

KAREN SMITHIES *Pianist*



Karen moved to Tasmania from the Central Coast of NSW in 1998. She completed her Masters in Music Performance at the University of Tasmania in 2003, studying with Beryl Sedivka and David Bollard.

Karen graduated from Sydney Conservatorium of Music with a Bachelor of music in piano performance and accompaniment and upon completion of her degree, was awarded the “Mollie Neal” scholarship for excellence in Accompaniment. She has appeared as soloist and accompanist with regional orchestras and major vocal ensembles across the Central Coast & Sydney, NSW.

Karen has made several national ABC and 3MS FM broadcasts with artists such as cellist Christian Wojtowicz, violinists Marina Phillips and Romana Zieglerova, baritones Christopher Richardson and Michael Lampard, the TSO Brass and Friends and with Andrew Seymour (TSO principal clarinettist).

Karen is currently lecturer in Accompaniment at the Tasmanian Conservatorium of Music & has lectured in piano studies at the University of Tasmania since 2000. In that time she has been busy as a repetiteur; accompanist of undergraduates, post graduates and visiting artists at the Conservatorium & throughout Tasmania.

Karen regularly plays as orchestral & rehearsal pianist for the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra and has repetiteured for the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra Chorus.

Karen lives on Hobart’s Eastern shore with her husband Matthew and five children.