

EMU CAPACITY BUILDING SEMINAR
“GROUP PEDAGOGY & COLLABORATION WITH SCHOOLS”
Stockholm, 18 & 19 June 2018

Biographies

Gerhard Müller



Gerhard Müller studied violin and pedagogy at the Musikhochschule Karlsruhe (Germany), later on cultural management in Cologne. He has been working as a violinist in German orchestras and renowned period music ensembles. Since 2001 he is member of the Rasumovsky Quartet, that he had been touring with through Europe and whose recordings of all Shostakovich string quartets received international acclaim. 2009 he was elected Director of Conservatory Bern, Switzerland. In that time Conservatory Bern was awarded several times for innovative ideas in music pedagogy.

Pirkko Simojoki



Pirkko Simojoki is a lecturer in the viola at the Espoo and Porvoo Music Institutes and teaches viola and pedagogy at the Sibelius Academy. She gives pedagogical and master courses regularly in Finland and abroad. From 2001 to 2014 Simojoki was a lecturer in the viola at the East Helsinki Music Institute. From 2008 to 2012 she was vice principal of the same institute. She has been coaching and conducting several youth and children's orchestras in East Helsinki, Porvoo and Espoo. Currently she is conducting two children's orchestras at the Porvoo Music Institute. Simojoki studied conducting with Jorma Panula. Pirkko Simojoki played in the Finnish National Opera Orchestra from 1993 to 2001. She studied at the Sibelius Academy where she received her artistic diploma in 1996. She pursued post-graduate studies with professor Yuri Gandelsman at the Rubin Academy in Tel Aviv. Simojoki started playing the violin at the age of 5 as a pupil of Géza Szilvay. She changed to the viola when she was 14 with Matti Hirvikangas as her long-term teacher.

Dorothy Conaghan



A graduate of University College Dublin (UCD), Dorothy continued her violin studies in London and has been engaged in music education for almost thirty years. Her teaching career began as a secondary school teacher of Mathematics and French and continued at the Conservatory of Music & Drama in Dublin (DIT). She is founder and former conductor and musical director of the award-winning youth chamber orchestra Young Dublin Symphonia, and currently maintains a string teaching practice at her home in Malahide. Committed to fair and equal opportunity in music education, Dorothy trains string teachers and advises on logistics, policy and practice for group instrumental tuition initiatives in schools in Ireland and in Denmark.

To overcome the inequality of access to instrumental music tuition, in 2001 Dorothy set up what was probably the first in-school inclusive instrumental tuition programme in Ireland. She subsequently founded and was musical director of the Primary Strings Programme, 2007-2013. As a result of this initiative - funded by the National Concert Hall in Dublin – Dorothy mentored over 20 string teachers in group tuition and today almost 2,000 children continue to enjoy quality string tuition at school that is not parent dependent.

In 2014, Dorothy received an award from University College Dublin, for commitment and passion for social justice, for 'the length and depth of outstanding lifetime achievement in promoting equality in the area of music education'. The award is competitive and international and is given in recognition of exceptional achievement. Dorothy is currently a Doctoral candidate at the School of Social Justice & Education at UCD and her research is funded by the Irish Research Council. Regularly invited to present at teacher conferences including the Danish National Academy of Music and the European Music Council, Dorothy is honored to speak at the seminar hosted by the European Music School Union in Stockholm.

Matthew Barley



Cello playing is at the centre of Matthew Barley's career, while his musical world has virtually no geographical, social or stylistic boundaries. Matthew Barley is passionate about improvisation, education, multi-genre music-making, electronics, and pioneering community programmes. He is also a world-renowned cellist, who has performed in over 50 countries, including concertos with the BBC Philharmonic, Frankfurt Radio Symphony, London Sinfonietta, Hong Kong Sinfonietta, Royal Scottish National, Kremerata Baltica, Swedish Chamber, Vienna Radio Symphony, Netherlands Radio Philharmonic, Czech Philharmonic, Melbourne and New Zealand Symphonies and the Metropole Jazz Orchestra. Matthew Barley's collaborations include Matthias Goerne, the Labèque Sisters, Avi Avital, Manu Delago, Martin Frost, Thomas Larcher, Amjad Ali Khan, Julian Joseph, Nitin Sawhney, and Jon Lord (Deep Purple), appearing in venues ranging from Ronnie Scott's and the WOMAD festivals to Vienna's Konzerthaus and Zürich's Tonhalle. Matthew's new

music group, *Between The Notes*, has undertaken over 60 creative projects with young musicians and orchestral players around the world. Matthew has given premieres by James MacMillan, Thomas Larcher, Detlev Glanert, Dai Fujikura and many other prominent composers, including with some of the finest Indian musicians in a new project with the Philharmonia Orchestra.

Matthew's recordings have been released on Black Box, Signum Classics and Onyx Classics – the latter included a CD with Viktoria Mullova on which Matthew was cellist, arranger, composer and producer, *The Peasant Girl*, which has gained rave reviews worldwide, and is now also available on DVD. In 2013 Matthew undertook a 100-event UK tour celebrating Benjamin Britten – the tour was accompanied by a CD release, *Around Britten*, described by Sinfini as "a defining statement in modern cello playing". After the world premiere performances of a new double concerto by Pascal Dusapin with Viktoria Mullova and with Netherlands Radio, there are further performances with the London Philharmonic, RAI Torino, Paris National, Seattle Symphony and Leipzig Gewandhaus. Next season sees a tour with wind quintet Calefax, a recording of John Tavener's *The Protecting Veil* for Signum Classics, the premiere of Matthew's arrangements of Brazilian jazz for cello and string orchestra in Helsinki, and tours to Australia and New Zealand.