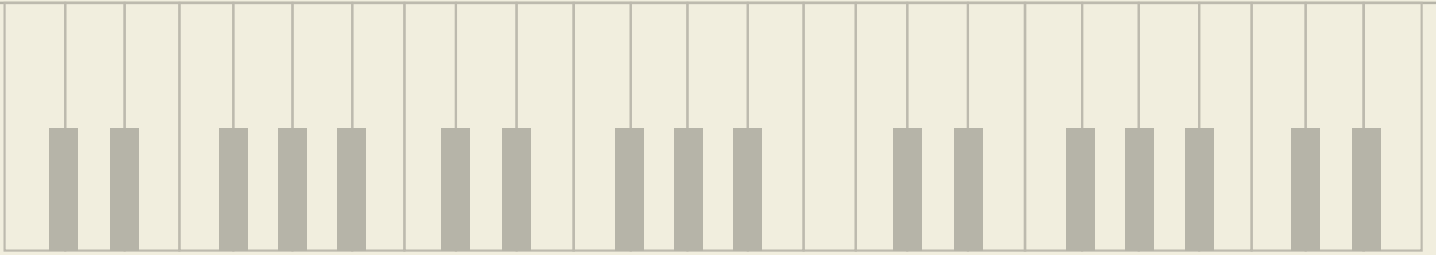
PIANO FESTIVAL

Guest artists and presenters Paul Grabowsky OAM and Dr Cameron Roberts feature at this year's Piano Festival. Join us for informative sessions including jazz improvisation, how harpsichord technique influences piano playing, optimising pianism and more.

21 MAY TO 24 MAY 2026

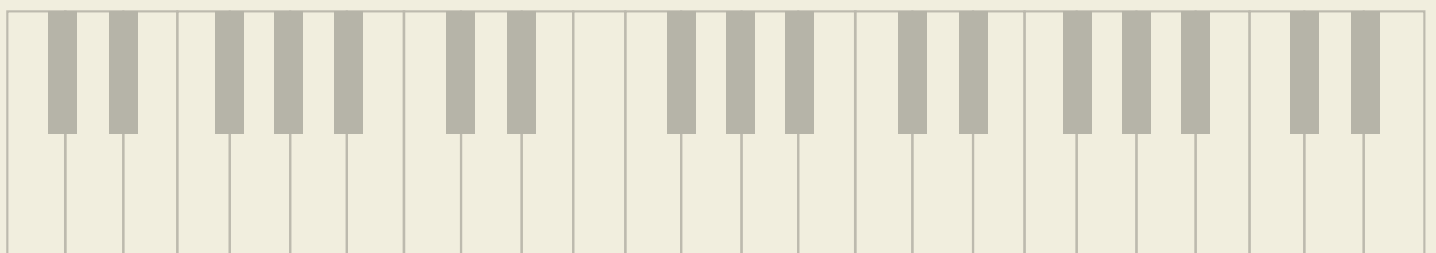
Program details and bookings via Calendar and Events on

www.scotch.vic.edu.au



"To play a wrong note is insignificant; to play without passion is inexcusable."

– Ludwig van Beethoven



PROGRAM SCHEDULE

THURSDAY
21ST MAY

1:30-2:15pm
Improvisation Techniques
with Paul Grabowsky OAM

2:15-3:30pm
Jazz Workshop
with Paul Grabowsky OAM

6:00-7:00pm
Dinner Break

7:00-8:00pm
Saint-Saëns Project
featuring Scotch College Students

FRIDAY
22ND MAY

1:00-2:30pm
Senior School Masterclass
with Dr Cameron Roberts

4:30-6:00pm
Neuroaffirming Teaching Practices
with Nicole Ng

6:00-7:00pm
Dinner Break

7:00-8:00pm
Staff Concert
featuring Scotch Keyboard Department Staff

SATURDAY
23RD MAY

3:30-4:30pm
Cello and Piano Recital
featuring Jasmine Alexandra and Chiah Quah

5:00-6:00pm
From Ruckers to Steinway
with Victoria Bilogan

6:00-7:30pm
Dinner Break

7:30-9:00pm
Concerto Concert
featuring Dr Cameron Roberts, Scotch Staff and Students

SUNDAY
24TH MAY

11:30am-1:00pm
Optimising Pianism
with Dr Cameron Roberts

1:00-1:45pm
Lunch Break

1:45-2:45pm
Piano Duet Concert
feat. Dr Cameron Roberts and Eidit Golder

3:00-4:30pm
Steinway Recital
featuring Scotch College Students

4:30-5:15pm
Afternoon Tea

PIANO FESTIVAL PROGRAM 2026

Improvisation Techniques *presented by Paul Grabowsky OAM*

Thursday 21 May 1:30 – 2:15pm Ian Roach Hall

Legendary pianist, Paul Grabowsky OAM will talk about improvisation techniques, various thought processes and musical considerations when faced with creating music spontaneously. This will suit all instrumentalists and teachers who would like to expand how they think about and approach both written indications and what does not appear on the score.

Jazz Workshop *presented by Paul Grabowsky OAM*

Thursday 21 May 2:15 – 3:30pm Ian Roach Hall

Do not miss this chance to see students from two small jazz groups apply in real time ideas and suggestions from the master, Paul Grabowsky OAM.

Saint-Saëns Project *featuring students of Scotch College*

Thursday 21 May 7:00 – 8:00pm Ian Roach Hall

This free opening concert is a collaborative project by students of Saint-Saëns' iconic work, "The Carnival of the Animals". Narrators will take us on an exciting journey through the carnival brought to life with 2 pianos, 2 keyboards, 3 harps, instrumentalists, and includes a jazzed up version of one of the movements.

PIANO FESTIVAL PROGRAM 2026

Senior School Masterclass *presented by Dr Cameron Roberts ('94)*

Friday 22 May 1:00 – 2:30pm Keith Humble Auditorium

Dr Cameron Roberts will give selected piano students ideas and tips on learning, practising and refining their performance repertoire. This session is suitable for students and teachers of all levels.

Neuroaffirming Teaching Practices in Music Education

presented by Nicole Ng

Friday 22 May 4:30 – 6:00pm Room 2.10

Presented and led by an AuDHDer and disabled music educator, Nicole Ng will unpack a variety of adaptive teaching strategies for neurodivergent music students. Also covered in this workshop are the Social Model of Disability, Ableism, and Disability Discrimination. Terminology relating to disability and neurodivergence will also be explored. There will be an opportunity for Q&A and Frequently Asked Questions at the end of the workshop.

This workshop is a Professional Learning opportunity suitable for both experienced and beginner instrumental music teachers on a journey to become the next generation of Neuroaffirming teachers. Like-minded Neuroallies, Neurokins, or experienced music educators working with neurodiverse students are welcome. As Dr. Ross Greene, a well-known clinical child psychologist, says, "Kids do well, if they can." This applies to every student of any age or ability.

Staff Concert *featuring Keyboard Department staff*

Friday 22 May 7:00 – 8:00pm Ian Roach Hall

Join us for an evening of sublime music performed by some of Scotch's keyboard department staff. This concert will feature works for solo harp and solo piano.

PIANO FESTIVAL PROGRAM 2026

Cello and Piano Recital featuring *Jasmine Alexandra and Chiah Quah*

Saturday 23 May 3:30 – 4:30pm Ian Roach Hall

Back by popular demand, cellist, Jasmine Alexandra and pianist, Chiah Quah return for another recital at this year's festival.

From Ruckers to Steinway presented by *Victoria Bilogan*

Saturday 23 May 5:00 – 6:00pm Ian Roach Hall

This session is not to be missed for teachers and students to gain insight to how the harpsichord can influence articulation, clarity and stylistic interpretation when performing Baroque repertoire on the piano. This presentation will focus on the Ruckers harpsichord tradition and how the mechanics and sound of the harpsichord differ from the modern piano, shaping the keyboard music of composers such as Bach and Scarlatti.

Concerto Concert featuring *Dr Cameron Roberts, staff soloists and orchestra*

Saturday 23 May 7:30 – 9:00pm Ian Roach Hall

Guest artist, Dr Cameron Roberts features as both conductor and soloist in this concert. He will conduct a unique rendition of J S Bach's D minor Keyboard Concerto with Scotch staff soloists, Victoria Bilogan on harpsichord, Eidit Golder and Elaine Chin on piano. Marina Rainbow will perform Chopin's Andante spianato and Grande Polonaise. Also programmed is Beethoven's Piano Concerto No 4 with Cameron Roberts as soloist, with a staff and student orchestra conducted by Dr Karen Heath.

PIANO FESTIVAL PROGRAM 2026

Optimising Pianism – more ways to do better, less ways to do worse *presented by Dr Cameron Roberts*

Sunday 24 May 11:30 – 1:00pm James Campbell Room 2.22

In this talk, Dr Cameron Roberts presents some of the key findings from his recently published book, "Optimizing Pianism – Evidence-based Perspectives". He will give insights into the psychology, physiology and physical aspects of elite-performance piano playing, and he will share a "top 10 list" of how to apply science to our daily practice to improve musical performance outcomes.

Piano Duet Concert *featuring Dr Cameron Roberts and Eedit Golder*

Sunday 24 May 1:45 – 2:45pm Ian Roach Hall

The art of duet playing will be masterfully displayed with Dr Cameron Roberts joining pianist, Eedit Golder to present an exciting program of Stravinsky and Ravel.

Steinway Recital *featuring students of Scotch College*

Sunday 24 May 3:00 – 4:30pm Ian Roach Hall

Join us for this final free event of the Piano Festival showcasing selected students from Junior and Senior Schools performing on the Steinway grand piano. This closing recital will be followed by afternoon tea in the DYFF.

ARTISTS & PRESENTERS

GUEST PRESENTER - PAUL GRABOWSKY OAM

Paul Grabowsky is a composer, a thinker and a collaborator. A creative with uncompromising integrity, Grabowsky is one of Australia's most significant composers and celebrated recording artists. He is a household name in Australia, leading the house band on the Seven Network TV show, Tonight Live with Steve Vizard, five nights a week in the early 90s.

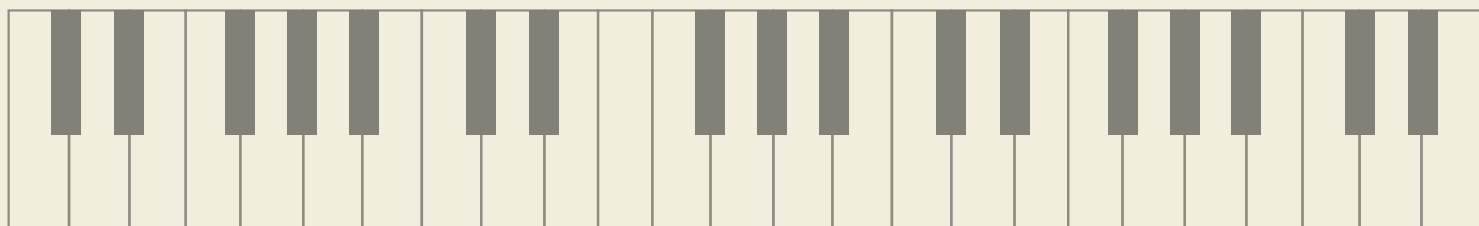
An internationally acclaimed performer, he has worked with jazz greats such as Art Farmer, Branford Marsalis, Joe Lavano, and Johnny Griffin. He has performed on many great stages worldwide including the Sydney Opera House, Australia; North Sea Jazz Festival, Netherlands; Montreux Jazz Festival, Switzerland; Pompeii Amphitheatre, Italy; and Tokyo Jazz Festival, Japan. Fluency in jazz and classical idioms provides him with an unlimited palette of sounds that allow him to move through genres and sonic landscapes.



An Officer of the Order of Australia for services to Australian Music, he is also a recipient of the prestigious Sidney Myer Performing Arts Award, the Melbourne Prize for Music and a Bell Hall of Fame Award. As a recording artist he has received two AIR Awards, and eight ARIA awards (the Australian equivalent of the Grammy). As a composer he has received six APRA Art Music Awards, and two Helpmann Awards.

Composition is a core pillar of his artistic output. Recent projects include his tenure as artist in residence with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, producing five major works, most recently Four Elements for Orchestra (2023). One of his most treasured collaborations has been Crossing Roper Bar (2004-2014) a project created in Ngukurr, a remote community in the Northern Territory, with traditional songmen and members of the Australian Art Orchestra. This work has continued with Wata (2020) and Raki (2023).

Paul will present a lecture demonstration on improvisation and work with two small jazz groups at this year's festival.



ARTISTS & PRESENTERS

GUEST ARTIST - DR CAMERON ROBERTS ('94)

Dr Cameron Roberts is an Australian-born concert pianist, medical doctor, author and internationally recognised expert in the science of musical performance. His multifaceted career bridges elite music performance, evidence-based pianistic research and clinical medicine. Originally from Melbourne, he studied both Medicine and Music at the University of Melbourne before completing advanced piano training at the Australian National Academy of Music and further study in London, Moscow and the United States.

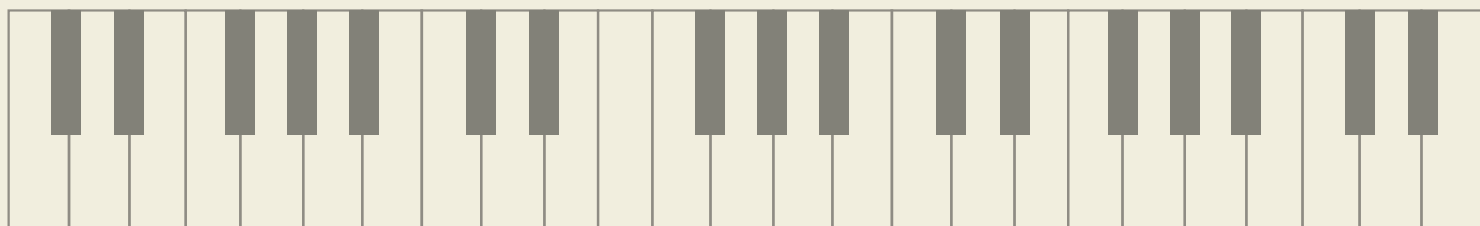


As a performer, Roberts has appeared widely across Australia, Europe, Asia and the Americas as soloist and chamber musician, collaborating with leading instrumentalists and performing major repertoire from Bach to contemporary music. His recordings include critically noted interpretations of Bach's Goldberg Variations and a range of original piano transcriptions. Reviews of his performances praise a "luminous tone," "astonishing wealth of detail" and imaginative musical insight.

In addition to performance, Roberts completed a PhD investigating how the pianist's touch affects tone quality, and his research underpins his book *Optimising Pianism: Evidence-Based Perspectives* (2025), which applies findings from biomechanics, neuroscience and psychology to piano technique, practice and performance. The book has been described by reviewers as "a revelation" and a significant contribution to pianistic pedagogy.

Roberts's teaching and coaching activities are international in scope; he has taught chamber music at Madrid's Escuela Superior de Música Reina Sofía and regularly presents masterclasses, lectures and workshops on performance optimisation.

He is currently based in London, where he balances part-time clinical work with his principal musical activities. Dr Roberts will conduct a piano masterclass, perform Beethoven's Piano Concerto No 4, a duet concert with Eidi Golder and present a talk on optimising pianism.



ARTISTS & PRESENTERS



JASMINE ALEXANDRA

Jasmine began her cello studies in Melbourne before being admitted to the High School of Performing Arts in New York and The Juilliard Pre-College at the age of 15. Returning to Melbourne, she studied with Georg Petersen at the Victorian College of the Arts where she won the coveted Peers Coetmore Cello Scholarship. She then returned to New York to study at The Juilliard School, obtaining a Bachelor of Music and Master of Music studying cello performance with Harvey Shapiro. In New York Jasmine performed extensively, including giving both chamber music and solo performance in Lincoln Center's Paul hall and Alice Tully Hall. She toured Europe with the Schleswig-Holstein Festival Orchestra under the baron of Leonard Bernstein.

In Australia, Jasmine has performed with the Tasmanian Symphony, Melbourne Musicians and Prom Musica. She currently examines for the AMEB (Australian Music Examinations Board) and has a busy home studio. We welcome Jasmine back to the festival to perform with pianist, Chiah Quah.

VICTORIA BILOGAN

Ukrainian-born Australian pianist and artist Victoria Bilogan has performed extensively across Australia and Europe in solo and chamber settings for over two decades. A versatile musician, her work spans classical performance, collaborative projects, and interdisciplinary artistic practice.

She was a co-founder and keyboardist of the platinum-record band B2 (Sony Music, 2000), contributing as a composer, pianist, and visual artist. Victoria is also the founder of Mobius Duo, exploring innovative repertoire and cross-disciplinary performance.

Her artistic interests include championing unjustly neglected nineteenth-century European composers, a focus reflected in two double-CD recordings released in 2006 and 2020. Victoria studied Early and Baroque performance practice in Europe with Professors Aline Zylberach and Martin Gester, supported by an Austrian Baroque Academy Scholarship. She teaches piano, chamber music, and harpsichord at Scotch College.

Victoria will present a harpsichord session and perform at both the Staff Recital and Concerto Concert.



ARTISTS & PRESENTERS

ELAINE CHIN

Elaine started piano lessons in Adelaide with Sister Marita Greenwell and later, with Mary Gillespie, a student of Miriam Hyde. She was awarded the 1987 George Pearce Memorial Scholarship and started teaching in 1989. She studied piano performance under the guidance of Stefan Ammer at the University of Adelaide. She was a regular soloist and chamber musician for the ASKM (Australian Society for Keyboard Music), taking part in many Chopin and Schubert Festivals. She was awarded the 1992 Iris M Colly Prize from the Elder Conservatorium of Music and in 2001, was invited to launch the Ronisch Piano for Allans Music (Adelaide).

Elaine holds a Bachelor of Music (Honours Performance) degree and a Graduate Diploma in Education. Prior to joining the Scotch College Keyboard Department in 2013, she was the Instrumental Music Coordinator at St Teresa's School (Adelaide) where she taught for 23 years. She was also an AMEB (Australian Music Examinations Board) examiner and taught piano at Prince Alfred College (Adelaide). Elaine stepped into classroom music teaching roles at Scotch from 2014 and enjoys the variety that one on one and class teaching offers.

She is the current Head of Keyboard Studies and Chamber Music, a Classroom Music Teacher and is also an accredited Advanced Gymnastics coach. Elaine will perform the 3rd movement of Bach's D minor Keyboard Concerto at the Concerto Concert.



EIDIT GOLDER

Eidit Golder is a Melbourne-based pianist and chamber musician, respected as a soloist, collaborative pianist, and curator of vocal and chamber repertoire. She was most recently Artistic Coordinator of the Melbourne Art Song Collective (MASC), whose performances at the Melbourne Recital Centre received critical acclaim for their thoughtful programming and refined ensemble work in the art song repertoire.

From 2005 to 2010 she was a member of the Freshwater Trio with violinist Zoe Black and cellist Josephine Vains. The Trio's concerts were frequently recorded and broadcast on ABC Classic and included commissions from a wide range of Australian composers.

Eidit has performed at major festivals including the Port Fairy Spring Music Festival, Woodend Winter Arts Festival, Stradbroke Island Chamber Music Festival, the Vancouver Festival, the Mozart Forum, and in Italy at the Accademia Musicale Chigiana. She has collaborated with leading Australian singers including Siobhan Stagg and Michael Smallwood.

Alongside her performing career, Eidit is a highly regarded music educator at Scotch College Melbourne, where she teaches piano and chamber music from Prep to Year 12, a role she greatly enjoys. Eidit will be performing the 2nd movement of J S Bach's D minor Keyboard Concerto and join Dr Cameron Roberts in the Piano Duet Concert.

ARTISTS & PRESENTERS



NICOLE NG

Nicole Ng, a neurodivergent musician and piano teacher, is passionate about making music education inclusive and accessible. She was awarded Graduate Teacher of the Year in 2021 by the Australian Society of Music Education (ASME) and National Teachers Award in 2026 by the Australian Guild of Music and Speech (AGMS), for her outstanding commitment and high achievements in music education.

Nicole is particularly attentive to the needs of neurodivergent and disabled students, offering structured lesson plans, visual aids and flexible teaching methods. She ensures lessons are adaptive, balancing rigour with creativity and fun. Her use of gamification – teaching concepts through interactive games and activities, help students engage with music theory more effectively, blending traditional and modern methods for a holistic learning experience.

CHIAH QUAH

Chiah has performed and taught in Europe, United States, South East Asia and Australia. She started piano at age five under the guidance of her mother, who was a professional soprano singer and amateur pianist. In 1987, she received a scholarship to pursue a piano performance degree in the United States. Upon her return to Singapore in 1991, she taught piano full time. She also collaborated with musicians from the Singapore Symphony Orchestra and Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts in chamber music.

She is a regular music educator for the National Arts Council and Alfred Publishing.

In 2002, Chiah became a qualified Montessori Directress and started teaching music to young children in Liverpool, UK. In 2004, Chiah received her Suzuki Method training from Nehama Petkin and Margaret Bland in Melbourne and continues her interest in educating young children. She currently teaches Suzuki and Traditional methods at Scotch College and Trinity Grammar.

Her students have won prizes in Eisteddfods. Chiah also enjoys working with the student chamber groups, with some groups experiencing success in Musica Viva Strike A Chords. Chiah will perform alongside Jasmine Alexandra at this year's festival.



ARTISTS & PRESENTERS

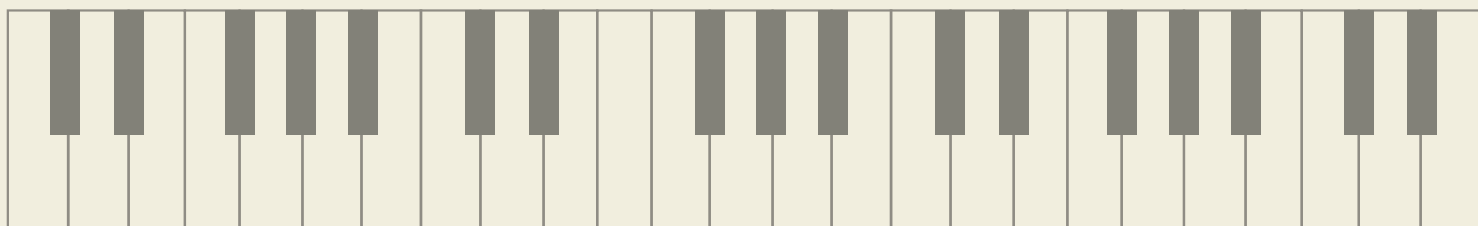
MARINA RAINBOW

Marina Rainbow has performed internationally as a soloist and chamber musician. She completed her teaching qualification in Russia, continued her musical studies in Australia, and earned a Master of Music in Japan, where she was awarded the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship and worked as a lecturer in piano and accompaniment.

Marina won several international competitions in Japan, including the ABC Young Performer's Award and the Chopin Society Piano Competition. She made her concerto debut with the Osaka Century Symphony Orchestra, performing Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1, and subsequently toured Japan and appeared on television programs.

Marina combines performing with a strong commitment to music education. She has taught at a number of schools, has been involved in projects with the Melbourne Youth Orchestra, and is currently a full-time member of the music faculty at Scotch College. She enjoys working with young musicians, supporting their growth, building confidence, and helping them develop a genuine love of music.

Marina will perform Chopin's Andante spianato and Grande Polonaise at the Concerto Concert.



TICKET INFO & BOOKING

TICKET PRICES

Passes

Full Festival Pass

Adult

\$170.00

Non-Scotch/Uni Student

\$60.00

(access to all sessions, concerts, meals and refreshments)

All Individual Concerts

Adult

\$30.00

Non-Scotch/Uni Student

\$10.00

Saint-Saëns Project and Steinway Recital FREE

Individual Sessions

Masterclasses

Adult

\$15.00

Non-Scotch/Uni Student

\$5.00

Presentations

\$20.00

\$5.00

Meals

Pre-order dinner

\$15.00

\$15.00

(Thursday, Friday, Saturday only)

Pre-order lunch:

\$15.00

\$15.00

(Sunday only)

Scotch College students and staff receive FREE entry to all sessions, bookings are required for all concerts.

If meals are required, they must be pre-ordered at the time of booking.

BOOKINGS

Visit the Events/Bookings page on www.scotch.vic.edu.au or scan the QR code:

Booking enquiries:

Emma Downing
03 9810 4219
emma.downing@scotch.vic.edu.au



COMING SOON...

Later in the year, join us for an Organ Masterclass and Recital presented by Ben Sheen on Thursday 6 August.

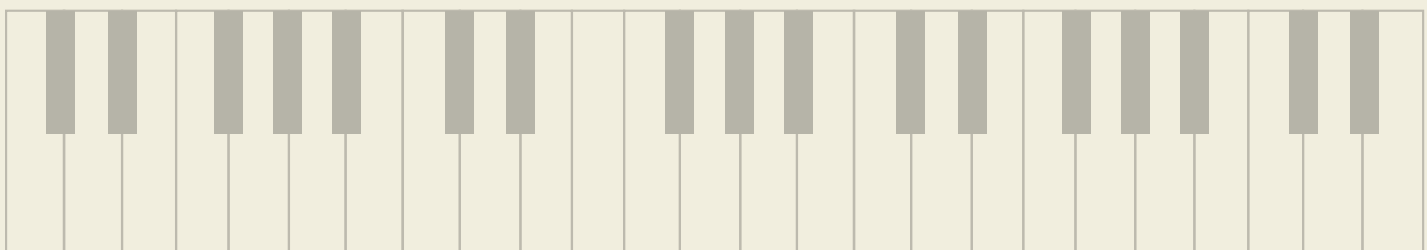
Benjamin Sheen is currently Director of Music at Jesus College Cambridge, having held positions as Organist at Saint Thomas Church, New York and Christ Church Cathedral Oxford. He holds degrees from the University of Oxford and the Juilliard School and is also a prize-winning Fellow of the Royal College of Organists and the 2011 recipient of the Silver Medal from the Worshipful Company of Musicians.

Hailed as 'brilliant' by the New York Times, he was the 2013 winner of the Pierre S. du Pont First Prize in the inaugural Longwood Gardens Organ Competition and received Second Prize and the Jon Laukvik prize at the St. Alban's International Organ Competition 2013.

As a concert organist, Mr. Sheen has performed throughout Europe, the USA, Hong Kong and Singapore. He has performed with notable orchestras including the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, the City of London Sinfonia and Orchestra of St. Luke's (New York City).

Two sessions will be held on Thursday 6 August in Memorial Hall, Scotch College. At 4:00pm, join Ben in a masterclass for organ students. Ben will also perform in an Organ Concert at 6:00pm. These two sessions will also benefit piano students and teachers, and anyone interested in the organ.

Enquiries: elaine.chin@scotch.vic.edu.au



**All Scotch College Piano Festival events
will take place in the James Forbes
Academy (JFA).**

**Scotch College Melbourne
1 Morrison Street
Hawthorn 3122**

**Parking is available along Hambledon Road
and Morrison Street.**



**SCOTCH
COLLEGE
MELBOURNE**

FOUNDED 1851

