

Australian Festival of Chamber Music

May 15, 2023

Australian Festival of Chamber Music announces two new Board members

Two extraordinary leaders in their fields have been appointed to the Board of the Australian Festival of Chamber Music (AFCM).

AFCM Chair **Mary Jo Capps** announced today that **Professor Martin Nakata AM**, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Indigenous Education & Strategy at James Cook University and the first Torres Strait Islander to graduate with a PhD, together with **Geoff Collinson**, one of the country's foremost horn players and founder of Aeyons.com had been appointed Directors, effective immediately.

Professor Martin Nakata AM has had an extensive academic career in Indigenous education, Indigenous Studies and Indigenous Knowledge. His current research work includes two longitudinal studies of the academic preparation of Indigenous students for university studies, and the academic performance of Indigenous school students in Math and Science.

He has presented over 70 plenary and keynote addresses around the globe, and has been co-editor of the Australian Journal of Indigenous Education for the past 10 years, and continues to serve on editorial boards of academic journals here and internationally.

Geoff Collinson is one of the country's top musicians, and now, music business leader. After 10 years as Principal Horn with the Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestra and guest principal with many orchestras in Australia and overseas, he was tenured as Head of Brass at The University of Melbourne, with many of his former students in orchestral positions all over the world.

He is the founder and one of the directors of the Melbourne International Festival of Brass and 10 years ago founded Aeyons.com and as a result, remains in a unique position to help others on their musical education journey.

Tickets to the 2023 AFCM are on sale now. Artistic Director **Jack Liebeck's** second program features 34 concerts and special events, and 39 world-class musicians and artists. Thirteen international artists will make the trip to Townsville-Gurambilbarra in North Queensland this year, five of whom are making their Australian debut, including French violinist **Charlotte Saluste-Bridoux**, UK-based Taiwanese violist **Ting-Ru Lai**, UK narrator and playwright **Peter Thompson**, fellow Brit and viola player **Sally Beamish**, who will attend as *Composer-in-Residence* and international musicologist **Stephen Johnson**.

AFCM principal partners include Queensland Government through Tourism and Events Queensland and Arts Queensland, and Townsville City Council. AFCM is supported by the Queensland Government, through Tourism and Events Queensland, and features on the *It's Live! In Queensland* events calendar.

Australian Festival of Chamber Music

28 July to 6 August 2023 in Townsville-Gurambilbarra, North Queensland – ON SALE NOW

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For media enquiries please contact Kath Rose | 0416 291 493 | kath@kathrose.com