Australian Accordion
Teachers Association Inc.

Celebrating 20 years of International Competitions and Festivals

2014
AUSTRALIAN INTERNATIONAL ACCORDION CHAMPIONSHIPS
AND
FESTIVAL

SATURDAY 7th June and SUNDAY 8th June

Entry Prices
Saturday Competition: Adults $5 Children $2

Competition Venue: Club Marconi, 121-133 Prairie Vale Rd, Bossley Park Sydney, NSW 2176

Sunday Afternoon Gala Concert, Trophy Presentation and Farewell

Dinner Venue: Club Marconi, 121-133 Prairie Vale Rd, Bossley Park Sydney, NSW 2176
Adults $15, Children under 12 years – Free Entrance

Guest Artists : Mirco Patarini, Lionel Reekie

Contestants from: Russia, Serbia, China, New Zealand and Australia

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

In June 2014, The Australian Accordion Teachers Association celebrates 20 YEARS of International Competitions and Festivals. For the last two decades, our festival has grown to become one of the premiere accordion events in Australia, having over the years attracted accordionists and competitors from all corners of the globe.

On behalf of the Australian Accordion Teachers Association Inc. I am delighted to welcome you to this year's Australian International Accordion Championships and Festival. In particular, we welcome all the competitors, their families and supporters, especially those who are visiting from overseas and other parts of Australia. As part of our 20th Anniversary celebrations, it is my pleasure to also welcome the participants in our INTERNATIONAL MASSED ORCHESTRA, which promises to be one of the largest accordion ensembles ever to perform in Australia.

Our aim is to make this international event a very friendly and entertaining time for all. Last year's festival was a wonderful musical success with international contestants and festival performances combining to present all aspects of the accordion and celebrate not only our top level performers, but also encourage our youngest beginner students. All indications are that this year's competition will continue to build on that success. We anticipate that our Gala Concert will once again be a highlight of the weekend. You will be treated to fine performance by internationally renowned accordionists Mirco Patarini (Italy) and the Starlight Duo - Lionel Reekie & Maurice Jones (NZ). Together with our national champions, and the massed orchestra, this concert will be something not to be missed.

At the conclusion of the concert on the Sunday evening at the Club Marconi's Christina Lounge, our special Farewell Dinner has been organized as a great opportunity to socialize and everyone attending our festival is warmly invited to attend. It is with great pleasure that we are once again able to host our festival at the Marconi Club with its splendid facilities, and trust that the new venue for this year's competition will enhance the festival experience for all concerned. Food and refreshments are available at the Club throughout the weekend which promises to be full of entertainment, fine music, good social times and yet again a most interesting opportunity to share our love for the accordion.

Thank you to all those who have given of their valuable time during the weekend, whether it be judging, helping with running the event or being an audience member. Your interest, assistance and support are greatly appreciated and vital to the success of the weekend. Thank you.

To those of you who are competing, I trust that you will all find the experience most rewarding and that you receive renewed inspiration from the weekend's activities and associating with fellow accordion enthusiasts.

Tania Lukic-Marx
B. Mus. and M. Mus. (Kiev, Ukraine)
Major in Accordion

Our President

Our President, Tania Lukic-Marx, is a world renowned accordionist, teacher and adjudicator.

As a solo concert artist she has performed extensively in China, New Zealand, Ukraine, Russia, Lithuania, Serbia, Slovenia, Croatia, Germany, and Australia. A Laureate of the two most prestigious International Accordion Competitions: Klingenthale and the Coupe Mondiale , as well as the winner of the Yugoslav State and National Accordion Competitions. Tania studied for 7 years at the Kiev Conservatorium of Music in Ukraine with Professor V. Besfamilnov and holds a Bachelor of Music and a Master of Music Degree majoring in accordion.

Tania is the Director of her own Music School which she has been running for the past 21 years. Her students compete nationally and represent Australia abroad. They have won many awards at the AAA (America), ATG (America), the South Pacific Accordion Championships (New Zealand), the Coupe Mondiale (world accordion championships)

Five of Tania's students have completed the A.Mus Diploma exam in accordion with the Australian Music Examination Board (AMEB). They are: Ivan Liashenko, Ann-Elise Koerntjes, Nick Shcherbakov, Lina Chegodaev, and Richard She. Richard She also completed L.Mus Diploma exam in accordion .

Tania is much sought after as an adjudicator at international accordion events regularly holds seminars and master classes in Australasia and Europe. She adjudicates at the highest level, at the world's most prestigious accordion competitions including: AccoHoliday International Accordion Competition (Ukraine), Tianjin International Accordion Competition (China), "Akordeon Art" International Accordion Competition (Saraevo, Bosnia), Coupe Mondiale (Germany, England, Slovakia)

In 2005 the Confedaration Internationale des Accordeonistas (CIA), awarded Tania a MERIT AWARD "In recognition of her outstanding services to the International Accordion Movement"

Tania is proud to bring her enormous international experience to The Australian International Accordion Association and Festival, creating an exciting, cutting edge, festival and competition experience.

AATA COMMITTEE

President – Tania Lukic-Marx
Vice President - Richard She
Secretary & Treasurer - Zoja Cleary
Committee - Dr Mark Marinkovich
Committee - Melissa She

SATURDAY 7th June

Time	*Class*	*Description*
10:00	CLASS Q204	Qualified Class, 8 years & under
10:02	CLASS Q205	Qualified Class, 10 years & under
10:14	CLASS S111	Standard Solo, 13 to 15 years & under
10:28	CLASS Q210	Qualified Class, 14 years & over, Original
10:32	CLASS Q201	Qualified Class, 13 years & under
10:36	CLASS Q207	Qualified Class, 13 years & under, Light Classical
10:40	CLASS Q206	Qualified Class, 12 years & under
10:56	CLASS Q208	Qualified Class, 14 years & over, Light Classical
11:04	CLASS Q209	Qualified Class, 13 years & under, Original
11:15	CLASS Q211	Qualified Class, 13 years & under, Entertainment Music
11:18	C LASS S108	Standard Solo, 7 years & under
11:22	CLASS Q213	Qualified Class, 13 years & under, European Ethnic Music
11:31	CLASS S110	Standard Solo, 10 to 12 years & under
11:38	CLASS Q214	Qualified Class, 14 years & over, European Ethnic Music
11:45	CLASS C249	Championship Solo Class, 9 years & under
11:47	CLASS IO250	International Open Accordion Championships 12 years & under, International Pacific Piano Accordion Championships 12 years & under, Australian Championship 12 years & under
12:40	LUNCH	
14:00	CLASS IO251	International Open Accordion Championships 15 years & under, International Pacific Piano Accordion Championships 15 years & under, Australian Championship 15 years & under
14:40	BREAK	
14:45	CLASS IO253	International Open Accordion Championships, International Pacific Piano Accordion Championships, Australian Championships
16:25	CLASS IO255	International Competition for Ensemble Music
16:50	BREAK	
17:00	ORCHESTRA REHEARSAL	
19:00	END	

SUNDAY 8th June

12:00 ORCHESTRA REHEARSAL
14:00 END

15:00 GALA CONCERT

18:00 DINNER

Location: Christina Lounge, Club Marconi
Arrive at 18:00, food will be served at 19:00

Follow this event on Facebook at :
www.facebook.com/groups/accordionsydney/

REPORTING TIME

Each class has a reporting time and you are required to be in the hall prior to that time. We ask competitors to line up their accordions on the right hand side of the hall and leave them there until reporting time. Contestants will be called for, one class at a time, as required. When your class is called, take your accordion from its case, put it on and proceed through the stage door to the area behind stage. Bring with you the copy of the music (test music not required) for the adjudicators. ***Very Important: Do not move around the hall or talk while a performance is in progress.***

THE ADJUDICATING SYSTEM

Many people will be very interested in the system of two classes and two sets of adjudicators operating simultaneously.

For example, Class 1 competitor's performance is heard by Table and adjudicators. Immediately after the Class 1 contestant finishes, a contestant from Class 2 performs, that performance being heard by the adjudicators at Table B. While the Class 2 contestant is playing, the adjudicators at Table A have time to score and write up their mark sheets. When the Class 2 contestant finishes, the adjudicators at Table A hear another contestant from Class 1 while Table B adjudicators mark, and so on.

This unique system has many advantages, one of the most important being that it enables the audience to hear music without the long gaps sometimes necessary for the judges to finalise their decision when the competition is very close. It also means the audience does not hear ten performances in a row of the same test piece, and saves considerable time, so that you have more time for social functions and sightseeing.

ADJUDICATORS

We take pride in our adjudicating panel, which consists of reputable, accomplished and recognized accordionists and accordion teachers. Our adjudicators are trained and highly experienced in the accordion field.

Cathy Day (Australia)
Nick Scherbakov (Australia)
Milica Krga (Australia)
Mylie Thwaites (New Zealand)
Christine Johnstone (New Zealand)
Xu Da Wei (China)
Lina Chegodaev (Australia)
Heather Masefield (NZ)
Richard She (Australia)
Stephanie Poole (New Zealand)
Lionel Reekie (New Zealand)

RESULTS AND CUP PRESENTATION

Results will be announced at the end of each session. Contestants may collect their own choice music and adjudicators mark sheets at the back of the hall. All trophies and all certificates (1st, 2nd, 3rd, Highly Commended and Commended) will be presented at the
end of each session, except for the International Championship classes, which will be presented on Sunday at the Gala Concert.

DON'T FORGET TO HAVE A NAMED COPY OF OWN CHOICE MUSIC FOR THE JUDGES

SATURDAY MORNING

10.00 COMPETITION CLASS Q204, Qualified Class, 8 years & under

	Name and Music		Name and Music
1.	*Francesco Panuccio – On Top of Old Smokey*	2.	*Mitar Tomosevic – Dance of Troy*
3.	*Zelda Mormul – The Caissons Go Rolling Along*		

1st..... 2nd..... 3rd.....

10.02 COMPETITION CLASS Q205, Qualified Class, 10 years & under

	Name and Music		Name and Music
1.	*Ryan Panuccio – Toys on Parade*	2.	*Clarysa Panuccio – Skeletons in the Mood*
3.	*Francesco Panuccio – Home Sweet Home*	4.	*Ben Gross – TBA*
5.	*Zelda Mormul – Old Friend's Waltz*		

1st..... 2nd..... 3rd.....

10.14 COMPETITION CLASS S111, Standard Solo, 13 to 15 years & under

	Name and Music		Name and Music
1.	*Dusko Lavrnja – Marine's Hymn*	2.	*Vasilije Djurovic – Neapolitan Dance*
3.	*Kevin Alim – Sleep! Sleep!*		

1st..... 2nd..... 3rd.....

10.28 COMPETITION CLASS Q210, Qualified Class, 14 years & over, Original

	Name and Music		Name and Music
1.	*Simon Zhang – Migrinouche*		

1st..... 2nd..... 3rd.....

10.32 COMPETITION CLASS Q201, Qualified Class, 13 years & under

	Name and Music		Name and Music
1.	*Corey Jeffries – Serenade from String Quarter, op.3 no.5*		

1st..... 2nd..... 3rd.....

10.36 COMPETITION CLASS Q207, Qualified Class, 13 years & under, Light Classical

	Name and Music		Name and Music
1.	*Teodora Djukic – Che Faro*	2.	*Alanah Jones – Turkish March*
3.	*Aleyah Ashimajy – Che Faro*		

1st..... 2nd..... 3rd.....

10.40 COMPETITION CLASS Q206, Qualified Class, 12 years & under

	Name and Music		Name and Music
1.	*Corey Jeffries – Sway (Quien Sera)*	2.	*Clarysa Panuccio – Point your Little Toe*
3.	*Kevin Alim – Scaling the Scale*	4.	*Marina Jin – Roses from the South*
5.	*Aleyah Ashimajy – Point your Little Toe*	6.	*Zelda Mormul – Sleep! Sleep!*

1st..... 2nd..... 3rd.....

10.56 COMPETITION CLASS Q208, Qualified Class, 14 years & over, Light Classical

	Name and Music		Name and Music
1.	*Simon Zhang – Che Faro*	2.	

1st..... 2nd..... 3rd.....

11.04 COMPETITION CLASS Q209, Qualified Class, 13 years & under, Original

	Name and Music		Name and Music
1.	*Teodora Djukic – Flick Flack*	2.	*Dusko Lavrnja – In the Afternoon*

1st..... 2nd..... 3rd.....

11.15 COMPETITION CLASS Q211, Qualified Class, 13 years & under, Entertainment Music

Name and Music

1. Corey Jeffries – Oh Susanna *2. Marina Jin – La Cumparsita*

3. Emma Smith - Tapis Vert

1st..... 2nd..... 3rd.....

11.18 COMPETITION CLASS S108, Standard Solo, 7 years & under

Name and Music *Name and Music*

1. Mitar Tomarsevic – Lazy Maizie *2.*

1st..... 2nd..... 3rd.....

11.22 COMPETITION CLASS Q213, Qualified Class, 13 years & under, European Ethnic Music

Name and Music *Name and Music*

1. Teodora Djukic – Kolo *2. Stevan Dordevic – Harmonika Moja*

3. Dusko Lavrnja – Kolo

1st..... 2nd..... 3rd.....

11.31 COMPETITION CLASS S110, Standard Solo, 10 to 12 years & under

Name and Music *Name and Music*

1. Ben Gross – Skating *2. Mitar Tomasevic – Blue Bird Waltz*

3. Kevin Alim – Juke Box Rock

1st..... 2nd..... 3rd.....

11.38 COMPETITION CLASS Q214, Qualified Class, 14 years & over, European Ethnic Music

Name and Music *Name and Music*

1. Edin Kocic – Balkan Medley *2.*

1st..... 2nd..... 3rd.....

11.45 COMPETITION CLASS C249, Championship Solo Class, 9 years & under

Name and Music

1. *Ryan Panuccio – At the Races*
2. *Francesco Panuccio – Alsatian Dance*
3. *Zelda Mormul – Bury me out on the prairie*

1st..... 2nd..... 3rd.....

11.47 COMPETITION CLASS IO250, International Open Accordion Championships 12 years & under,
International Pacific Piano Accordion Championships 12 years & under,
Australian Championship 12 years & under

PAST INTERNATIONAL OPEN ACCORDION SOLO CHAMPIONS,
12 YEARS & UNDER

2010 Joyce Ly (Australia)
2011 Wang Yu Tong (China)
2012 Emma Smith (Australia)
2013 Alanah Jones (New Zealand)

PAST INTERNATIONAL PACIFIC PIANO ACCORDION SOLO CHAMPIONS,
12 YEARS & UNDER

1994 Terrence Joe (NZ)
1995 Daniel Antunovich (NZ)
1996 Zhang Yuan (China)
1997 Huang Si Wen (China)
1998 Fang Lin(China)
1999 Kristina Panzic (NZ)
2000 Alexander Selman (NZ)
2001 Zhang Ying (China)
2002 Christopher Thwaites (NZ)
2003 Joanna Irving (NZ)
2004 No entries
2005 No entries
2006 No entries
2007 Richard She (Australia)
2008 No entries
2009 Kelvin Luu (Australia)
2010 Joyce Ly (Australia)
2011 Marina Jin (Australia)
2012 Emma Smith (Australia)
2013 Alanah Jones (New Zealand)

PAST AUSTRALIAN PIANO ACCORDION CHAMPIONSHIP CLASS,
12 YEARS & UNDER

1994 Bojan Boric
1995 Daniel Antunovich
1996 No entries
1997 No entries
1998 No entries
1999 Andrew Liashenko
2000 Andrew Liashenko
2001 No entries
2002 No entries
2003 No entries
2004 No entries
2005 No entries
2006 No entries
2007 Richard She
2008 No entries
2009 Kelvin Luu

2010 Joyce Ly
2011 Marina Jin
2012 Emma Smith
2013 Emma Smith

Name and Music

1. *Emma Smith (AU) – Bubbles & Gigue in E flat major*
2. *Stevan Dordevic (AU) – Bauertanze Dance and Greensleeves*
3. *Corey Jeffries (NZ) – Greensleeves and Comedian's Dance*
4. *Clarysa Panuccio (AU) – Mon Pays and Drunter & Druber Polka*
5. *Marina Jin (AU) – Greensleeves and Variations on the Song "Cossacks in Berlin"*
6. *Aleyah Ashimajy – Tarantella Capricciosa and Bubbles*

1st..... 2nd..... 3rd.....

12.40 LUNCH

14.00 COMPETITION CLASS IO251, International Open Accordion Championships 15 years & under,
International Pacific Piano Accordion Championships 15 years & under,
Australian Championship 15 years & under

PAST INTERNATIONAL OPEN ACCORDION SOLO CHAMPIONS, 15 YEARS & UNDER

2006 Marko Matic (Croatia)
2007 Marko Matic (Croatia)
2008 Richard She (Australia)
2009 Richard She (Australia)
2010 Edin Kocic (Australia)
2011 Yin Yi Wen (China)
2012 Joyce Ly & Jessica Jin (Australia)
2013 Zhang Xin Yun (China)

PAST INTERNATIONAL PACIFIC PIANO ACCORDION SOLO CHAMPIONS, 15 YEARS & UNDER

1994 Zhou Jing (China)
1995 Danielle Beston (New Zealand)
1996 Mao Rui Yin (China)
1997 Lin Xuan (China)
1998 Guo Xiaofeng (China)
1999 Nicola Herbert (New Zealand)
2000 Alex Selman (New Zealand)
2001 Wu Yu (China)
2002 Ann-Elise Koerntjes (Australia)
2003 Andrew Liashenko (Australia)
2004 Patricia Zhang (Australia)
2005 Joanna Irving (Australia)
2006 Jedda Kassis (Australia)
2007 Richard She(Australia)
2008 Richard She (Australia)
2009 Richard She (Australia)
2010 Edin Kocic (Australia)
2011 Edin Kocic (Australia)
2012 Joyce Ly & Jessica Jin (Australia)
2013 Joyce Ly & Jessica Jin (Australia)

PAST AUSTRALIAN PIANO ACCORDION SOLO CHAMPIONS, 15 YEARS & UNDER

1994	**Bernadette Conlon**	**1995**	**No entries**
1996	**Daniel Antunovich**	**1997**	**Daniel Antunovich**
1998	**Daniel Antunovich**	**1999**	**Andrew Liashenko**
2000	**Ivan Liashenko**	**2001**	**No entries**
2002	**Ann-Elise Koerntjes**	**2003**	**Andrew Liashenko**
2004	**Patricia Zhang**	**2005**	**Joanna Irving**
2006	**Jedda Kassis**	**2007**	**Richard She**
2008	**Richard She**	**2009**	**Richard She**
2010	**Edin Kocic**	**2011**	**Edin Kocic**
2012	**Joyce Ly & Jessica Jin**	**2013**	**Joyce Ly & Jessica Jin**

	Name and Music		*Name and Music*
1.	*Alexandra Reekie (NZ) – Polkis and Sentimientos*	*2.*	*Emma Smith (AU) – Serenade and Ambience Musettienne*
3	*Alanah Jones (NZ) – Introducing the Squeezebox and Medley de Brel*	*4.*	*Masud Ashimajy (AU) – The Silken Ladder and Flight of the Bumblebee*

1st..... 2nd..... 3rd.....

14.45 COMPETITION CLASS IO253, International Open Accordion Championships, International Pacific Piano Accordion Championships, Australian Championships

PAST INTERNATIONAL OPEN ACCORDION CHAMPIONS

2005	**Nikola Jankovic (Serbia)**	**2006**	**Lina Chegodaev (Australia)**
2007	**Grayson Masefield (NZ)**	**2008**	**Vladislav Pligovka (Belarus)**
2009	**Nemanja Drazic (Serbia)**	**2010**	**Bin Lu (China)**
2011	**Piao Zhen (China)**	**2012**	**Nejc Grm (Slovenia)**
2013	**Mladen Vukmir (Serbia)**		

PAST INTERNATIONAL PACIFIC PIANO ACCORDION SOLO CHAMPIONS

1994	**Zhou Jing (China)**	**1995**	**Campbell Bettridge (New Zealand)**
1996	**Guan Jing (China)**	**1997**	**Bernadette Conlon (Australia)**
1998	**Liu Jia (China)**	**1999**	**Bernadette Conlon (Australia)**
2000	**Bernadette Conlon (Australia) & Paula Harris (NZ)**	**2001**	**Paula Harris (NZ)**
2002	**Hilary Thwaites (NZ) & Ann-Elise Koerntjes (Australia)**	**2003**	**Mylie Thwaites (NZ)**
2004	**Hilary Thwaites (NZ)**	**2005**	**Ann-Elise Koerntjes (Australia)**
2006	**Ivan Liashenko (Australia) & Campbell Hill (NZ)**	**2007**	**Grayson Masefield (NZ)**

2008	**Grayson Masefield (NZ)**	**2009**	**No entries**
2010	**Campbell Thwaites (NZ)**	**2011**	**Campbell Thwaites (NZ)**
2012	**Edin Kocic (Australia)**	**2013**	**Qiuxian Li (China)**

PAST AUSTRALIAN PIANO ACCORDION SOLO CHAMPIONS

1994	**Bernadette Conlon**	**1995**	**Bernadette Conlon**
1996	**Bernadette Conlon**	**1997**	**Bernadette Conlon**
1998	**Bernadette Conlon**	**1999**	**Bernadette Conlon**
2000	**Bernadette Conlon**	**2001**	**Paula Harris**
2002	**Ann-Elise Koerntjes**	**2003**	**Linda Gu**
2004	**Ann-Elise Koerntjes**	**2005**	**Ann-Elise Koerntjes**
2006	**Ivan Liashenko**	**2007**	**No entries**
2008	**No entries**	**2009**	**No entries**
2010	**Li Li**	**2011**	**No entries**
2012	**Edin Kocic**	**2013**	**No entries**

	Name and Music	***Composer***
1.	Mario Perkovic (Croatia)	
	L´egyptienne	J.P Rameau
	Arhipelag Gulag (mvts. 2 And 5)	V. Vlasov
	Revelation	S. Voitenko
	Hungarian Dance no. 5	J. Brahms
2.	Arseniy Strokovskiy (Russia)	
	Romance	F. Angelis
	Sonata in D minor	D. Scarlatti
	Barcarole	S. Rachmaninov
	Tocatta	Z. Bozanic
3.	Wen Yi Wu (China)	
	La Villageoise Rondeau and Le Rappel des Oiseaux	J.P Rameau
	Fantasy of Rockets	V. Podgorny
	Revelation	S. Voitenko
	Toccata	A. Khachaturian
4.	Edin Kocic (Australia)	
	Le Rappel des Oiseaux	J.P Rameau
	Ferapontov Monastery	V. Zolotariov
	Haiti	F. Angelis
	Asturias	I. Albeniz
5.	Wang Fan Yi (China)	
	Sonata	D. Scarlatti
	Winter Sketches	A. Kusyakov
	Intermezzo – II. Scherzoso & IV. Giocoso	J. Feld

1st..... 2nd..... 3rd.....

16.05 COMPETITION CLASS IO255, International Competition for Ensemble Music

Name and Music
Melbourne Accordion Ensemble
Palmi Snorrason, Jeannette Benzing, Petra Jensen-Butt and Iryna Stepko

Melodia en la menor	A. Piazolla/H.G. Koelz
B-96	A. Chmykov
Exprompte	A. Chmykov

1st..... 2nd..... 3rd.....

16.30 BREAK

17.00 ORCHESTRA REHEARSAL

19.00 END

Follow this event on Facebook at :
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SUNDAY AFTERNOON

12.00 ORCHESTRA REHEARSAL

14.00 END

15:00 GALA CONCERT
Featuring special guest artist Mirco Patarini

18:00 DINNER
Location: Christina Lounge, Club Marconi
Arrive at 18:00, food will be served at 19:00

Gala Concert Info

Mirco Patarini

Mirco Patarini was born in Spoleto, Italy in 1966. From the age of 12, he began participating in multiple national competitions, including the 30th CMA Trophee Mondiale where he was the youngest participant.

He eventually participated in the La Caux-de-fonds and obtained first place and the title of Champion of the World at the age of 18.

Along with brothers Leonardo and Luciano Menghini, he is the owner of the company "Menghini S.R.L", a society that projects, produces and distributes accordions with the brands "Scandalli", "Paolo Soprani" and "Menghini".

Lionel Reekie

Lionel Reekie was born in Rotorua, New Zealand. He commenced accordion lessons at the age of 9, and very quickly started to combine these skills with his love of singing. As an accordion entertainer, Lionel performed extensively around New Zealand from an early age, eventually being selected as a player in the Air New Zealand Accordion Orchestra for six of their international concert tours through Europe, USA and Asia. On these concert tours, Lionel was also a vocalist, performing a repertoire ranging from Light Opera to Rock and Roll. Lionel continues to perform regularly on accordion, as well as conducting accordion orchestras and teaching accordion at one of New Zealand's largest music schools.

The Auckland Symphony Orchestra asked Lionel to appear as a solo vocalist for their "Last Night of the Proms" and this inspired Lionel to record an album of songs from Stage and Screen with an orchestra. After having travelled to Novosibirsk, Russia, with his family on several occasions, Lionel was so impressed by the excellent quality of Siberian musicians, that he chose to record his CD "From Russia With Love" in Novosibirsk in 2011. Released throughout New Zealand, and on iTunes, Lionel has been interviewed and featured on radio throughout the length of the country.

Lionel's most recent trip to Russia was to perform in concert to a full house at the prestigious Novosibirsk Philharmonia in January this year. In August, Lionel performed as an invited soloist the American Accordionists Association 75th Anniversary celebration in New York City and then singing with the World Accordion Orchestra at the world championships being held in Victoria, B.C. Canada. His recent appearance at the Vector Arena for the Silver Scrolls in October also received a great deal of media publicity.

Gala Concert Orchestra

The mass orchestra for the AATA's 20th competition, conducted by Lionel Reekie, is arguably the largest accordion ensemble ever assembled within Australia with over 40 members. It has been assembled solely to celebrate the 20th year of the AATA's establishment.