

trained string pedagogue working in a rural area. But why I ask you, would I want to do anything else? When I see the smile



on the students' faces when they manage those triplets in time, master that tricky duet with those 'dotted crotchet things' or merely receive their weekly sugar fix, I know that these kids will truly be able to make this world a better place. Not only will they be masters in the art of convincing their teacher that they do in fact deserve TWO stickers this week (and the glittery ones too please!), but will also be equipped with a multitude of tools and abilities that will serve them well in whatever path they wish to travel. So to all the young regional string pedagogues out there, I offer you some advice.

1. Stay passionate. Kids need to see your passion so they can be passionate too.
2. Be patient. Whether it is with those tricky parents, lack of resources or just a 'bad day at the office,' remember that all good things take time, so persevere!
3. Stay connected. Talk with other teachers about the problems you are having and also the things that are working well for you!
4. Never stop learning. Make a point of learning from your students, as well as some old hatters of the industry (for all you cellists out there, the literature of Phyllis Young makes a great starting point.)

To add my final two cents' worth, regional pedagogues and music makers in general often encounter the limitations that come with living in a small or isolated area. This is just a reminder that you are not alone, and yes, the hard work IS worth it. May we continue to be the inspiration to our students that many of our teachers were for us.

Cassandra Mckie travels weekly between Sydney and Coffs Harbour to tutor 20 cello and bass students in a 40-piece string orchestra. Cassandra adds, "The fact that Lois Simpson inspired my teacher Susan Blake (see her article in this issue) who has in turn inspired me, is an amazing testimony to the power of teachers."

Menuhin Competition

22 year old Xiang Yu won the Senior Prize at the 2010 Menuhin Competition held in Oslo in April.

Suyeon Kang from Australia (pictured) won third prize.

13 year old Kerson Leong won the Junior Prize.

The next Menuhin Competition will be held in Beijing from April 6-15, 2012.

See www.menuhincompetition.org for details.



STUDENT REVIEWS

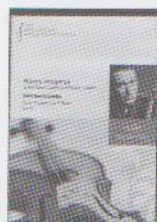
by *Melissa Franks*

MAXIM VENGEROV AT THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC, LONDON

Mendelssohn Violin Concerto in E minor, op 64, First Movement

DVD MMF 007

www.masterclassfoundation.org



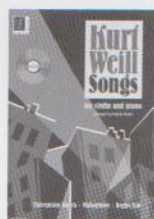
Maxim Vengerov's remarkable abilities on the violin emerged at a very young age. Now in his 30's, he is a highly esteemed musician and teacher. On this DVD Vengerov gives a masterclass on the first movement of Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto. Using an entertaining and insightful approach, he complements both technical and musical development through encouraging complete relaxation while practicing and performing. Student Aya Sanad gave a very compelling performance of Mendelssohn's work. However tension throughout her body affected her tone, balance and intonation. Vengerov used many tactics to encourage Sanada to play effortlessly such as holding her arm to allow her to feel the weight of the bow; lifting her left hand fingers to check where there was tension and making sure that Sanada's shoulder didn't rise with her bowing arm. These, along with many other ideas proved effective. Vengerov says, "Music is about magic", and a bit of his magic can be heard and seen through his demonstrations.

KURT WEILL SONGS FOR VIOLIN AND PIANO

Arr. Martin Reiter

UNIVERSAL EDITION UE 34 324

www.universaledition.com



Close your eyes and imagine the hazy nightlife scene of a swanky jazz club. Music plays softly in the background while couples sway gently on the dance floor. This is the world created by the music of Kurt Weill, here arranged for violin and piano by Martin Reiter. The pieces have been carefully selected from the musical plays *The Threepenny Opera*, *Happy End* and the opera *Rise and Fall of the City of Mahagonny*. The jazz arrangements of these pieces recreate the sound and atmosphere of a 1920's jazz club. Improvisatory-like solo sections in the

27th Chamber Music Summer School Mount Buller January 16-23 2011

Simon Oswell and Friends

Capitol ensemble

Phillip Levy - violin

Julie Gigante - violin

Simon Oswell - viola

David Low - cello

and

Tobias Lea - viola

David Berlin - cello



7 days of performances, workshops and tuition

Brochure info: (03) 9592 8941

Visit the website at <http://cmss.org.au>