

# Minutes of MCL Annual General Meeting

Minutes of the meeting of the MCL membership on Sunday, November 11th, 2007

Present: Eve Duncan (President), Howard Dillon, Andrián Pertout, Judy Pile, Brendan Colbert, Paul Moulatlet, and Peter Tahourdin.

**Chairperson's Report.** Eve Duncan reports that the MCL have managed to perform 303 works in the past ten years. The challenge for the next ten years will now be how to keep the league going with overcommitted members (voluntary non-paid members), and no money. Most of the membership is non-participating, but the league can't meet all the needs of members, and the executive committee can't be expected to meet all these needs. A thank you is directed towards Howard Dillon for his past contribution to the MCL – for his participation in the executive committee, for being treasurer for most of that time, and for the curation of twelve elbow room concerts (the first MCL concert being an elbow room, and a project which has presented the works of 82 composers).

**Treasurer's Report.** The MCL financial statement for 2006-07 presents \$11,640 of total income, with \$12,978 of total expenses, and funds of \$4,046 as of 1 July, 2007. The current bank balance being \$8,204. 20 copies of the previous Mosaics CD were sold during this period. \$1120 came through membership fees. \$1200 of funds have been allocated to the upcoming 'Rear Vision' double CD project; \$2500 towards the Speak Percussion concert, with approximately \$300 in outstanding bills/expenses. Musician fees and concert expenses form the biggest expense.

**Election.** Executive committee members Judy Pile, and Howard Dillon step down, although Howard agrees to stay on as treasure up to the conclusion of the next MCL concert (the Speak Percussion Concert, which will take place as part of the 'Incinerator' Big West Festival (24-27 November, 2007)). It is assumed that Kevin Purcell has also decided to step down from his position in the executive committee due to his upcoming work commitments and his move to Queensland. Due to no new nominations, the remainder of the executive committee remains unchanged, although the 3 vacancies will be filled in the coming days via private consultation.

## **Speak Percussion Concert.**

The Speak Percussion Concert, which will take place as part of the 'Incinerator' Big West Festival (24-27 November, 2007) in Essendon is currently underfunded. There are six percussionists to pay and the hire of the venue and other expenses are stretching thin the \$2500 of funds allocated. The executive committee agrees to allocate an additional \$500 towards the project.

**Double CD.** The final selection for the 'Rear Vision' double CD project featuring the music of members of the Melbourne Composers' League will include 25 Melbourne composers. It has been difficult to keep it down to the \$100 composer contribution specified in the call for works, especially due to the fact that works of various durations were submitted. But 6 minutes of time on the CD will cost the originally specified \$100 contribution. The range of contributions requested, which is based on a system of 'compressed duration' will be between \$62.50 (1 minute) and \$145 (12 minutes). Composers will receive 8 complimentary copies of the double CD (at \$62.50, this is below cost!), which will either have to be collected (venue yet to be announced) or postage paid for at the cost of \$8.50 (added to the contribution). In time, composers will also be able to purchase extra copies of the CD at a reduced rate. The executive committee has suggested a cost of \$15 for composers, while \$20 for the general public.

**Workshops.** The Unusual Instruments Project proposed by Simon Charles requires \$500-600 of funds to pay for the performers. The University of Melbourne has offered Melba Hall as a venue at no cost to the MCL.

**Shakuhachi Proposal.** Shakuhachi performer Andrew MacGregor has asked the MCL to curate the performance of the winning work of the Shakuhachi Chamber Music Composition Competition 2008 that he is organizing. The executive committee has responded by stating that this is beyond the brief of the organization, and that perhaps it could be something that the Boîte in Collingwood could more appropriately take on.

**Plans for 2008.** Some of the possibilities for 2008 include a Harp, Viola, Flute and Percussion concert at the Iwaki, a guitar ensemble / guitar plus one concert, as well as an Australia-Chile concert featuring Australian, as well as Chilean composers which is a project that Andrián Pertout is still interested in pursuing.

**ACL Report.** The next Asian Composers' League (ACL) festival will take place in Hong Kong, and will be presented in conjunction with the International Society of Contemporary Music (ISCM) festival, to therefore present more than 150 compositions from over 50 countries. Five Australian composers have been selected for participation in the festival, which include the following works: Julian Yu's Willow and Wattle (Friday, 23 November, 2007, Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall, The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Yeh Tsung); Caroline Szeto's Monkeys Cry (Saturday, 24 November, 2007, Hong Kong City Hall Concert Hall, Taipei Chamber Singers conducted by Chen Yun-hung ); Lorenzo Alvaro's Out with No Fear (Monday, 26 November, 2007, Hong Kong City Hall Concert Hall, ACL Young Composers' Award Concert, Luxembourg Sinfonietta); Daniel Blinkhorn's Resource 14 (Wednesday, 28 November, 2007, Yuen Long Theatre, Multi-media Concert); and Andrián Pertout's Tres Imágenes Norteñas (Friday, 30 November, 2007, Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts Concert Hall, Academy Contemporary Music Ensemble). Lorenzo Alvaro is the young composer selected to represent Australia at the ISCM/ACL World Music Days Festival in Hong Kong as part of the Asian Composers League Young Composers' Competition.

**Other.** Paul Moulatlet makes a suggestion that the MCL website include all past concert information. Andrián Pertout recognizes this as a great idea and agrees to update the website over summer. Suggestions are also made about holding a specific CD launch for the MCL Rear Vision' double CD. The CD could be launched in conjunction with Julian Day and the ABC, or Andrew Ford. The issue about MCL involvement in competitions is also raised (in direct relation to the Bayside City Council's suggestion for the MCL to administer a Percy Grainger Composition Competition). It is decided that this be raised as a voting issue in the next 2008 AGM.