

ADELAIDEAN

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NEWS F

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The Vice-Chancellor on
The Getting of Wisdom



In January this year, two student jazz ensembles from the Elder Conservatorium—The Adelaide Connection and Ensemble 3.1—performed at a major international jazz education conference in New York. Ensemble directors Connaitre Miller and Dustan Cox write about the trip.

THE ADELAIDE CONNECTION

The 1998 school year has indeed started out with a Bang! After only two rehearsals I can say with great enthusiasm that this year's Adelaide Connection looks like it will be the best one yet! One of the main reasons for our fantastic beginning is the concentration of positive vibes radiating from those members of the group who have recently returned from a highly successful tour to the USA.

In July of 1997, the Adelaide Connection received an invitation to perform at the 25th anniversary of the International Association of Jazz Educators Conference in New York City in January 1998. After several months of fundraising, gruelling (nevertheless fun) rehearsals, extra concerts (necessary for honing performance skills) and intensive planning, we finally found ourselves air-bound for the Big Apple.

The conference was an incredible event with an impact that's difficult to put into words. There were over 8,000 jazz musicians, enthusiasts, educators and promoters from all over the world, all within one hotel, the Marriott Marquis, in the heart of Times Square. The atmosphere buzzed with an understated kind of excitement as students and amateur musicians rubbed shoulders with those who had previously only been names on recording labels. There were locals performing at jazz clubs throughout Manhattan every night until the wee hours of the morning and plenty of workshops and concerts to attend during the day and early evening at the Conference. We fought the jet lag so that we wouldn't miss out on a moment.

Our concert took place on Friday 9 January in the Marquis Ballroom. The fact that we were finally in New York at the IAJE Conference, about to give the performance that we had worked on for months, was plenty of incentive for the students of The Adelaide Connection to do their absolute best. But to add fuel to the fire, the audience was like none we'd ever experienced before as a group. The people who filled the ballroom had definitely come to be entertained by "The Aussies". Usually, when our choir performs, the atmosphere is a little more formal; but right from the first phrase of "Sometimes of Happy", members of the audience began to react verbally, laughing in all of the right places at the quirky lyrics. This sort of

immediate feedback spurred the choir on to give even more and they sang their hearts out. With each selection that was presented the applause continued to grow and grow. Just before we performed our last piece, the presiding officer presented us with a plaque for "Outstanding Service to Jazz Education" and remarked to the audience that, "Vocal jazz was indeed alive and well and living a fine life in Adelaide, South Australia". After we had sung our finale, "Waltzing Matilda", I thought we would all burst with happiness as the audience instantly responded by giving us a rousing standing ovation.

Following the concert many people hung around to speak with us personally, telling us again and again how much they enjoyed our performance. My very favourite comment, which came from a solo jazz singer, was, "I just couldn't believe it! I mean, here were these ... kids, from ... Australia, and they were singing jazz like they'd been doing it their whole lives; like they had grown up with it all around them. The way that they swing ... absolutely amazing!"

We floated through the rest of the conference, attending as many workshops and performances as possible, and learning a great deal. We kept bumping into people who commented on our performance with some who stopped us to just say how sorry they were that they had missed our concert because great things were being said about The Adelaide Connection. What an incredible experience for our students!

—Connaitre Miller, *Jazz Voice*

ENSEMBLE 3.1

The University of Adelaide's Small Jazz Ensemble 3.1, under my direction, has recently returned from a successful performance at the International Association of Jazz Educators Conference in New York. Ensemble 3.1 was the first Australian group to perform at this prestigious event in New York City, universally recognised as the jazz capital of the world. Thousands of jazz performers make their homes in New York, because of direct links to recording companies, jazz clubs and other performance venues. This resulted in a greater opportunity to hear jazz performances, not only in the convention centre, but also in various venues in the immediate vicinity. Educational workshops, clinics and equipment displays including music technology in the classroom were available for participation by those in attendance. There were literally hundreds of areas to choose from in the four days, from 9am to 2am, and the most difficult daily decision was determining how to plan your day.

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FOUR STUDENTS from the University of Leeds will arrive in Adelaide mid-year to spend a year in the Geography Department following the establishment of a formal link between the department and the School of Geography at Leeds.

The link developed from a visit in late 1996 by Professor Philip Rees from the University of Leeds, which was funded through the Distinguished Visiting Scholar Program in the Faculty of Arts.

The agreement, which provides for the exchange of students and for research collaboration between the two departments, was signed by the Vice Chancellor, Professor Mary O'Kane last month.

Each year the departments will exchange up to four full time undergraduate or postgraduate students for one academic year of study and/or research at the host university.

The exchange program is already proving very popular, with the four Leeds students due in Adelaide for second semester, and the Study Abroad

Landscape students study Loxton environment

SUSTAINABILITY is a growing concern in the community. So is finding ways to identify options to better reach sustainability objectives in our economic, developmental, and servicing actions and policies.

Local councils in South Australia, as a consequence of the Earth Summit Conference in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, are obligated to prepare a Local Agenda 21 strategy. The strategy needs to be incorporated into local council management and decisions making processes and policies and filter outwards into community activities and processes.

As part of their investigation into sustainability a group of landscape architecture students from the University of Adelaide are presently reviewing the Riverland town of Loxton.

The students, with the full support of the Loxton Waikerie District Council and Local Action Planning Ofg wi ndndn

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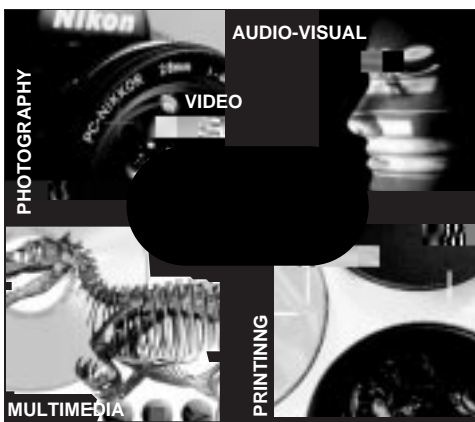
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ALUMNI NEWS

DR PHILIP NITSCHKE
ADDRESSES PUBLIC MEETING

Dr Philip Nitschke, BSc Hons, PhD (Physics), MBBS, gave a public lecture on Voluntary Euthanasia in the Florey Lecture Theatre on Thursday 2 April.

The lecture, which was sponsored by the Science and Mathematical Sciences Chapter of the Alumni Association, was attended by some 200 people. Dr Harry Medlin chaired the evening.

Dr Nitschke spoke of the background to the Northern Territory experience and the several successes before the Northern Territory's Rights of the Terminally Ill Act 1995 was quashed by the Federal Parliament. He spoke also of the cross-political and cross-religious issues raised. There was vigorous but in the main restrained debate.

The meeting thanked the members of the Chapter Committee, in particular Mr Dean Dowling, and Alumni Activities Coordinator Adrienne Eccles for their work in mounting the lecture.

A vote of thanks was moved by the Honourable Anne Levy who, amongst other things, while thanking Dr Nitschke said that her bill in the SA Legislative Council had been passed by 13 votes to 8 before it was overtaken by the last state election and therefore had lapsed.

EVENING OF VICTORIANA

The Cornell Chapter invites all enthusiasts of the Victorian era to join them in the splendid nineteenth century ambience of Ayers House on Tuesday 26 May.

Enjoy a three course meal with wines, Victorian drawing room music for voice, flute and piano, and an address on the architecture of nineteenth century Adelaide by distinguished architectural historian Brian Andrews. Commences 7:30pm. \$50 per person. Period dress may be worn.

Bookings: Ms Kinga Gasiorowski, Alumni House, University of Adelaide; tel 8303 4275. The Alumni Office accepts cash, cheques or Visa Card/Mastercard/Bankcard.

GUIDED TOUR OF MAGISTRATES' COURT

ADELAIDE: Share accomm - modern townhouse, very quiet SE cnr of city, lge private courtyard, b-ins, own study area, choice of 2 brs, suit postgrad. Rent to be discussed - could be homestay. Ph 8232 4841.

HENLEY BEACH: Lge 3 to 4 br Esplanade house available furn or unfurn from July - Dec 98 neg. Suit visiting academic & family. Refs required. \$400-\$450 pw. Ph 8235 0482 or Kathie 8303 5071.

HOLIDAY HOUSE: Second Valley - available during school holidays, term breaks and weekends. Modern, comfortable, views, close to beach, sleeps 5. Ph 8379 6510.

HOLIDAY HOUSES:

Goolwa - backs onto ocean/ beach. Kangaroo Island, Vivonne Bay - beautiful beach, bush, wildlife. Ph Irene or Michael 8388 6404 or 8388 6200.

HOUSE SITTING: Professional woman graduate and 10 year old daughter available to house sit east of city. Secure care of property, gardens and pets. References available. Ph 8362 1227.

WANTED: Visiting academic and wife seek fully furn house with 2/3 br located close to beach (Brighton to Grange) from 1 July - 30 Nov 98. References supplied. Also require small car. Ph Dr Pascale Quester 8356 7163 or email: <pquester@economics.adelaide.edu.au> or <keithw@uniserve.com>.

WILLASTON: Share unit, walking distance to Roseworthy, bus route and shops. \$105 per fortnight (plus expenses). Ph Allan (08) 8523 3853 or (08) 8524 8223.

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CAMIRA: SL JE 87 sedan, silver, 5 spd, 2 ltr EI, air,

towbar, exc cond, reg until 30 June 98. VNB 070. \$4,950. Ph 8266 5570 (after 7pm).

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