

Mr Bill Thomson

現任香港及新加坡發展顧問、以及 ABRSM Celebration Orchestra 創辦人及指揮
Hong Kong and Singapore Development Executive for ABRSM
Founder & Conductor of ABRSM Celebration Orchestra

Bill Thomson studied piano, clarinet and organ at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music from the age of 14 as a Junior scholar. He graduated with teaching and performance diplomas. Playing Chamber music was a passion from an early age as well as conducting and directing large choral works with school choirs such as Verdi's Requiem, Bach's St John Passion, Tippett's 'A Child of our Time' and Handel's Messiah.

With a career in music education spanning 4 decades Bill has some special memories. Performing for the Royal family at St James' palace in London was indeed amazing. Examining for the ABRSM in Namibia in Africa and having to drive for 4 hours alone across a desert to reach one town was certainly memorable. The only other way was by camel, which would have taken 4 days...as well as examining in the city of Kandy in central Sri Lanka and nearly being stood upon by an elephant!

Bill has been an examiner for the ABRSM for 20 years and has examined graded, jazz and diploma examinations across four continents. Bill and his wife Jean enjoy time together at their country home in Scotland with their family, including their 3 grandsons, when time away from work permits.



Prof Danilo Manto



英國皇家音樂學院聯合委員會 意大利顧問、意大利 Monguelfo Summer Course 創辦人

Development Coordinator for the ABRSM in Italy, Founder and Director of the 'Monguelfo Summer Course' ("Corso Pianistico Estivo di perfezionamento") and of the 'Piano Masterclass Course' ('Corso di Perfezionamento Pianistico')

in Italy

Prof Danilo Manto began his musical studies with the piano, organ and composition at the city's conservatoire "Vincenzo Bellini". He subsequently furthered his studies in Florence under the guidance of Daniel Rivera and Antonio Bacchelli (piano), M° Carlo Prosperi (composition) and the Swedish soprano Anne Sophie Lind Flora (voice).

During the period 1978 – 2010 Danilo Manto performed both as soloist and in chamber ensembles in a variety of concerts in Italy, Europe and South America, with a repertoire in both solo and ensemble performances ranging from J. S. Bach to the 20th century though maintaining a special interest in Italian composers such as Muzio Clementi, Domenico Scarlatti, Domenico Cimarosa and other Italian keyboard composers.

Right from his earliest years Danilo Manto has always taught the piano. In over 30 years of teaching experience he has evolved a special and innovative way of teaching, blending the rigour of the Italian system with the flexibility of the British one.

Danilo Manto currently lives in Milan. He is the founder and director of the 'Monguelfo Summer Course' ("Corso Pianistico Estivo di perfezionamento") held in Monguelfo (Bolzano – Italy) and of the 'Piano Masterclass Course' ('Corso di Perfezionamento Pianistico') in Cherasco (Cuneo – Italy). As a composer he has collaborated with "Filmoteca Regionale Siciliana". Since 2006 he has been the Development Coordinator for the ABRSM (Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music, London) and in this role has given seminars and conferences to schools, teachers and pupils in many parts of Italy.

<http://www.danilomanto.com/>

施敏倫博士 *Dr Amy Sze*



任教於香港演藝學院及香港浸會大學。曾以獨奏身份與美國德州沃斯堡室樂團、伊士曼交響樂團、香港小交響樂團和香港管弦樂團等合作。她亦活躍於室樂演奏和致力推動新音樂，曾於法國五月節及香港國際現代音樂節演出。

Amy Sze holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Piano Performance and Literature from the Eastman School of Music. Winner of the Eastman Concerto Competition and Finalist of the MTNA Steinway Competition, Sze has performed as a soloist with many orchestras including Texas Fort Worth Chamber Orchestra, Eastman Symphony Orchestra, Hong Kong Sinfonietta and Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra. She is particularly active in chamber music and keen on promoting new music. She appears frequently on RTHK Radio 4 in recitals and has been featured in such festivals as Le French May and ISCM World Music Days.

Amy Sze is currently on the faculty of HKAPA and Baptist University of Hong Kong.

盧嘉博士 Dr Karl Lo



Critically acclaimed as a “performer who impresses without reservations” by the American Record Guide, Karl Lo is a touring recitalist and an active collaborative artist, has given recitals across the USA, Canada, Venezuela, and China, including complete cycles of Beethoven piano, violin and cello sonatas, as well as Schubert piano sonatas. His 2007 presentation of the 32 Beethoven piano sonatas in Chongqing, China, marked the country’s premier performance of such collection.

Aside from concert engagements, Karl Lo’s recent accomplishments include the release of his debut 2-CD recording featuring the last six piano sonatas by Beethoven. In addition, he is frequently invited to judge local and foreign piano competitions. As a instructor at the Cleveland Institute of Music from 2002-2008., his inspiring approach to lecturing has earned him the nomination for the prestigious 2008 Carl F. Wittke Award for teaching excellence.

Appointed as regional consultant by the Trinity College London, Karl is currently teaching at the Hong Kong Baptist University and the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts. He holds a doctorate degree from The Cleveland Institute of Music, and has previously attended the Oberlin College Conservatory, Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, and the Academy for Performing Arts in Hong Kong

A frequent winner at competitions, Karl Lo won the grand prize at the Canadian Music Competition International Stepping Stone piano division, second prize at the Chopin Competition in New York, second prize at the Kosciuszko competition in Chicago, and fourth prize at the first Chopin Competition in Toronto. He was named a Liberace Scholar for three consecutive years, and was the recipient of many institutional awards, such as the Dean's Talent Award, William Kruzban Prize in Piano, Arthur Loesser Prize in Piano, Louis Kaufman Prize in Chamber Music, and Piano Faculty Prize in Accompanying.

JONATHAN DOBSON ARAM

Jonathan Dobson ARAM has adjudicated festivals and prizes at many schools and institutions including the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal College of Music and was elected the special Associate of the Royal Academy of Music - ARAM - by the Governing Body of the Royal Academy in January 2013 in recognition of his services to musical education in the UK. As a pianist, Jonathan has appeared in many concerts as soloist and chamber musician and as a journalist has published over 300 articles and reviews.

Noticeably, he is also regularly invited to broadcast several critically acclaimed musical documentaries for BBC Radio which is internationally recognised as the most important music station in the world and has appeared as guest lecturer at the Royal Academy of Music and the British Library. In 2003 he became Director of Music at Channing School in Highgate, London and is currently Director of Music at Queenswood School in Hatfield, Hertfordshire. He studied piano for five years at the Royal Academy of Music in London with Alexander Kelly and Hamish Milne. On graduation in 1991 he was awarded the Peter Latham Prize by the Principal and began a successful career as a pianist, teacher, lecturer, writer and broadcaster.

李嘉齡 Miss Colleen Lee



2005 年獲得波蘭第 15 屆蕭邦國際鋼琴大賽獎項,曾參與波蘭國際蕭邦音樂節、德國麥森鋼琴音樂節、香港藝術節及紐約國際鍵盤音樂節等,並於 2008 年獲香港藝術發展局頒贈「藝術家新秀獎」。

李嘉齡現為香港教育大學榮譽駐校藝術家,並於香港演藝學院任教。

Since winning the 6th Prize at the prestigious International Fryderyk Chopin Piano Competition in Warsaw in 2005, she has performed extensively around the world and has collaborated with such orchestras as the BBC National Orchestra of Wales, Galicia Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Philharmonic Orchestras of Israel, China, Warsaw and Sendai as well as Hong Kong Philharmonic. Lee has been featured at festivals including the International Chopin Festival in Poland, Pianoforte-Festival Meissen in Germany and International Keyboard Festival in New York. Her performance in Magic Piano & Chopin

Shorts at the 42nd Hong Kong Arts Festival had garnered rave review.

Born in Hong Kong, Lee received her training at The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts under Eleanor Wong and at Hochschule für Musik und Theater in Hannover under Arie Vardi. Prizes she has won included the First Prize at the Third International Seiler Piano Competition in Germany, the 2003 Dorothy Mackenzie Artist Recognition Award, Pro Musicis International Award and the Third Prize, Critic and Audience Prizes at the 15th International Competition for Piano and Orchestra in Cantù, Italy. She received the "Award for Young Artist" from the Hong Kong Arts Development Council in 2008.

Lee currently teaches at The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts and is the Honorary Artist-in-Residence of The Education University of Hong Kong.

郭品文 *Julie Pun-Man KUOK*



畢業於美國歐柏林音樂學院及倫敦皇家音樂學院，為香港首位獲英國文化協會頒贈獎學金赴英國進修的青年鋼琴家，並屢獲鋼琴獎項，包括 *Alexander Roller Prize*，1995 年及 1996 年香港(亞洲)鋼琴公開賽冠軍，以及美國歐柏林協奏曲比賽冠軍。她活躍於演奏及作曲，並經常在本地及海外演奏、主持鋼琴音樂示範講座、大師班及擔任多項國際比賽評判。曾錄製第 63 屆香港學校音樂節分級鋼琴獨奏樂曲分析及示範的影碟，近年亦被邀請講解英國皇家音樂學院聯合委員會鋼琴分級試之曲目。2000 年，她與鋼琴家許寧成立「諄意四手」，後來擔任第四台駐台藝術家，及出現在港台電視特輯「喜樂柒章」。2009 年，她成為施坦威藝術家。2010 年她與許寧灌錄了首張由 *Tammy Records* 發行的唱碟「散聚－諄意四手」。同年九月，她被有線電視列入香港十大青年音樂家之一，參予「拉近文化」節目專訪。她的雙鋼琴處女作「夜曲」亦在 2012 年由聲音文化出版。郭品文小姐為現任演藝學院、中文大學及浸會大學鋼琴系導師。

Graduated from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music and the Royal Academy of Music in London, Miss Kuok was the first HK young musician to be awarded a full scholarship by the British Council for pursuing study in London. Prizes awarded include the champion in Hong Kong (Asia) Piano Competitions, winner of Oberlin Concerto Competition and Alexander Roller Prize.

She is also active in performance and composition, frequently giving local and overseas concerts, lectures, masterclasses and acting as jury in many international piano competitions. Miss Kuok was invited to give lecture demonstration on Hong Kong Music Festival piano repertoire, was recorded as DVD and to demonstrate ABRSM graded piano exam repertoires. She formed the "HK Duo" in 2000 giving local and overseas concerts, lectures, masterclasses and acting as jury in many piano competitions. She had also appeared in the RTHK Radio 4 as Artist-in-Residence and the TV series, 'Music and Beyond'. She was entitled as Steinway artist in 2009. In 2010, Julie was invited to give lecture demonstration on the 62nd Hong Kong Music Festival piano competition repertoire published as DVD under Brio. She also had her first piano duo CD album "In a glimpse" published under Tammy Records. In 2010, she was featured as one of the Hong Kong Ten Young Musicians in the i-cable TV "Close to Culture". In 2012, she had her first piano duo work "Nocturne" published under H'ing Publishing. Julie is currently a piano faculty member at Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, the Chinese University and the Baptist University.

Loo Bang Hean



英國皇家音樂學院聯合委員會顧問

7 個國家 ABRSM Hallmarks of Distinction Teacher Conference 講者.

Born in Ipoh, Malaysia, Bang Hean studied at the Royal College of Music, London under a scholarship awarded by the ABRSM. His teachers at RCM included Yonty Solomon and John Blakely. At the end of his study at RCM he received awards from the Anthony Saltmarsh Prize and the Countess of Munster Musical Trust to undergo postgraduate studies with the Hungarian teacher Professor Ilonka Deckers in Milan, Italy.

Back in Malaysia since 1995, Bang Hean regularly appears in solo recitals, chamber concerts and concerto performances. He has appeared in concerto performances with various local orchestras. Apart from Malaysia he has also performed in England, Italy, Brunei, Singapore and Korea. A keen chamber musician, he works frequently with various vocalists and instrumentalists, including members of the National Symphony Orchestra and the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra. He has also performed abroad, including England, Italy, Brunei, Singapore, Indonesia, Hong Kong, Cambodia and Korea. He is also very much involved in music education, being an adjunct lecturer at University College Sedaya International (UCSI) as well as a frequent presenter at seminars around this region.