

2020 started with great excitement. We had a container on the water and in that container we had some very special three-manual organs.

Firstly, on the local scene, we had two home organs for very excited Melbourne clients, a Studio 370 and an Opus 350, both beautiful home instruments. For our Sydney based clients we had the brand new LIVE III AGO Cabinet organ and a LIVE 3T-A tab model heading north.

In the wider Victorian area, we were very honored to be installing an organ in the chapel at St Patricks College Ballarat. Consecrated in the early 1900's, the chapel had never had an organ, but had allowed space in the rear gallery for a pipe organ. As with any space, a one size fits all approach does not work and any proposal takes time and expertise to customise the organ and more importantly the audio to suit the space. We started with the Ecclesia T370 and customised the stop list. The chapel acoustic presented a challenge, being very lively but having acoustic dead spots at the same time, and flexibility was required for small services. The final audio design placed the main organ 10.2 audio on the rear gallery walls and two smaller 2.1 decorative speaker cabinets, designed to match the lovely interior trim of the chapel, were placed on the front walls. After a few days of careful voicing work, the end result was mind blowing. The chapel is now filled with a glorious multi-dimensional sound that the benefactor would be pleased with.

St Patrick was very kind to us in 2020. Not only did we install the Ecclesia T370 into St Patricks College chapel in Ballarat, we also installed the mighty Ecclesia D470 into the chapel at St Patricks College chapel in Strathfield, Sydney.

After a lengthy consultation with the organist, benefactor and college and the due diligence process of consulting with other brands, the unique ability and talents of our in-house team to again, design a completely customised proposal for the chapel was the deciding factor to make the D470 the organ of choice for St Patricks College, Strathfield (pictured below).



The installation was complicated, as the console had to be lifted into a high gallery and the speakers were placed into a custom speaker cabinet mounted on the wall, complete with a pipe façade. The flexibility of a wall mounted cabinet in this oval shaped chapel gives us the ability to mix the direction of the speakers to blend the sound and create an ambience that makes the organ sing.

Just before Christmas 2019, we were contracted to design and install a completely custom-made organ for the new Graduation Hall facility at Macquarie University in Sydney. After contacting us in August, Macquarie University urgently needed a comprehensive brief on retaining the existing 20-year-old organ (not a Johannus) and relocating it as-is, refurbishing it or a completely new organ. The first two scenarios were neither viable, reliable, nor feasible. Our mind then turned to the design of a 50-55 moving drawstop, English specification organ with audio capacity for a

700-seat room. After a few weeks of hard work, a three-manual, 53 stop, 72 rank Monarke Custom Organ design was completed and signed off. It has been exciting to see pictures of the organ in production. I anticipate installation and voicing around 15-24 December.

Our first installation after the Covid shut down has been Our Lady of China Catholic Church in Box Hill. We congratulate Father Francis and his congregation on their selection of the innovative Ecclesia Choir.

Special thanks to all of our very special Johannus and classical organ clients for your emails and phone calls during lockdown, you made our work a little more joyous every day.

Craig Douglass, Organ Division Manager.

EVENTS FOR 2021

We are committed to continuing our customer support programs in the coming year. MusiClub 2020 vouchers can be swapped for 2021 vouchers by dropping in to the store.

Subject to Covid restrictions, we look forward to presenting the following events and welcoming you at Bernies Music Land for:

- * Piano Educators Days
- * Players Afternoons
- * Inside the Piano Workshop
- * Bernstein Masterclass and Piano Competition
- * The Ringwood Eisteddfod
- * Discover the Classic Organ Workshop
- * Hammond Player Workshops
- * Local and International Artist Recordings
- * Sponsorship of many wonderful events, including: The Team of Pianists and Royal South Street Eisteddfod
- * Product releases with everyday great value for our wonderful customers.

Please follow our facebook page and keep an eye on our website for all the latest news. From Bernie and all the team at



ORGANMASTER SHOES Now Available

We are very pleased to announce that Bernies Music Land is the sole (pardon the pun) Australian retail representative for ORGANMASTER Shoes.

An essential for students and professionals alike, the unique construction allows accurate and intuitive pedalling with suede soles and raised heels. Please visit for expert fitting or phone us on 9872 5122.

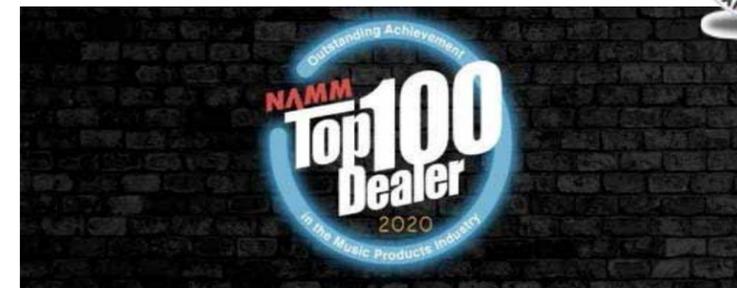


JOHANNUS Software Updates

For owners of the Studio ONE portable, there is an OS update and two new sample banks that can be downloaded for free from the Johannus website.

For LIVE owners, the mighty Vater-Muller organ of the Oude Kerk in Amsterdam sample-set is now available exclusively from Johannus. This organ is regarded as the most beautiful Baroque organ in the world and the Oude Kerk is the oldest building in Amsterdam. Please contact us for further information.

MusiClub Newsletter



PIANO EDUCATORS DAYS 2021

January 20, 21 and 22 at Bernies Music Land

COVID EDITION!

Delivering all the news, updates and teacher offers will look different this year. We invite teachers to the all-new "Drop In Edition", where you can collect a showbag, browse displays and sign up for workshops or demos. Book online now www.musicland.com.au or call us on 9872 5122.



NEW RELEASE

TONY FENELON AND VICTOR HU IN CONCERT

CD \$29.95
Recorded live at the Rippon Lea Ballroom in 2018, this thrilling concert program includes magnificent duo and solo performances. Pre-order copies today at Bernies Music Land.



HAMMOND ORGAN DELUXE USER DVD

DVD \$89.00
The organ specialists here at Bernies Music Land have created a two-part deluxe user DVD with step-by-step guide to the Hammond A-405 organ. Your Hammond enjoyment starts now!



HAMMOND HERITAGE SYSTEM

The popular Hammond XK-5 Heritage organ is back in stock at Bernies. Options to build your Hammond dream include iconic timber cabinet (pictured) or a sleek stage Hammond set with fold-up stand and seat. Stock is also now available of the best selling SK-1 61-note compact keyboard, and the latest release SKx Stage Organ.



Dear MusiClubbers,

It is truly an honor to be recognised in the "Top 100 Global Dealers 2020" by the National Association of Music Merchants USA. The award honours retail music dealers who demonstrate exceptional commitment to their stores, neighbourhoods, and customers and share a vision to create a more musical world through their local communities. Check out the full article on our website.

The year started off well. Piano Educators Day in January was the best yet, and our February and March student and hobby workshops with guests like Mark Nunis (pictured below left) were very popular. We were looking forward to a huge year of making music - however this was not to be.

It is great to have survived this year. Thank you to our wonderful customers and supporters for selecting instruments at Bernies this year, and telling your friends and students about us.

Covid meant that our showrooms were closed for some time and many events were cancelled. Our team showed great flexibility and resilience as their jobs and responsibilities changed. We are delighted to welcome you back in the store now and look forward to planning for a musical 2021!

Our wonderful showrooms are well stocked and we have plenty of new release instruments for you to try, so please visit today or phone us on 9872 5122.

Warmest congratulations to our on-team technician Damien (pictured centre below) and his wife Sherry, who welcomed their second daughter, Zoe, in October.

As Christmas approaches, may we take this opportunity to wish you and your amazing musical families the very best in health and happiness. Remember what we say at Bernie's; bring some more music into your lives every day!

Yours Gratefully, *Bernie Capicchiano, Founder and Managing Director.*



NEWS & EVENTS

PIANO EDUCATORS DAY

For eleven years, Bernies Music Land's Piano Educators Day program in January has been an essential event on the calendar of piano teachers.

This year's program was the best yet, with keynote presentations by Andrew Raiskums (author of the AMEB's Theory Series, pictured below right), piano technician Jonathan Wade, Robert Chamberlain of the Team of Pianists, acclaimed organist Chris Trikilis, author Mark Gibson (pictured right), and a very special guest spot from Sonny Chua.

Teachers were treated to a print music exhibition, plus "what's new" sessions from examination boards and print music suppliers, and "How To" snippets for professionals.

Piano Educators Day is unique in our industry. We are proud to support piano teachers.



Jeff Higgins, Michelle and Andrew Raiskums (AMEB)



Bernie with Robert Chamberlain



LtoR: Matthews Tyson, Genevieve Newton and Bernie. Below: Mark Gibson and daughter Joanne.



VALE SONNY CHUA

1967 - 2020 "Gone Too Soon"

Bernie, his family and all the team at Bernies Music Land are devastated at the news of the passing of Sonny Chua.

Our heartfelt condolences go to Sonny's wife Melinda, their two daughters and all Sonny's family and friends.

From a young age, Sonny came into Bernies stores where he loved playing all the pianos. Over the years, Sonny has been involved in Bernies Music Land's event, firstly as a student, then as a teacher, lecturer and guest artist.

It was easy to "like" Sonny. Bernie and his family had a fond relationship, with much love and respect for Sonny.

We are so grateful for Sonny's spirit, his musical genius and the outstanding contribution he made to our events here at Bernies Music Land.



NEW RELEASE

FRIDOLIN BY SCHIMMEL

Germany's largest and most awarded piano manufacturer has released an upright piano line which boasts premium quality at an affordable price.

Fridolin by Schimmel upright pianos possess a sound and touch quality which clearly belong to the Schimmel family of instruments.

Available in model heights; 116cm, 121cm, 123cm and 130cm, Fridolin by Schimmel also offers a wide colour selection including walnut, mahogany and white finishes.

Now on display at Schimmel dealers in Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane and Perth.



HAMMOND LEGEND GALLERY

The Aurora Classic pictured below is one of those iconic organs that has everything for the player looking for a traditional analogue spinet organ with a beautiful warm sound.

It is just one of the handful of iconic Hammond Legendary Organs which has been meticulously reconditioned by our masterful technicians over the past few months here at Bernies. Prepare for a brilliant playing experience, as you enjoy the classic drawbars, silky string section and groovy drum section with easy play features.

The Hammond Legend Gallery is on display at Bernies, with reconditioned models including Commodore and luxury Elegante. Drop in or call us to explore these rare opportunities.



JOHANNUS

Two new Studio Positive models have been released by Johannus. Built in the cabinet style with lighted drawstops on the side jambs and a new enhanced near-field audio, these seamlessly combine with an upgraded sampling system that makes this new line the pick of the 2021 model line-up. The Studio P250 and P350 are proving popular, with Australia's first P350 now residing in Tasmania, sold within a week of arriving.



ORLA 500 GRAND PIANO

Inside the beautiful casing of what looks like a real baby grand piano is an exciting musical and entertainment partner!

The new Orla 500 digital grand piano features stylish Italian design with a whopping 80watts of power. The impressive sound system breathes life into the delicate piano sound, fabulous rhythm arrangements and full creative features. Stock has just arrived in time for Christmas, in both gloss black and gloss white.



HIGHLY ACCLAIMED NEW RELEASE

SCHIMMEL CLASSIC C 121



Capturing the keen attention of the piano world, Schimmel's new Classic C 121 upright piano delivers world class performance.

This popular-size upright is hand crafted in Germany to the highest specifications and delivers stunning tonal complexity and touch control. It is now on display at Bernies.

Reviews in magazine "Acoustic and Digital Piano Buyer" commented:

"Right away, the C 121's tone struck me as being exceptionally well balanced throughout the range - rich and singing, particularly in the 'killer' fifth octave, so called because of the technical difficulty in most piano designs of getting the notes of that octave to sing. In fact, the tone had long sustain and excellent clarity, and was very subtle and complex - more refined than that of its nearest competitors from Japan."

"The action was comfortable to play, with a medium touch, neither light nor heavy. It was easy to produce a full range of dynamics, the piano never distorting or prematurely reaching its maximum volume when I played fortissimo, and in the pianissimo dynamic the tone had a beautiful crystalline quality."

"The pedaling was very comfortable, and the pedal action allowed for some really subtle half-pedal effects, unusual on an upright."

Test this exceptional new upright piano today at Bernies Music Land.