

**Michelle Madder** is an Australian pianist, composer and teacher with over 30 years' experience.

As a young person, Michelle was well recognised as a pianist and composer, winning the 'ABC Young Composer's Competition' and several prestigious piano awards.

Michelle studied composition with Peter Sculthorpe at Sydney University and graduated with Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance and Composition and then went on to further study of Composition at the Sydney Conservatorium.

She founded Australian Music Schools in 1993 and over the ensuing years expanded to offer quality music education in locations across Sydney.

As director of AMS Michelle designed a piano exam system which proved successful over many years of operation. She further developed the syllabus and established UME - a quality music examination system focused on the needs of students and teachers. As head piano examiner of UME, Michelle brings experience, empathy and musical expertise to what can be a stressful time for students and their parents.

Michelle spent several years establishing music programs in Kenya, training staff, providing resources and running camps and classes for children in the slums of Nairobi. She continues to support the teachers in Korogocho and Kibera, engaging in weekly sessions to refine their skills.

Michelle is highly respected as an adjudicator and examiner in Australia. She continues to teach and to train teachers in classroom music, piano pedagogy and composition. She enjoys writing music for students and is the co-author of the Blitzbooks Sight Reading series with her friend and colleague, Samantha Coates.

Thanks to the wonders of modern technology, Michelle now mentors teachers around the globe.