

EMANUEL SCHMIDT BIO

CAREER AND EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS

- 1990 Earns Bachelor of Science in Biological Oceanography and Bachelor of Science in Aquaculture at the Florida Institute of Technology, USA.
- 1992 Composes Concerto for String Quintet and English Horn.
- 1993 Composes Symphonic Tone Poem for Full Orchestra.
- 1993 Writes Guitar Method.
- 1993 Teaches Jazz Ensemble at Wesley Institute.
- 1993 Graduation Recital is awarded High Distinction.
- 1993 Earns Award for Excellence in Music Production at Wesley Institute.
- 1993 Earns Award for Excellence in Harmony and Composition at Wesley Institute.
- 1993 Earns Diploma of Creative Arts in Music from Wesley Institute, with Honours (88% average).
- 1995 Performs in musical, *Fiddler On The Roof*.
- 1995 Studies Advanced Jazz Improvisation and Big Band Performance at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music.
- 1997 Studies Music Performance, Composition, Music Technology, and Musicology at the University of Western Sydney.
- 1997 Composes *Holocaust Threnody* for Full Orchestra.
- 1997 Composes solo work for voice and clapsticks, *Lullaby for an Aboriginal Child*.
- 1998 Lectures in Harmony, Composition and Arranging at the Wesley Institute.
- 1998 Begins research for Ph.D. thesis at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music.
- 1998 Records demo CD with JABBÔQ Jazz, *four times four*.
- 2000 Receives Margaret Henderson Scholarship.
- 2000 Co-Performs original composition for and with ask dance theatre at the Edge Theatre.
- 2000 Performs at EIGHT O'CLOCK SHARP: *Jazz In The Round*.
- 2001 Records Emanuel Schmidt Trio CD, *Stella*.
- 2001 Records Emanuel Schmidt Quartet CD, *Moanemlatin'*.
- 2002 Performs with pianist, Paul McNamara
- 2003 Records Jaboq Jazz CD, 'Blue Water'
- 2003 Jabboq Jazz Ensemble earns 'Highly Recommended' Award from the 2003 Australian Achievers Award Organisation for Customer Satisfaction

PERFORMANCE

Swiss-born Emanuel Schmidt came to Australia in early 1991 after living and studying in Switzerland, France, England and the United States. Whilst completing his degrees in Biological Oceanography and Aquaculture at the Florida Institute of Technology, he started playing drums, then keyboard and bass before discovering the guitar.

Emanuel is an excellent and experienced performer and draws on his significant repertoire in the jazz, blues, latin, pop, rock, and gospel styles. He has performed at festivals, clubs, cafés and restaurants, weddings and various public performances with musicians such as Felix Bloxsom, Nick Bowd, Jonathan Brown, Con Campbell, Erana Clark, Kristen Cornwell, Reuben Derrick, Lily Dior, Dave Goodman, Toby Hall, Fabian Hevia, Ben Jones, Mike Kenny, Bill Kezelos, Pete Kohlhoff, Mark Lau, Paul McNamara, Richard Maegraith, Spike Mason, Andrew Massey, Willow Nielsen, Richard Otmar, Mathew Ottignon, Laurence Pike, Toni Randle, Bill Risby, Virna Sanzone, Phil Scorgie, Craig Scott, Ian Shanahan, Craig Simon, Alister Spence, Hamish Stuart, and Craig Walters. Emanuel is musical director of several ensembles. His passion is jazz, which he performs mainly with his Trio and Quartet (JABBÔQ), but also as a solo artist and in duos. His diverse musical experience also includes touring, performing in a musical (*Fiddler on the Roof*), and recording live and in the studio. Emanuel has also maintained residencies at the All Seasons Premier Menzies Hotel, Mancini's, and the 1853 Restaurant with his own ensembles as well as with the Hugh Clark SuperShowband (*Live at the CAFFE*) and the show, *The Living Room*. In November 2000, Emanuel's quartet performed two intimate hours of his original works at the prestigious EIGHT O'CLOCK SHARP: *Jazz In The Round* series which featured

Sydney jazz guitarists and their bands. Emanuel has just completed a recording of 33 tracks ('Blue Water') with diverse ensembles and is preparing to record an album of original works in 2005. He is a member of the Sydney Improvised Music Association (SIMA), the Jazzgroove Association, the Musicians Union, and Jazzforschung (The International Society for Jazz Research).

"...an outstanding guitarist." (Ian Shanahan)

"...a fine guitarist." (Carl Orr)

"...an exceptionally thoughtful and hard-working musician." (Kim Poole)

"...a musically well-rounded professional." (Ian Shanahan)

"...versatile..." (David Holmes)

"...of exceptional ability..." (Kim Poole)

"...highly motivated...[his] talent and humbleness promise a bright future." (Guy Strazzullo)

"...I am confident he will go a long way." (Carl Orr)

"...unlike many guitarists, Emanuel is a fluent sight-reader." (Paul Brown)

"...Emanuel is a good sight reader, a rare quality among guitarists." (Carl Orr)

EDUCATION

In 1993 Emanuel earned a Diploma in Creative Arts in Music with Honours from the Wesley Institute for Ministry and the Arts in Sydney, where he also received Awards for Excellence in Music Production and Composition. His 1993 Final Year Recital earned him a high distinction. In 1997, he studied Music Performance, Composition, Music Technology, and Musicology at the University of Western Sydney, and is currently pursuing a Ph.D. at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music. In 2000, Emanuel was a recipient of the Margaret Henderson scholarship for his research work.

Emanuel has studied jazz guitar with David Holmes, Carl Orr, Paul Brown, Guy Strazzullo, Peter Zografakis, and Peter O'Mara and his influences include Grant Green, Wes Montgomery, Pat Martino, Joe Pass, Pat Metheny, John Scofield, Scott Henderson, Jim Hall, Miles Davis and John Coltrane, among others. He has studied Advanced Jazz Improvisation and Big Band performance at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music.

COMPOSITION

Emanuel composes for various musical styles and contexts. In 1992, he wrote a Concerto for String Quintet and English Horn after only his second year of formal harmony studies. In 1993, after studying composition with Ralph Wilcock, he composed a 20th Century autobiographical Symphonic tone poem for large orchestra and was given the Award for Excellence in Harmony and Composition. During the next few years, Emanuel began focusing on small and medium size ensemble compositions in a variety of jazz-related styles to complement his career as a performing musician. During this time, he also transcribed a number of Jazz recordings and arranged several works. Emanuel returned to academia in 1997 and used this opportunity to broaden his compositional skills. During 1997, he composed a work for 9-piece Jazz Ensemble ('Opaque View') which he also performed; a score for video documentary set to scenes on a coral reef ('Taba Naba Norem'); a Lullaby ('Lullaby for an Aboriginal Child'); and his most ambitious orchestral work so far, a programmatic (serialist/atonal/tonal) composition for large orchestra detailing the suffering of the Jews in the Holocaust and the problems with Swiss Banks ('Holocaust Threnody'). He also composed and performed a modern jazz work for 9-piece Fusion band ('Skedaddle - To Orr is Human') and co-composed a work for choreography which was performed at the 1997 Left Shoulder Leading Dance Production. In late 2000, Emanuel composed a work for *ask dance theatre* which was performed during the *green spice* series at The Edge Theatre. Emanuel has a strong understanding of all instrument families and seeks to further his career as a composer.

"...an accomplished and imaginative composer." (Ian Shanahan)

ORIGINAL WORKS

All Is Not Well Here (2001)
Brother Antoine's Blues (2000)
'Childhood' Tone Poem for Full Orchestra (1993)
Concerto for String Quintet and English Horn (1992)
Dear Lord (1993)
Freeman's Lane (2000)
The Four Silences (2002)
The Great Adventure (1993)
High Point, N.C. (2001)
Holocaust Threnody (1997)
Ichthyology (1999)
The Incense of Kim Phuc (2001)
Just When You Thought It Was Safe (2001)
Lullaby for an Aboriginal Child (1997)
Opaque View (1997)
The Rotomaster (2000)
Skedaddle – To Orr Is Human (1997)
Taba Naba Norem (1997)
Toucan Songo (2000)
Wedding at Summer Hill (2000)
When the Silver Cord Is Loosed (2000)
Windows to Your Soul (1997)

INSTRUCTION

Throughout 1998, Emanuel Schmidt lectured in Harmony, Composition and Arranging at the Wesley Institute, where he also taught Guitar. He has written his own Guitar Method, for which he was given the Award for Excellence in Music Production at the Wesley Institute. Emanuel is an avid and experienced guitar tutor who pushes his students to be as knowledgeable, skilled and expressive as possible. During the past six years, he has taught thousands of hours of guitar lessons. He is also resident guitar teacher at Music City in Petersham, Sydney.

"...a natural teacher." (Mandy Fischer)

"...a natural educator." (Ian Shanahan)

"...an industrious and accomplished guitar teacher of high integrity." (Geoff Clark)