

# Open Music Academy

Teaching staff - Piano

## Monika Laczofy

### Plano

#### Coordinator

Pianist and harpsichordist Monika Laczofy graduated from both Australian and Austrian universities. She has performed and broadcast both here and overseas as soloist and chamber musician. During several years of post-graduate study (piano and harpsichord) in her native Austria, she took part in courses at the Salzburg Mozarteum, also in numerous performances for the International Chamber Music Festival of Oberschützen. She was engaged as coach and repetiteur for singers, as solo and ensemble recitalist, concerto soloist, as well as for studio recording in England and for Austrian Radio.

In Australia she has broadcast for the ABC as soloist, accompanist, concerto soloist and orchestra member with the Melbourne and Adelaide Symphony Orchestras. As Harpsichordist, Laczofy performed for several years with the Melbourne-based Bach Players, the Melbourne Chamber Orchestra and the Melbourne Musicians, touring and recording much of the Elizabethan & Baroque repertoire, including the keyboard concertos of Bach and his sons. She has appeared with ensembles for the “Music in the Round” and Barossa Festivals, also the Adelaide Chamber Orchestra.

Since joining the staff of the Elder Conservatorium in 1985 as Staff Accompanist and Part-time Lecturer in Piano, she has accompanied regular student masterclasses, examination recitals and performed with a long list of renowned overseas artists as well as interstate and local soloists, in recital and broadcast. She has also toured much of south and eastern Australia with the Fleurieu Ensemble and more recently performed also with the visiting Swiss “Aura” String Quartet in a series of city and country concerts. An experienced teacher of music at all levels, she has been Chamber Music Tutor and Adjudicator for national competitions.

At present she is widely involved in the Adelaide music scene as Chair and Artistic Coordinator for Recitals Australia Lunch Hour Concerts, Past President/now Secretary of the Accompanists’ Guild of South Australia, Convenor of Junior Ensemble Musicians (JEMs), the Geoffrey Parsons Award and Collaborative Pianist competitions. Aside from piano teaching, privately and for O.M.A., Monika coaches accompanying and chamber music. She is also Advisor and Federal Examiner for the AMEB. In 2020 Monika was awarded an OAM for her services to music education.



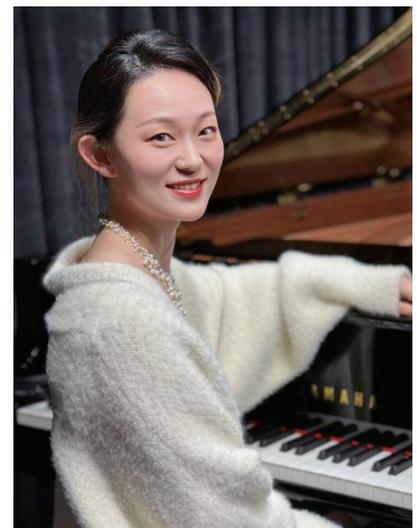
## Jennifer Chen

### Plano

Jennifer Chen is an accomplished pianist and alumna of the Elder Conservatorium of Music, where she completed a BMus Honours in Performance. She is currently pursuing a research-based Master’s degree, guided by Prof. Anna Goldsworthy, Mrs. Eleonora Sivan, and Mr. Stephen Whittington. Her musical excellence has been recognized with the Maude Puddy Prize for Piano, the Thelma Dent Memorial Prize, and the AMEB Prize for Certificate of Performance.

Jennifer’s versatile performance career includes solo recitals, duets, and chamber music, with notable appearances at the Ukaria Cultural Centre, Elder Hall, and festivals like OzAsia. She has long contributed to the Adelaide Eisteddfod, from winning as a high school participant to co-convening the event since 2022, and she served as an adjudicator in 2024.

As a dedicated teacher at the Open Music Academy, Immanuel College, and Westminster School, Jennifer’s students have achieved strong results in AMEB exams, competitions, and have been featured in masterclasses and festivals. She values music as a source of therapy and self-discovery, tailoring her approach to support her students’ musical and personal growth, and fostering a love for music that extends beyond performance.



## Jenny Su

### Plano

Jenny, an Adelaide local, is a recent graduate of the Elder Conservatorium. She holds a Bachelor of Music (Advanced) with First Class Honours (1), having studied under the guidance of Lucinda Collins. Throughout her studies, Jenny has been the recipient of several scholarships, including the Maude Harriot and Patrick Cecil Greenland Scholarships for Piano, as well as the Daisy Burmeister Salotti and Jack De Vos Scholarships.

Jenny has honed her craft through masterclasses with internationally renowned pianists such as Angela Hewitt, Paavali Jumppanen, Stephan Kovacevich, Phillip Moll, and Paloma Kouider. In both 2021 and 2024, she was awarded the Wilf Mader Memorial Medallion, winning the Senior division in attending years 2021, 2023 and 2024. In 2023 and 2024, she was also named the state finalist and winner of the Young Virtuoso Competition, securing the piano category prize and overall first place. Notable performances in Jenny's career include appearances at the Art of Possible Festival, PianoLab, and collaborations with Stephen King and Helen Ayres for the AGSA Ruby Festival and Lunch Hour Series. She was also selected for the Top-Class Concert of the Lunch Hour Series, where she was awarded the Peter Brooker Prize for Musical Excellence. In 2023, Jenny also represented South Australia at the Australian Showcase for the Sydney International Piano Competition.



## Lucinda Collins

### Plano

Lucinda Collins is the Head of Keyboard at the Elder Conservatorium of Music. Born in Adelaide, she graduated from the Conservatorium with a first-class honours degree before taking up the prestigious Elder Overseas Scholarship to study with Professor Peter Wallfisch at the Royal College of Music in London. On her return to Australia she was awarded the National Hephzibah Menuhin Scholarship and also won the National Bicentennial Piano Competition.

Lucinda has given concerts widely throughout Australia as well as the UK and Korea. A solo recitalist and concerto soloist, she also performs extensively as a chamber musician and has partnered many distinguished international artists. She has performed and toured nationally with the Australian String Quartet and collaborates regularly with many of Australia's finest musicians.

A dedicated teacher, Lucinda has taught many of Adelaide's most talented young pianists. Her students have been prize winners at state, national and international level. She also mentors chamber ensembles and oversees the Elder Conservatorium's collaborative piano program.



## Matthew Binion

### Plano

Matthew is a graduate from the Elder Conservatorium of Music, receiving his Bachelor of Music with Honours, under the tutelage of Dr David Lockett and Lucinda Collins. Matthew is head of education and manager at the Allenby Gardens Forte School of Music, an examiner for the AMEB, and is a respected educator and accompanist at leading schools throughout South Australia.

At the commencement of his studies, Matthew was awarded the D.B. Salotti Scholarship for his first year at the Conservatorium, and in his second year was awarded the Maude Harriett Riley Scholarship for piano. He was awarded Young Citizen of the Year for the City of Adelaide, receiving his award on Australia Day in 2008. In 2012 he won the annual Lance Dosser Memorial Prize at the Elder Conservatorium of Music.

In 2006 Matthew was accompanist for Adelaide Voices, for which he received the Norman Chinner Scholarship. Matthew has performed in master classes for many distinguished artists including Bart van Oort, Angela Hewitt, Malcolm Martineau, Roy Howat, Clemens Leske.

During Matthew's residential time at Lincoln College in 2006-08, he was music co-ordinator and musical ambassador for the College, which included organising concerts for various relief funds in Sudan. He received the Lincoln College Marion Kuechen music prize in 2006, 2007 and 2008. Matthew has and continues to work extensively with a variety of artists in Adelaide and nationwide, as both an accompanist and repetiteur.

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## Vivian Milton

### Plano

Acclaimed by *Fanfare* as “an exemplar of the modern global pianist”, Vivian Choi Milton enjoys a vibrant international career as a soloist, chamber musician and pedagogue. She has performed extensively throughout Australia, New Zealand, Europe, North America, and Asia.

Recent highlights include concerto appearances with the Grammy Award®-winning Boston Modern Orchestra Project and the world premiere of Kate Moore's Piano Concerto “Beatrice”. Her festival and recital engagements include Tanglewood Festival (USA), the Coriole Music Festival and Bowral Autumn Music Festival (Australia), as well as solo recitals in Spain, the Netherlands, and across Australia, including appearances at Piano Plus+ and the PianoLab Festival. An avid chamber musician, Vivian has performed regularly as a guest artist with the Boston Symphony Chamber Players (USA), the Chameleon Arts Ensemble (USA), and the Herz Ensemble (Netherlands).

Vivian's discography includes two critically acclaimed albums on the BMOP/Sound label with the Boston Modern Orchestra Project, with their recording of Harold Shapero selected as one of the best releases of 2020 by *The Arts Fuse*, *Sequenza21*, and *Classics Today* in the US.

First Prize winner of the Maria Yudina International Piano Competition in Russia, Vivian has won top prizes in international piano competitions in Italy, the Netherlands and Bulgaria. She graduated summa cum laude from the St Petersburg State Conservatory (Russia) and holds graduate degrees from the New England Conservatory (USA) and Carnegie Mellon University (USA). Her teachers include Wha-Kyung Byun, Sergey Schepkin and Alexander Sandler. In addition to performance activities, Vivian has served as an adjudicator for numerous piano competitions and conducted masterclasses worldwide. A much sought-after pedagogue, her students have won prizes in national and international competitions. Vivian currently serves on the piano faculty at University of Adelaide Elder Conservatorium and is the Piano Coordinator of the University's Open Music Academy.



## Shawn Hui

### Plano

Shawn Hui has completed his Bachelor of Music Classical Performance with First Class Honours studying under Dr Anna Goldsworthy and Mrs Eleonora Sivan. He was one of three recipients of the 2022 Recitals Australia Elder Conservatorium Fellowship program in which he had the opportunity to perform regularly throughout Adelaide. He has been a regular performer for Recitals Australia and Flinders University, both as a soloist and a collaborative pianist. Shawn was involved in several music festivals, including She Speaks and PianoLab. His regular performances earned him the 2022 Emerging Artist of the Year Award from the Adelaide Critics Circle.

In his undergraduate study, Shawn was the recipient of multiple scholarships, including the Muriel Perry Scholarship, and the Patrick Cecil Greenland Scholarship for Pianoforte which assisted him greatly in his studies. He also appeared as a soloist with the Elder Conservatorium Symphony Orchestra in 2021 as his concerto debut, performing Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1. He was also awarded The Lady Anne Miller Award and The Audrey Lees Prize for Excellence in Piano Performance by the Adelaide Eisteddfod, as well as being a finalist in the 2021 Geoffrey Parsons Award, 2021 Autumn Recitals Australia Emerging Artist Awards, 2022 Collaborative Pianist Award, 2022 Elder Conservatorium Top Class, and the winner of the Piano Prize for the 2022 5mbs Young Virtuoso Award.

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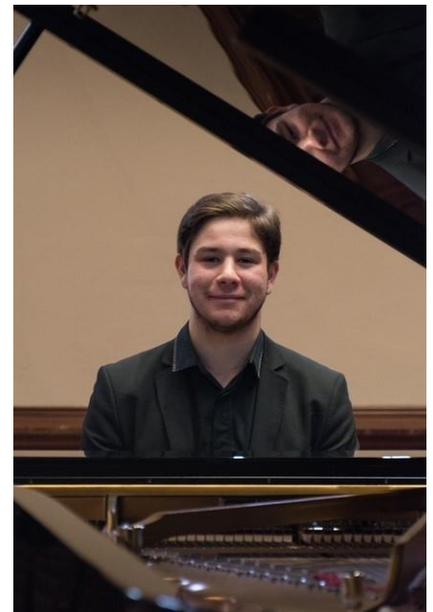
## Simón Pazos Quintana

### Plano

Simón Pazos Quintana is a Spanish-born, Adelaide-based classical pianist, accompanist and teacher. He obtained his Bachelor of Music with First Class Honours at the Elder Conservatorium of Music in Adelaide, under the tutelage of Professor Stefan Ammer. In 2018, he made his concerto debut with the Elder Conservatorium Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of maestro James Lowe. Later that year, he was awarded the Peter Schodde Memorial Piano Scholarship, with which he travelled throughout Germany, Austria and England, playing for highly respected professors and performers to further his technical abilities and musicianship.

Upon his return to Adelaide, Simón was a finalist in the 2019, 2021 and 2023 editions of the Geoffrey Parsons Awards for piano accompaniment. He was named winner in 2025 of both the First Prize as well as the "Special" Set Work Prize. He accompanies classes and exams in the Elder Conservatorium, where he is also a piano teacher as part of the Open Music Academy. He is a sought-after accompanist and regularly features in the Recitals Australia lunchtime concerts.

As a solo recital pianist, Simón recently performed in the 2024 PianoLab festival, where he presented works by composer Aleksandr Mosolov, and was featured in the Elder Conservatorium 2025 Lunchtime Concert Series this September, performing works by Dvořák and Turina. Simón was awarded his performance-based PhD in May 2024 under the supervision of pianist Konstantin Shamray. The doctorate was centred around recordings of the full works for solo piano by Mosolov and was awarded with a Dean's Commendation.



## Hana Hart

### Plano

Hana Hart is an Australian-Japanese pianist who has recently graduated with High Distinction in a Master of Arts in Piano Vocal Accompaniment at the Universität für Musik und darstellende Kunst Wien (MdW) under Professor Justus Zeyen. Her Studies in

Vienna were supported by the generous Ena Williams Postgraduate Award, the Australian Music Foundation (London) and the Phonographic Performance Company of Australia. In addition to MdW collaboration concerts, she has been invited by organizations such as the Schubert Society Vienna-Lichtental and Stadthaus Ulm to perform at notable concerts in Austria and Germany. In 2024, she was invited to perform at the Wiener Musikverein for a concert series celebrating the 150th birthday of Arnold Schönberg, where she performed works by Schönberg and Alma Mahler, with mezzo-soprano Bernarda Klínar, alongside actress Regina Fritsch and actor Michael Maertens. Additionally, the performance was recorded and broadcasted on Austrian classical radio: Ö1. During her studies, she also had the privilege of working and participating in masterclasses with Lied pianists Hartmut Höll, Anne Le Bozec and Roger Vignoles.



Before Hana's recent successes in Europe, she graduated with a Master of Music Research under Oleg Stepanov and Stephen Emmerson after completing a Bachelor of Music with Class 1 Honours at Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University (QCGU).

During her time at QCGU she received prizes in competitions such as the Lev Vlassenko Piano Competition, the QCGU Postgraduate Prize, the Minnie May Bussey Prize, the Hilda Woolmer Prize for Pianoforte Accompaniment and the Margaret Nickson Prize for Voice and Piano. Hana has continued to be an active freelancer as a performer, accompanist and piano teacher. In recent times, she has relocated to Adelaide and has enjoyed accompanying students at Elder Conservatorium of Music for concerts and examinations, as well as joining the piano faculty of the Open Music Academy program, where she shares her passion and insights with students of all ages and skill levels.