

STUDYING PIANO

The Sir Zelman Cowen School of Music and Performance is a thriving hub of diverse musical practices in performance, composition, research, teaching and industry engagement. We are home to an exciting community of undergraduate, postgraduate and professional musicians, performers, and researchers working across classical, electronic, experimental, jazz, interdisciplinary and popular music.

Collaboration, creativity, excellence, inclusivity, diversity and community are at the heart of what we do. Our students are innovative, forward-looking and internationally informed, and celebrate Australian performing arts and its place in the world.

PIANO AT MONASH

The piano program prepares students for professional music careers by offering them tailored guidance to develop excellence across the many facets of pianistic and musical life. Over the course of the Bachelor of Music (Piano Performance), students study a wide range of solo, chamber, collaborative piano and piano duo repertoire, with opportunities to focus on particular areas of interest.

Pianists develop skills in orchestral piano, composer-performer collaboration and improvisation, and enjoy opportunities to work with international visiting artists in masterclasses and in special projects. The piano program is diverse, inclusive and supportive.

A musical journey at Monash enables students to successfully embark on their chosen musical path beyond university, along with peers who will become friends for life!

PIANO TEACHERS

Piano teaching staff include Aura Go, Robert Chamberlain, Darryl Coote, Anthony Halliday, Tomoe Kawabata and Ian Munro.



PIANO CLASSES

You will participate in weekly one-to-one lessons, chamber music and artistic practice classes, in addition to regular performance workshops, masterclasses, and a range of extra-curricular performance opportunities including the Monash Academy Orchestra and outreach work.

A distinctive feature of our program is that all students participate in chamber music in each semester of their degree. In consultation with the teaching staff, you will have the opportunity to design an individual study program to develop areas of interest such as piano duo, collaborative piano, chamber music, and new music.

Monash is a QS World University Ranking Top 50 university (#36 in 2026).



MEET OUR PIANO TEACHING STAFF AND STUDENTS



DR AURA GO PIANO COORDINATOR

Dr Aura Go is an Australian concert pianist, curator, educator and artistic researcher. She performs internationally as concerto soloist, as recitalist and chamber musician in imaginative programs that interweave old and new music, and as narrator and actor in cross-artform and educational projects.

Aura has performed at the Edinburgh Festival, Kuhmo Chamber Music Festival, Rauma Festivo, PianoEspoo, Melbourne International Arts Festival, and the Australian Festival of Chamber Music, among others.

In 2020, Aura joined the Sir Zelman Cowen School of Music and Performance as Head of Piano. She has been guest lecturer at the University of Arkansas (USA), the Royal Academy of Music in Aarhus (Denmark), the Feliks Nowowiejski Academy of Music (Poland) and the Australian National Academy of Music, and has taught piano at Yale College (USA) and the Sibelius Academy (Finland).



DR TOMOE KAWABATA

Tomoe Kawabata is a Japanese-born pianist, collaborator, pedagogue and creative practice researcher who has made Australia home since 2002.

She is highly regarded for her interpretations of the traditional classical repertoire and has become a leading figure in the performance of contemporary Japanese music. Her CD *Five Rocks in a Japanese Garden* with the KIAZMA Piano Duo features first recordings of works by notable Japanese composers.

Tomoe has maintained an international performing career, with appearances in festivals, recitals and concertos in Europe, Canada, Australia and Japan. As a member of the piano teaching staff, Tomoe mentors students in one-to-one lessons, piano duo and chamber music.



CC KEYS PIANO DUO: KIMIKO HORAS & VICTOR HUANG

CC Keys Piano Duo brings together undergraduate pianists Kimiko Horas and Victor Huang. Mentored by Dr Aura Go and Dr Tomoe Kawabata, they share a passion for collaborative performance and for connecting with audiences through classical music. In 2025, CC Keys won First Prize and the Australian Music Prize at the inaugural Page-Olding National Piano Duo Competition, in addition to the Monash Piano Duo Prize and the Monash Australian Music Prize. Recent highlights include co-creating and performing in the multi-piano project *Piano Visions*, introducing young audiences to classical music at *Family Fiesta*, and performing Steve Reich's *Music for 18 Musicians*. In recognition of their artistic leadership and performance excellence, they were awarded the 2026 Vice-Chancellor's Ensemble Leadership Scholarship.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Dr Aura Go
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monash.edu/arts/music-performance/home

monash.edu/arts/music-performance/about/scholarships-and-prizes