

Welcome to piano professional!

This new, optimistic issue comes to you at the beginning of the second decade of the 21st century.

It is full of hope and practical advice for pianists and teachers of all ages. An emphasis on singing, ear training and fun away from obsession with printed music notation is evident in three of the featured articles.

Meanwhile Penelope Roskell shares her invaluable technical secrets with us once more, and Sharon Goody invites us to take part in a survey on sight reading as a means towards completely re-thinking the way in which this subject is taught and assessed by teachers and examination boards.

Joe Laredo and Matthew Kam are concerned with performance and integrity at the highest performance level – but their ideals and beliefs should equally be applied to performances and interpretations from beginner's level repertoire upwards.

Perhaps most strikingly of all in this issue comes an article from Australia in which Rhonda and Robin Boyle introduce the extraordinary possibility of pianists being able to play with smaller keyboards simply by installing specially made keyboards into their own instruments at home and on the concert stage. These keyboards allow pianists with smaller hands the opportunity of being able to play with new found comfort and ease. The Boyles show that pianists with small hands need no longer be afraid of tackling repertoire with octaves and thick chordal textures. Thus we now have the chance to make hundreds of small handed players much more confident, healthy and virtuosic at the instrument. These implications are exciting, far reaching and could potentially even lead to a sea change in pianism.

Read on and find out more!

Murray McLachlan



The magazine for the
teaching pianist

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Cover picture shows
Naomi Kayayan teaching
during the 2nd EPTA UK-
Chetham's Piano Day
(8 November 2009)

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Where no number is given, please contact the Administrator (contact details on left).

Helplines

For advice on professional matters related to music and teaching please contact The Administrator on 08456 581054.

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Hospital Medical Care Association (HMCA) Individual plans are available at discounted rates.

Advice notes Advice notes on a number of subjects are available on request (*please see Handbook for details*).

Stationery A range of stationery, including forms for reports, contracts and statements, is available from the Administrator.

Piano Teachers' Information Centre The Piano Teachers' Information Centre is housed at Chethams School of Music in Manchester. It contains a valuable reference collection, listed on the EPTA UK website, of books, music, teaching methods, audio and video tapes. Contact Chetham's Reference Library, (Chetham's School of Music), Long Millgate, Manchester M3 1SB; Tel: 0161 834 7961; Email: librarian@chethams.org.uk. The collection relies on donations from publishers, authors and other individuals. These are always welcome and should be sent to Susan Bettaney at Chetham's School of Music.

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The John Bigg Scholarship Fund This fund provides bursaries for talented young pianists in need. Details and application forms are available from the Administrator. Any contributions to the Fund, via the Administrator, would be gratefully received.