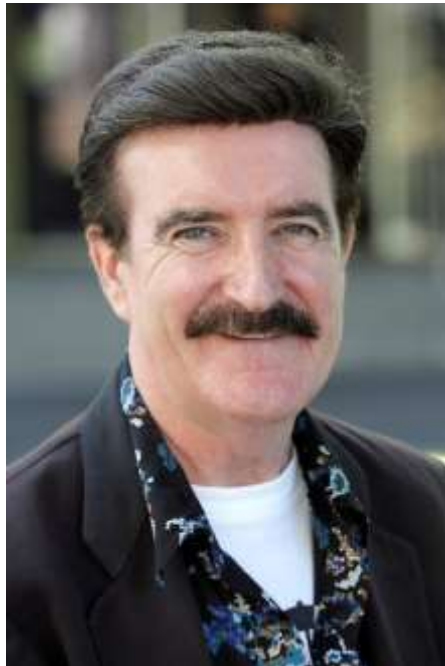


Vale James Muir



James Muir was the winner of a Frank Hutchens/Lindley Evans Scholarship which enabled him to undertake postgraduate studies with international artists Cecile Ousset and Genevieve Martigny at the Ecole Normale de Musique in Paris, specialising in chamber music. He taught at State High Schools to the HSC level and directed ensembles that have performed at combined instrumental festivals at the Sydney Opera House.

For many years, he had an established private studio and served as a councillor for the Music Teachers' Association of New South Wales.

In 1987 he formed the Sydney Chamber Players, giving recitals in the city's principal concert venues. The ensemble's output culminated in the release of a two-CD set: An anthology of the chamber music of Miriam Hyde, released by Walsingham Classics in 1997. The CDs have gained critical acclaim with 'editor's choice' rating and international release.

James was also an experienced adjudicator and lecturer at several institutions, including the Sydney Conservatorium Access Centre, where he gave workshops in both metropolitan and country areas.

In 2000, James received an award for services to music from the International Biographical Centre in Cambridge, England and from the American Biographical Institute in Washington, DC. In 2005, he received a Fellowship in performance from The Australian Society of Musicology and Composition conferred by the Governor of NSW.

James was a passionate and highly respected Ambassador for the St Vincent's HIV Future Fund, supporting the work of St Vincent's Hospital Sydney into research, treatment and care of patients living with HIV/AIDS. He performed in the highly successful 'Playing for a Cure' concerts in 2014 and 2017 at the ABC's Eugene Goossens Hall.

Below, we include a tribute from AMEB (NSW) teacher, Pat Harrison and AMEB (NSW) Senior Diploma examiner, Kathryn Phillips.

Pat Harrison: “I was privileged to know James for thirty-four years, and I was his student for the first twelve of these years. As a teacher, James was unerringly patient and encouraging. I never ceased to be amazed by his extraordinary memory when it came to music. He was a supremely talented and generous man and I owe him a debt of gratitude for helping me get through all three of my teaching diplomas. He will be greatly missed as a performer, friend, teacher and mentor.”

Kathryn Phillips: “James was a quiet, reserved gentleman, but to all who knew him there existed a dry humour and a sincere friendship. On behalf of all keyboard examiners, we will miss you, James. Thank you for your expertise and immeasurable contributions. You have passed on invaluable instruction and wisdom and created pleasurable moments associated with learning. Thank you for the enduring impression you have made in the many lives you have touched.”