

CLASSICAL DEPARTMENT STAFF PROFILE

DR. MICHAEL DIXON LECTURER IN HORN

Born in New Zealand in 1961 Michael began piano studies with his grandmother and horn with his father. Michael has held full-time positions with a number of Australian orchestras including that of Principal Horn in the Queensland Philharmonic Orchestra. Michael now freelances and is a regular with the Australian Opera & Ballet Orchestra, the Sydney Symphony Orchestra and the Canberra Symphony Orchestra. He has performed with most orchestras in Australia including the Australian Brandenburg Orchestra and Ludovico's Band on natural horn. Chamber music credits include his contemporary ensemble LOCANA since 2003 and Omega Ensemble from 2013.

Teaching is an important part of his work with lessons focusing on nurturing the abilities of each student. He has taught in a number of schools in Sydney and Brisbane along with tertiary teaching for the Queensland Conservatorium and the Sydney Conservatorium. In 2011 he was awarded the degree of Doctor of Creative Arts from the University of Wollongong after having previously been awarded an MPhil in composition from the University of Queensland and MMus in Musicology from Griffith University. Composition is also a significant part of his musical life having written much ensemble music along with songs and percussion works. A considerable number of his compositions include intervals from the harmonic series, extended just intonation. His music is published by Wirripang Pty Ltd (www.australiancomposers.com.au). In March 2015 Michael launched CHIME Music College with a focus on exploring the language of music.

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