

Nick Peterson

As a performer, composer and author of numerous books and resources in the field of music education, Nick Peterson (D.O.B. 15th October 1957) is an inspirational music educator who draws from a wealth of knowledge gained from over forty years of experience as a dedicated musician.

Beyond being a classically trained pianist and graduate of the NSW State Conservatorium (Dip. Mus. Ed. 1975 with high distinctions in Music Education and Composition), Nick is adept in synthesizer technology and proficient both as a literate and ear-playing musician. A musical polyglot, Nick has been a keyboardist in a diverse range of ensembles including: *Ethnic, Rock, Jazz, Soul, Latin American and Funk* bands. Accordingly, he has toured with pop artists, played on ocean liners, accompanied innumerable club acts and gained experience with the acoustics of venues ranging from goat-sheds to the Sydney Opera House.

The breadth of musical perception gained from such extensive experiences is reflected in the broad range of styles in which Nick authentically composes. *Professionally*, he writes in assorted genres for radio and television advertisements and scores for live theatre productions. *Educationally*, Nick creates musical examples to specifically illustrate the musical devices he teaches. He composes and arranges music for classroom ensembles and creates tailored compositions for student performances. *For his own pleasure* Nick enjoys creating works which stretch musical boundaries, always seeking to broaden the scope of styles for which he writes.

The enhanced musical understanding acquired from such multi-faceted musicianship is at the very heart of Nick's teaching. He delights in sharing his expertise; particularly in imparting insights that raise eyebrows and put smiles on student faces. However, embedded in the light-hearted approach are ground-breaking methodologies that generate musical perceptions empowering students to reach their potential. As an educator Nick maintains that music should be taught as a *first* language rather than as a second, and asserts that adequate education in a creative art form such as music should go beyond creating 'clones', producing instead: unique, independent and creative musicians.

Nick has taught music at all levels of schooling: infant, primary, secondary and university, and amongst former students is a string of thriving music educators and performers. An erudite and energetic clinician, Nick conducts professional development workshops for high school and private music teachers, and, has presented at state and national conferences for:

- ASME (Australian Society for Music Education)
- MTA (Music Teachers Association)
- AMUSE (Association of Music Educators)
- APPC (Australasian Piano Pedagogy Conference),

and internationally for:

- ISME (International Society for Music Education)
- ANZARME (Australian and New Zealand Association for Research in Music Education)
- Musiclearninglive!Asia
- National Institute of Education (Singapore)
- ASPMER (Asia-Pacific Symposium for Music Education Research).

Nick has written numerous books and resources in the field of music education. Recent titles include:

- ✚ The Concepts of Music series;
 - *'An Introduction To The Concepts of Music'*
 - *'The Concepts of Music, A Multimedia Resource For Junior Music'*
 - *'The Concepts of Music, A Multimedia Resource For Elective Music'*

- ✚ *'Rhythm Reading and Dictation'*

- ✚ *'Music's Fascinating Fun Facts'*

- ✚ *'Keyboard Music Lab'*

- ✚ *'Equipping Pianists for Superior Sight Reading'*

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