

Curriculum Vitae: **JEANNIE MARSH**

Singer, choir leader, music educator

jeannie.marsh1@gmail.com Nationality: Australian

EDUCATION

- Studied for Graduate Diploma Opera and Music Theatre 1983-84 Victorian College of Arts
- Diploma Opera & Music Theatre (with Distinction) 1980-1982 Victorian College of the Arts
- Bachelor of Music Education (First Class Honors Singing) 1977-1981 University of Melbourne
- Secondary Education: Firbank C.E.G.G.S. Brighton, 1971-1976 (1976 - Music Captain, scholarship recipient)
- Professional development studies 1993 – 2016 include: choral conducting (ACCET, Mark O’Leary, ANCA); choir leading (Community Music Victoria, The Boite Daylesford Singers Festival); attended workshops and short courses with choir leaders such as Frankie Armstrong, Stephen Taberner, Tony Backhouse, Sue Johnson; attended many music education workshops, conferences and short courses through AMUSE 2002 – 2013; attended ISCM World New Music Days Sydney 2010; studied Philosophy (La Trobe University, Victorian Association for Philosophy in Schools); completed Level One course in Orff music education (VOSA); adult learning courses in Spanish, Russian, Swedish; ongoing study in folk dance and Bollywood dance

Further Musical Studies in Europe

- 2012 – study tour in Sweden researching tertiary and secondary music education, including attending the annual Composition Festival at the Gotland School for Music Composition, Visby, as a guest at the Gotland International Composers’ Centre
- 1990-1991 – vocal and music-theatre studies in London, Florence, Siena; and at Dartington International Summer School of Music UK (awarded international Bursary both years)
- 1987 – vocal studies in London (Jane Manning)

SCHOLARSHIPS, GRANTS, AWARDS

- Sounds Australian Classical Music Award: for Long-term Contribution to the Advancement of Australian Music, 2004
- Australia Council Performing Arts Board – Personal Development grant, 1996 (creative retreat at Mirramu Arts Centre)
- Welsford Smithers Memorial Travelling Scholarship (\$20,000), University of Melbourne Faculty of Music, 1990
- Australia Council Performing Arts Board – International Study grant, 1989
- Astra Chamber Music Society – Jacobena Angliss Travelling Scholarship, 1985
- Elise Weidemann Singing Scholarship, University of Melb. Faculty of Music 1978-1981
- Education Department of Victoria teaching Studentship, 1977-1981

CREATIVE RESIDENCIES

- 2014-2015 – Musician in Residence, Dandenong Ranges Music Council ***Breast Beaters*** health and music project (researching, creating, trialing, implementing a singing/movement/exercise program for women with lymphedema following breast cancer)
- 2014 – Composer in Residence at Gotland International Composers’ Centre, Visby, Sweden
- 2013 – Artist in Residence (music) at Bundanon in NSW (composing and performing vocal music in response to landscape)

APPOINTMENTS, MEMBERSHIPS

Member of Committee, Victorian Music Library, 2006 – 2008; Member of Board of Management, Community Music Victoria, 1998; Member of Music Advisory Panel, Arts Victoria, 1992-1994 (Chair – 1993, 1994); Member of following organisations: Australian Music Centre, AMUSE (music educators' association), Community Music Victoria, The Boite, National Trust, Australian Education Union, 3MBS and 3CR community radio, Victorian Orff Schulwerk Association, Australian National Choral Association

EMPLOYMENT

Singing work includes:

Jeannie has been singing professionally for over 25 years. She has made more than 40 broadcasts and recordings for ABC Radio, including live recital broadcasts for ABC FM. She performed extensively with **Victoria State Opera** (roles include Madame Larina in *Eugene Onegin*, and Third Lady in *The Magic Flute*), and was part of their Young Artist program. For Chamber Made Opera, Jeannie has performed in *The Heiress*, *The Cars that ate Paris*, *Lacuna*, *Improvement: Don leaves Linda*, *Tresno*, and *The Burrow*. Jeannie has performed in many premieres of new music-theatre works, including *Love Burns* (Seymour Group, Adelaide Festival), *Little City, Teatro* (Melbourne Festival), and *1975* by Irine Vela; in major 20th-century repertoire (Theodorakis, Berio, Tippett, Janacek) in the international festivals of Sydney, Melbourne, and Brisbane; and in Barry Kosky's *Voice/jam/videotape* project at the 1998 Adelaide Festival. She has toured Japan with Theatreworks' *The Last Supper*, sung in two seasons of new operas in The Garden Project of the Royal Opera House Covent Garden (UK), toured Vietnam and Eastern Europe with Eureka Ensemble and New Music Liberation Front, toured country Victoria with cabaret programs, performed as oratorio and concert soloist with Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, Victoria State Orchestra, Musica Viva, and Melbourne Chorale, sang in three Huntingdon Festivals with Geoffrey Tozer, and performed in Melbourne Theatre Company's smash-hit production of Sondheim's *A Little Night Music*. Jeannie produced her first CD *Madrugada* with Ken Murray in 1999, which received critical acclaim in *24 Hours* ABC magazine. In 2002 she launched **Dry Martinis** Latin jazz duo (bossa novas, Dean Martin, Brazilian pop), with Ken Murray, performing for Musica Viva at their Domaine Chandon Festival, on ABC radio, and in a season at 45 Downstairs. Since 2011 Jeannie has been a member of *Icon Trio*, co-creating and performing in *The Scots Haiku Project* (2013-2017) featuring Scottish poetry set to music by eleven Melbourne composers. In 2016 and 2017 Icon Trio are guest artists with Team of Pianists. Jeannie performed in Outer Urban Projects cross-genre music event *Grand Divisions* in Melbourne Festival 2015.

Choir Leading and Community Arts work includes:

Current and recent positions as Choir Leader:

- **Serenading Adela Choir** 2016-present – Artistic Director of Street Opera project to culminate in January 2018 featuring this 50-voice choir based in northern suburbs of Melbourne
- **Elwood Community Choir** 2016-present – initiated this 25-voice choir based in beach-side Melbourne suburb
- **Dutch Choir Melbourne** 2016-present - 16-voice choir based in the Dutch community; arranging and conducting Dutch pop songs from 1960s-present for community choir
- **Final Sirens** community choir 2011- present (20-voice female choir, Beaumaris)
- **Ava Iranian Women's Choir**, Collingwood 2014
- **Cadence Choir**, Port Melbourne 2013-2014
- **Foundation House Choir**, Brunswick 2012
- Community singing group, Kerrie Neighbourhood House, Glen Waverley 2012
- **Distant Voices** choir, Distance Education Centre Victoria, Thornbury 2002 – 2011

Canto Coro community choir, 1993-2003: assistant music-director working with this large choir specialising in major Greek and Latin American choral music, and new Australian choral music. As this choir was accessible to all, this work involved devising strategies, and leading activities for teaching complex music by ear, to people who could not read music. Also undertook all aspects of choir/ensemble management and artistic management. Conducted choir live-to-air on ABC Radio (2001, 2003); Acting Music Director for long periods.

Dandenong Ranges Music Council (1998 – 2001): community artist and arts administrator, performing a huge range of roles from publicist to tutor, grant application writer, artistic director, production manager, performer, researcher, community music school director, working on large community arts projects. Current: Breast Beaters project (see *Residencies*).

Major projects as Producer, Director, Music Consultant, Arts Manager include:

- **2017-18:** Artistic Director of *Serenading Adela Street Opera*; bringing to life the extraordinary events of the anti-conscription campaign in Melbourne in 1916-1918; will involve massed choirs, brass bands, percussion, soloists, new music, and historic music; supported by Creative Victoria and City of Moreland
- **2012:** director of showing of new opera *Razing Hypatia* (March/Montgomery-Griffiths) for 3 Mask Productions
- **2011:** initiator, singer, producer for *Vox Pix*, an event combining live choral and vocal trio music with animated visual art; worked with artists James Yuncken and Gregory Alex-Vasey, singers Icon Trio and Early Voices choir, and Melbourne composer/performers Irine Vela and Peter Neville to create this unique event; this involved bringing together music from Medieval to contemporary, and organizing all aspects of the event.
- **2008:** Music Consultant for *Days in the Diocese* concert at Telstra Dome as part of World Youth Days Melbourne activities. Involved: programming Australian and Melbourne compositions and artists across range of musical genres; working with Music Director to bring it together.
- **2007:** re-staged and directed *Stations of the Cross* for Victorian regional tour.
- **2006:** directed fully-staged premiere performance of Brenton Broadstocks' *Stations of the Cross* (Australian Contemporary Chorale) at BMW Edge
- **May 2003:** sang in the premiere season of music theatre work *1975* (Canto Coro/Melbourne Workers Theatre). Worked intensively in artistic management of this huge project for two and a half years.
- **November 2003:** sang in the premiere season of a music-theatre project which she initiated and researched in 1996: *Love, Death, Music and Plants – a musical Infringement on the life of Baron Ferdinand von Mueller* (composer Matthew Hindson, writer Brian Lipson). It explores the life of the first Director of Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne, and was commissioned by the Gardens. Jeannie produced the show, assembled and managed the artistic team, and secured funding from local, State and Federal funding bodies. It was a sell-out success, attracting extensive media coverage, critical acclaim, plus acclaim from specialist botany/history/opera/horticulture audiences.

Teaching work (secondary, tertiary, adult) includes:

- **Deakin University 2012 – 2014** tutor Faculty of Arts and Education, teaching secondary music education students
- **Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority 2012 – 2014** – assisted Curriculum Manager Performing Arts in a range of curriculum projects (including: revision of VCE Classical Voice curriculum; VCE Season of Excellence – Top Class Sound)

- **Education Department of Victoria 2002-2011** – teacher at Distance Education Centre Victoria; subjects taught: VCE Music Styles/Music Style and Composition, VCE Philosophy; initiated and produced annual concerts of new composition by DECV Music Styles students, with 20 new works performed every year since 2006. Successfully co-ordinated 2009 DECV Centenary Birthday Party involving hundreds of past and present staff and students.
- **University of Melbourne Faculty of Music, 1988-2005** – part-time/casual tutor, guest lecturer - teaching Creative Vocal Ensemble; workshops and master-classes in twentieth-century vocal music and opera/music-theatre to composition and voice students; workshop-leader Opera Project (run by Merlyn Quaife) 1997-2005 (working with students creating new operas); director/designer of student opera *Beijing Spring* in 2000; devised or co-devised all courses and projects taught; examiner undergraduate and postgraduate vocal students. Member of part-time vocal staff teaching singing 1988-1990.
- **La Trobe University, Monash University, University of Tasmania, Sydney University, Adelaide College of TAFE, Melba Memorial Conservatorium 1988-2002** – guest lecturer, musician in residence in: twentieth-century vocal music, music-theatre, composition for voice, performance making, stagecraft, ensemble, etc (teaching voice, composition, and instrumental students); devised and wrote all courses and projects taught; guest examiner various tertiary institutions
- **Victorian College of the Arts School of Music, 1989-2005** – annual guest lecturer in twentieth-century vocal music for voice students; devised and wrote all courses taught; examiner for post-graduate vocal students
- **AMUSE (music educators' association) seminars, 2003-2011** - co-presenter of pro devt sessions for VCE Music Styles teachers; presenter of forum for music teachers on Music Education in Nordic countries, **2014**
- **Australian Youth Orchestra National Music Camp, 2005** - tutor and co-ordinator for Opera Project (stage director for seven mini-operas by young Australian composers; working with Merlyn Quaife, Richard Meale, Richard Mills)
- **OzOpera (Opera Australia's education wing) 2003 –2004** – Teaching Artist: writing study/activity notes on operas, for secondary students and teachers; pre-opera student talks.
- **CAE** singing classes, 1995

Other employment includes:

- **Victorian Music Library, 1990-1997, 2001** – assistant music librarian
- **Australia Centre, University of Melbourne, 1989-1992** – research assistant to childrens' folklorist, Dr June Factor
- **Sandringham Council; Malvern City Council, 1977 - 1984** - Home Help worker