READ ALL ABOUT IT!

“AUSTRALIA CHAPTER”
Awarded 2012 Percussive Arts Society Outstanding Chapter Award!

We have lots to report on since our July update:
Greetings to our large group of new and long-term members. The second half of 2012 has been a remarkable period of growth and expansion for our chapter. Our Days of Percussion in South Australia (Adelaide) and NSW (Sydney) continued to inspire and connect our family of percussion.

NSW Day of Percussion 2012
The New South Wales Day of Percussion 2012 was held on the 1st of July 2012 with the Sydney Conservatorium of Music playing host. This was an amazing day with a wide variety of sessions including: an Introduction to Salsa and Afro-Cuban Percussion by Joana Ciampa, The Art of the Timpani with two of Australia’s most respected Timpanists, David Clarence of the Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestra and Richard Miller, Principal Timpanist of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra; Laying Down Drum Tracks with Gordon Rytmeister; An Interactive Introduction to the Cajon by Claudia Chambers, The ‘Do’s and Don’ts’ of HSC Performance on Percussion by Iain Scotland and Kim Wallock; A Guide to Auditions by the Percussion section of the Sydney Symphony (Richard Miller, Rebecca Lagos, Colin Piper and Mark Robinson); Composition and Improvisation Approaches of the Daryl Pratt Sextet, featuring Daryl Pratt on Vibraphone, Phillip South on Percussion & Electronics and Leen Underwood on Drum Kit.

The Australia Chapter will receive the 2012 Percussive Arts Society’s Outstanding Chapter Award. This award recognizes chapters who have, through excellent leadership and strong volunteer service, provided outstanding activities and events that serve the chapter membership and the broader percussion community throughout the country. PAS International recognized the Australia Chapter in presenting regional events, publications and increased membership with this award. The PAS Australia Chapter will receive an award cheque of $1,000 to use for chapter activities in 2013. This award will be presented to chapter President Gary France at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention (PASIC) being held in Austin, Texas, USA in November, 2012.

The South Australian Day of Percussion 2012
I attended this exciting DOP in Adelaide July 23 hosted by The Elder Conservatorium, University of Adelaide. This wonderful day of clinics, concerts and master classes coordinated by our SA representative Andrew Wiering and hosted by Amanda Grigg at the Elder Conservatorium of Music, included sessions by Andrew Wiering and Ryan Harrison on Samba and Marimba Technique, Ryan Simm & the Raiders Drum Corps, Joel Prime on Drumset, Steve Todd, Brian Ponsi and the Cavaliers Drum and Bugle Corps Texas Drumline, Flour Green performed a Vibraphone and Voice Song Cycle, Jim Bailey on Jazz Vibraphone, and Amanda Grigg on Orchestral Tambourine Techniques: Playing and Blending in an Orchestra. This action-packed day concluded with a concert introduced by the Raiders Drumline and included performances by the Elder Conservatorium Percussion Ensemble, the Conservatorium High Percussion Ensemble, marimbist Sandy Sin, and a collaboration between the Daryl Pratt Sextet and the Conservatorium Percussion ensemble for a performance of Daryl’s composition, “Hand in Hand”. A special award, provided by Tom O’Kelly of Just Percussion, was given to past chapter President Merilee McNaught thanking her for her many years of service to our chapter. Special thanks to our sponsors with prizes provided by Zildjian, DRUMscene Magazine, Optimum Percussion, Jost Percussion, Sabian and the Sydney Symphony Orchestra. Congratulations to Mason Pun who won the major prize - a set of Zildjian ZHT cymbals!

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