



Ten young composers enjoyed two intensive days as the NZSO, conducted by Hamish McKeich played their pieces during the second NZSO-Todd Foundation Young Composers Competition. The schedule included workshops with mentor, **Lyell Cresswell** and NZSO staff, including principal tuba, Andrew Jarvis (pictured, above). Joint winners of the 2006 awards were **Karlo Margetic** with *Bioluminescence* and **Robin Toan** with *La Sagrada Familia*.

The winner of the 2006 Trusts Secondary School Composers' competition organised by the Auckland Philharmonia was Hannah Blumhardt from Waiheke Island. Her work *Wimp* will be performed as part of the orchestra's *Discovery* education concert on 16 May 2007.



A major French conference in June devoted to New Zealand cultural and social issues with the theme of 'New Zealand, France and the Pacific' included a paper given by **Martin Lodge** on *The French Influence on New Zealand Music*. Earlier in the month he presented a paper on *Violence in New Zealand Composed Operas* at a conference in Bordeaux.

Jim Svejda at Radio KUSC, the USA's largest public radio station, produced a five hour broadcast featuring an interview with **John Psathas** including a preview of his new CD *View From Olympus* and also **Douglas Lilburn's** symphonies. John reports that "At one point Jim said to me, 'Let's put this track on here because it will be around 10pm and the two million aspiring actors in LA will have just gotten off work waiting etc, and joined us.!' " The programme was streamed to the internet ensuring an international audience of millions. John was supported in his exploratory trip to the USA by the NZ Music Industry Commission through their Outward Sound programme.

**Jeroen Speak** had the distinctive honour of having premieres at both the ISCM World Days in Stuttgart and the Gaudeamus Festival in Amsterdam this year. His wind octets, *Silk Dialogues V Versions I and II* were performed by the Ensemble Antipodes.

With a programme including works by ten NZ composers, the New Zealand Secondary School Choir competed against 41 choirs to win the coveted 'Choir of the World' award at the Hong Kong International Youth and Children's Choirs Festival. The NZSSC then travelled to Xiamen where they won the 'Champion of the World Mixed Youth Choir' section at the World Choir Games, which involved 20,000 young choristers from all over the world.

### Gillian Whitehead

coordinated a Wellington fundraising concert for a school in Cambodia which featured works by **Gareth Farr**, **Jack Body**, **Helen Fisher** and Gillian herself. Performers included musicians from the Cambodian community, Bridget Douglas (flute), Rachel Thomson (piano), Carolyn Mills (harp), Ramonda Taleni (soprano) and Richard Nunns (taonga pūoro, pictured right) as well as **Dan Poynton** performing his own work.



**Phil Dadson** was a guest artist along with **Annea Lockwood** in the Ear to the Earth sound art festival in New York City in September, organised by the Electronic Music Foundation. He also undertook a four-week residency at the Lancaster Institute of Contemporary Arts where he built two experimental musical instruments and staged collaborative performances with colleagues. Phil, one of the finalists for the prestigious Walters Prize, currently has an exhibition of his video / sound works at the St. Paul Street Gallery in Auckland.

New Zealand music is being well-supported in smaller centres. The New Plymouth orchestra performed a 100% New Zealand concert in September with works by **David Hamilton**, **Douglas Lilburn**, **Gareth Farr**, **Anthony Ritchie** and **David Farquhar**. The Nelson Greenhill Community Orchestra held a week-long event, Target on NZ Music, which included workshops and seminars culminating in a concert at which visiting American

violinist Kirtley Leigh Paine (photo left) premiered **Ross Carey's** *Whakatu* for violin and orchestra, along with orchestral works by **Hamilton**, **Lilburn**, **Farquhar** and **Ian Macdonald**. And in late October the Nova Strings in the Hutt Valley will perform an all NZ concert of works by **Farquhar**, **Larry Pruden**, and **Eric Biddington**.

