

## Australian Festival of Chamber Music, Townsville



Held annually in July / August, the Australian Festival of Chamber Music (AFCM) attracts internationally acclaimed classical chamber musicians to Townsville.

In 2009 the Festival was voted ABC Limelight Magazine Award for Best Event/Festival.

The natural beauty of Townsville and the North Queensland region in August along with its friendly people, wonderfully temperate weather and tropical ambience provides a unique backdrop for the Festival's concerts and events.

Entering its 20th year, the AFCM has developed an international reputation for its distinguished artists and innovative programming across a range of chamber music styles. Besides the core chamber concert series, the AFCM has a number of other key components focusing on music, entertainment, education, community outreach and the environment. As part of the Festival's commitment to regional Queenslanders, concerts and performances are also held in surrounding centres with past concerts taking place at Charters Towers, Mount Isa, Karumba, Magnetic Island and Orpheus Island.

*I have for years now visited New Zealand almost annually, to play recitals and concertos and chamber music. I've made lots of friends and met probably hundreds of music lovers. I should love the opportunity to welcome you to seaside Townsville at its winter best for the Australian Festival of Chamber Music. The whole event is relaxing and sociable, with top-class musicians and concerts I feel sure you'd enjoy. Do come and join my friends and me if you can – it's our twentieth anniversary festival - it will be special!*

Regards Piers Lane

**Please register your interest by 7 May for this tour by contacting HOT Events on 03 371 6802 or email [scape@hot.co.nz](mailto:scape@hot.co.nz)**

Estimated costs are NZ\$3,120.00 per person

Inclusions:

- 6 nights' accommodation in a 4 star hotel (twin / double share)
- Daily breakfast
- Return flights from Christchurch
- Programme as below
- Return airport transfers in Townsville

\*please note programme and costs are subject to change beyond our control

Surcharges for flights are:

Departing from Wellington @ NZ\$30.00 per person

Departing from Auckland @ NZ\$190.00 per person

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## Programme

### Thursday 29 July 2010

Depart New Zealand for Townsville (via Brisbane). Once we arrive at Townsville Airport, we will be transferred to the hotel.

This evening will be at your leisure, giving you a chance to meet up with other participants or have an early evening.

### Friday 30 July 2010

Enjoy breakfast at your leisure in the hotel restaurant.

Activities and day tours can be arranged for you prior to departure or while in Townsville (POA).

Tonight's Opening Concert programme features three favourites. Haydn's "*Largo*" *String Quartet*, Brahms' *Sonata in F minor for two pianos* (with Piers Lane) and the Mozart *Clarinet Quartet K581*.

### Saturday 31 July 2010

Enjoy breakfast at your leisure in the hotel restaurant.

Activities and day tours can be arranged for you prior to departure or while in Townsville (POA).

The programme for tonight's elegant gala concert includes the Barber *String Quartet* and the Brahms *Piano Quartet in C Minor Op 25*. Artists include Bernadene Blaha, Jack Liebeck and Rachel Johnston.

### Sunday 1 August 2010

Enjoy breakfast at your leisure in the hotel restaurant.

Activities and day tours can be arranged for you prior to departure or while in Townsville (POA).

Enjoy an evening of drinks while listening to songs sung by Anna Steiger and accompanied by Julian Jacobson – **Life is a Cabaret**. This relaxed concert performed in an informal setting with drinks, includes favourite cabaret songs by Jacques Brel, Edith Piaf, Milhaud, Weill and Gershwin.

### Monday 2 August 2010

Enjoy breakfast at your leisure in the hotel restaurant.

A fascinating session - **Secrets of Steinway**. It takes 12 months to handcraft a Steinway piano, but it will take you less than one hour to learn the Secrets of Steinway with technician Ara Vartoukian (Director of Theme and Variations).

In the afternoon - Our visit to Ayr includes an Italian dinner and a programme featuring the Schuman *Piano Quartet*, Respighi's *Ancient Airs and Dances Suite 111* and Elgar's *Introduction and Allegro for Strings*.

### Tuesday 3 August 2010

Enjoy breakfast at your leisure in the hotel restaurant.

In the morning join us for **Concert Conversations with Piers Lane**. These informal, amusing and highly informative Conversations with Piers Lane are a highlight of the Festival.

This one features discussions with Michael Collins, Timothy Constable, Wendy Hiscocks, Louise Hopkins and Anna Steiger.

Tonight's moving concert includes Bach's *Concerto for Two Violins BWV 1043* and the ever popular *Brandenburg Concerto No 5 BWV 1050*. Artists include Dimity Hall, Dene Olding and Geoffrey Lancaster.

### Wednesday 4 August 2010

Enjoy breakfast at your leisure in the hotel restaurant.

Now is the time to farewell Townsville – we hope you have enjoyed your time here. Transfers to the airport will take place in conjunction with the departing flight.

