

## 2007 Trans-Tasman Composer Exchange Residency

The Australian Music Centre is pleased to announce that Sydney composer Colin Bright has been selected to reside with the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra in 2007, as part of the fourth Trans-Tasman Composer Exchange Residency.

The exchange residency is a partnership between the Australian Music Centre and SOUNZ – the Centre for New Zealand Music. Supported by Creative New Zealand and the Music Board of the Australia Council, the project – initially established in 2003 – aims to further develop music relationships between the two countries and provides significant opportunities for contemporary composers/sound artists to collaborate with some of the world's most outstanding musicians.

Colin Bright is an important figure in the Australian music landscape. His music – often driven by socio-political issues – explores aspects of place, both physically and psychologically. *The Wild Boys* (1995), however, saw a shift towards what Bright refers to as 'urban psychoscapes'. Using sampled voices, many of his works since this piece seek – by integrating music and voice – to project the spirit of a particular writer/poet, adding a theatrical facet to his music. He is influenced by Australian aboriginal music – especially didjeridu – but also by aspects of jazz, rock and techno, particularly in the choice of instruments, electro sounds and rhythms.

Bright has achieved great success as a composer having received Fellowships from the Performing Arts Board of the Australia Council, as well as numerous commissions from Australia's leading ensembles. His music

has been performed and broadcast in twenty-seven countries throughout the world.

The Auckland Philharmonia performs more than 145 concerts a year, accompanying the national opera and ballet, as well as international touring companies. As well as performing alongside renowned musicians such as Luciano Pavarotti, Nigel Kennedy, and Diana Krall, the Orchestra has a strong commitment to performing contemporary classical music and is dedicated to developing music education at all levels.

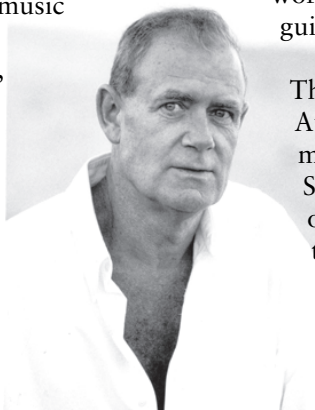
### Previous Recipients of the Trans-Tasman Composer Exchange Residency

New Zealand composer Jim Gardner was resident with Brisbane-based ensemble ELISION during 2005. Working with ELISION for several weeks in Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne, Gardner created a work for clarinet, trombone, electric guitar, percussion and live electronics.

The 2004 residency saw West Australian James Ledger, spend a month with the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra. A new orchestral work was created during this exchange and was premiered in November 2005 to great acclaim.

The initial Trans-Tasman composer exchange residency enabled New Zealand Composer Gareth Farr to spend time with Australia's leading vocal ensemble The Song Company during 2003. The exchange resulted in a number of works, but Farr's setting of texts by esteemed Australian poet Les Murray was premiered with enormous success at a special 'sold-out' concert in Government House (Sydney), in February 2005.

*For more information about the Trans-Tasman residency exchange program, visit the Australian Music Centre's website: [www.amcoz.com.au](http://www.amcoz.com.au)*



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