

Sound Bites

The Wallace International Piano Festival 2016

7 - 10 July 2016

This year's Wallace International Piano Festival Targets NZ university and high school students.

The guest soloists and teachers include Boris Giltburg, who was a huge success at the NZ International Piano Festival in 2012 and has since won the prestigious Queen Elisabeth Competition in Belgium.

After his Auckland recital, teacher and IRMTNZ reviewer, Dianne James, wrote, "... I knew I was witnessing a very special musician in action ... his music-making was among some of the very finest I have ever heard live".

This year, attendees will also enjoy hearing well known NZ pianist Read Gainsford, and Albert Tiu from the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music in Singapore.

The Wallace National Junior Piano Competition will be held within the Festival, which will end with a recital by Delvan Lin, who won the inaugural Junior Competition in 2014 followed by the Wallace National Piano Competition last year.

Kerikeri International Piano Competition 2016

30 June - 3 July 2016

The organisers of the Kerikeri International Piano Competition this year have reason to be pleased – they have a record number of entries!

Sixty-one entries have been received from 12 countries with Australia topping the list, followed by New Zealand and China, one entrant from Canada and a strong contingent based in the USA. Interestingly, there are more males (34) than females (27).

The three adjudicators are Jan Jiracek (Austria), Albert Tiu (Singapore) and Eleanor Wong (Hong Kong).

Competition Director John Jackets says "There's also the tourist factor. The Bay of Islands is a great place to visit!