

DENNIS LEE

Dennis Lee was born in Penang, Malaysia. At age 14, he won an Associated Board scholarship to study violin and piano (with Angus Morrison) at the Royal College of Music, London. There he was awarded the ARCM (Hons) in both instruments, and won many prizes including: John Hopkinson Gold Medal and Peter Norris Prize, Joy Scott Prize, as well as the Tagore Gold Medal for the most outstanding student. In 1967 he received the Bachelor of Music degree from London University with the only First Class Honours given for that particular syllabus. The next year, he attained the Master of Music degree from the Royal College. An Austrian Government scholarship then took him to Vienna where under Josef Dichler, he won the Akademie Diploma with distinction, and the Stepanow Prize. Later he studied with Ilonka Deckers in Milan.

He has won many prizes at competitions, e.g. the BBC, Casagrande, Busoni and Sydney. Festival appearances include Montreux, Spoleto, Brescia-Bergamo (Italy), Varna Summer (Bulgaria), Adelaide, Cheltenham, Brighton, Singapore Arts Festival, etc.. He has performed with most of the BBC orchestras, Halle, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, London Mozart Players, Northern Sinfonia, Slovak Chamber, Varna Philharmonic, Vienna Symphony, Adelaide Symphony, Tasmanian Symphony, New Zealand Symphony, Warsaw Philharmonic, Shanghai Symphony, Malaysian Philharmonic and Singapore Symphony etc.. Conductors with whom he has collaborated include Sir Adrian Boult, Sir Colin Davis, Sir Andrew Davis, Libor Pesek, Okko Kamu, Lan Shui etc..

Dennis Lee has broadcast frequently for the BBC. In the USA he has appeared several times at the Kennedy Center, National Gallery in Washington D.C., San Francisco, Los Angeles, Minneapolis, New York, Philadelphia etc.. His recording of Szymanowski works (Hyperion/Helios CDH 55081) aroused much international acclaim, while his complete cycle of Beethoven piano sonatas has been warmly received. He continues to perform widely in the USA, Canada, Europe and South-east Asia. He was an ABRSM examiner for over 30 years, and is also in demand as lecturer and festival adjudicator. He has judged the Canadian Music Competition (Finals) in Toronto, as well as the London International Piano Competition. Recent appearances include the Singapore International Piano Festival, HSBC Piano Festival (Kuala Lumpur), recitals in Malaysia, Canada, USA, France and Germany.

He has been Artist in Residence at Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, Singapore as well as in Los Angeles at the convention of the Music Teachers' Association of California (2006). Future engagements include recitals in Britain, Canada, the USA and the Far East.

He has been invited to perform at the Singapore National Museum in conjunction with a loan of French Impressionist paintings from the Musee d'Orsay in Paris, and in 2012 was invited to perform with the Singapore Symphony Orchestra for the 10th anniversary of the Esplanade Cultural Centre.

In August 2018 Dennis Lee was invited to judge the preliminary session of the Concorso Busoni in Bolzano.

Dennis Lee is a Steinway Artist.