



# Econophysics Colloquium

Australian National University 2005

*Concert of contemporary Australian chamber music and  
didgeridoo performance by*

*Dominant SEVEN and Duncan Smith*

*Tuesday 15 November 2005 from 18.30 to 19.30  
at the University House Hall*



## *dominant SEVEN*

*'A unique & exciting septet of sounds that represents a fresh & versatile breed of contemporary Australian chamber music'*

*dominant SEVEN* consists of seven graduate & post-graduate musicians from the Australian National University, School of Music.

[Greg O'Rourke](#) – classical guitar/electric guitar

[Harold Gretton](#) – classical guitar

[Timothy Wickham](#) – violin

[Brett Janiec](#)– clarinet/bass clarinet

[Adam Dickson](#) – percussion

[Nathaniel Johnstone](#) – double bass

[Geoffrey Xeros](#) – piano

### *\*See attached profiles*

The unique instrumentation of *dominant SEVEN* is a clone of world-renowned guitarist John Williams *Attacca* ensemble, which performed in Australia & the UK in 1992.

This seven piece international ensemble included Tim Kain (Head of Guitar @ ANU School of Music) & Nigel Westlake (Australian composer & clarinettist), both of which have worked closely with our group & its artistic development over the past 2 years.

Following its official launch at a Friends of the School of Music gig in the foyer of the National Library of Australia in August 2004, *dominant SEVEN* undertook a 14-day tour that saw the ensemble successfully present both public concerts & school workshops in Newcastle, Wagga, Orange, Albury, Wodonga & Wollongong. This project was co-ordinated by violinist Timothy Wickham as part of his final-year Bachelor of Music specialist project.

The past two years has seen the group's continued development, both musically & professionally. A recent feature at the 2005 Darwin International Guitar Festival saw the ensemble receive much praise & enthusiasm by an audience comprising of national & international performers, composers & students. A highlight of the festival being a magical sunset performance of Peter Sculthorpe's '*Tropic*' with didgeridoo virtuoso William Barton, under the stars of a balmy Northern Territory tropical winter!

### *What we play....*

Our often unpredictable, contrasting & quirky repertoire consists of the original commissioned *Attacca* works, including Peter Sculthorpe & Nigel Westlake, plus a carnival of new-works composed & arranged by *dominant SEVEN* members Greg O'Rourke & Harold Gretton.

Recent performances have also featured works by Canberra-based composers Julian Day, Tim Hansen, Helen Way & Michael Sollis, all of which were premiered at the Darwin International Guitar Festival in July 2005

In addition to our new-Australia theme, our play-list also features virtuosic arrangements of Astor Piazzolla tango & Manuel de Falla orchestral works.

**HARROLD GREITON**.... began playing guitar at the age of 7. He became a student of Carolyn Kidd at the Canberra School of Music and studied under her until the year 2000 when he commenced tuition with Timothy Kain. In 2001 he started his Bachelor of Music studies at the ANU School of Music, which he anticipates completing with honours at the end of 2005. He has been praised in master-classes with Carlo Barone, Pavel Steidl, David Leisner, Denis Azabagic, Lily Ashfar and Jose Maria Gallardo Del Ray, amongst others.

During this period he has placed first in the open guitar sections of the Australian National Eisteddfod and the Penrith City Eisteddfod, and most recently won the open section of the Macdonald's Performing Arts Challenge in Sydney.

Apart from his involvement with dominant SEVEN, he has had a number of successes as a chamber musician, in 2004 winning the chamber music section of the Newcastle International Guitar Competition and Festival with the School of Music Guitar Trio. In 2003 he was a member of the winning ensemble of the open chamber section of the Australian National Eisteddfod, and earlier this year he was invited to perform in a recital featuring ANU guitar soloists for the Darwin International Guitar Festival.

He performs regularly both in Canberra and regionally, and has appeared twice as a soloist with the School of Music Symphony Orchestra, first in 2004 playing Nigel Westlake's guitar concerto *Shadow Dances* under the composer's baton; and for the second time in 2005 with Max McBride conducting Rodrigo's *Concerto de Aranjuez*.

**GREG O'ROURKE**.... is currently completing his Honours year of a Bachelor Of Music, majoring in Classical Guitar, at the School Of Music, Australian National University. Greg has over 14 years experience in performing music and is also currently employed as a guitar teacher.

Greg is currently studying with Tim Kain, one of Australia's leading classical guitar performers and pedagogues. During his career Greg has also studied with jazz guitarists Mike Price and Don Andrews. He has performed in master-classes of many prestigious performers including Remi Boucher, Anthony Field, Lily Aschfar, and Pavel Steidl at the Darwin International Guitar Festival.

Greg's versatile experience with the guitar has enabled him to be involved with many areas in both professional and community based music endeavours including chamber music, solo concerts, and recording projects.

In July 2004 Greg was awarded 1st prize in the Chamber Music section of the 2004 Australian International Guitar Competition. In January 2004 he gave several performances for the Australian Embassy in the Philippines. In 2003 Greg was awarded 1st prize for both the inaugural Open chamber section and Open Duo section of the Australian National Eisteddfod. Greg has undertaken prize-winning performances in the Sydney Performing Arts Challenge, and Greg's high results in HSC music led to a solo performance at the Sydney Opera House in 2001.

Other musical interests include composition and arranging, and sound engineering.

**TIMOTHY WICKHAM**.... was raised in the NSW Hunter Valley town of Maitland & has enjoyed the presence of a violin under his chin since age four.

In 2001 he relocated to Canberra to complete his Bachelor of Music (4<sup>th</sup> year specialist) with renowned solo, chamber & orchestral violinist Barbara Jane Gilby at the ANU School of Music.

Since arriving in Canberra, Timothy has regularly performed with the Canberra Symphony Orchestra & the ANU School of Music Symphony/ Chamber/Opera Orchestra's.

Recent chamber music highlights include two consecutive first prizes, a people's choice award at the annual 'Friends of the Canberra School of Music' chamber music competition, of which one being a performance of Nigel Westlake's 'Tall Tales' with *dominant SEVEN*.

Timothy is often responsible for organising & performing in string quartets at official functions for the Prime Ministers Department, Australian Federal Police Commissioner, University of Canberra graduations & various other corporate and diplomatic events held within the Australian Capital Territory, most recently for the King & Queen of Sweden in the Great Hall of Parliament House.

In addition to his busy performance obligations, Timothy has several private students & currently teaches violin within the pre-tertiary string program at the ANU School of Music.

By undertaking this project, Timothy hopes to deliver contemporary Australian chamber music to audiences of all types in a relaxed, approachable & enjoyable format. He feels the presence & appreciation of chamber music is a vital activity for musicians & audiences of all levels.

**NATHANIEL JOHNSTONE**. Born in Wellington, New Zealand, Nathaniel Johnstone commenced musical study very late, at 18. After one year of private study with Dale Gold, principal double bass of the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, he successfully auditioned for Victoria University's performance music degree. By the end of his second year of study he was already principal bass of Victoria University Chamber Orchestra, the Wellington Youth Orchestra and the New Zealand National Youth Orchestra, and had also commenced professional life with the Wellington Sinfonia and casually with numerous orchestras throughout the North Island. Directly after study Nathaniel accepted the Aotea Performing Arts Trust award and relocated to Perth, Western Australia, to work with the W.A. Education Department, teaching double bass in schools throughout the Perth region.

In 2004 Nathaniel relocated to Canberra to study with Max McBride and take up a post in the Canberra Symphony Orchestra. Recently, Nathaniel has been invited to Italy to begin his solo career in a concerto performance late in 2006.

**ADAM DICKSON** . . . started playing drums at the age of 8 and switched to percussion at 15. He has performed many ensembles including HICES senior orchestra, SBS Singers 2000 orchestra, Holyrod Brass, Canberra Youth Orchestra and Sydney Youth Orchestra.

Adam has received tuition from Allison Eddington, Chris Tiris, David Manuel and Ian Scotland. He completed his HSC at The Illawarra Grammar School on a full music scholarship and was also the recipient of a scholarship to study in America for one month at the International Music Camp.

He is currently studying at the Australian National University School of Music with Gary France.

**BRETT JANIEC** (you guessed it, is not in the photo! His stunt-double is Nicole Bates, who will be performing with dominant SEVEN in 2006) Brett began his studies with Allan Meyer in Western Australia before transferring to the ANU School of Music in 2002. Furthering his studies with Alan Vivian, he graduated with First Class Honours and awarded the Director's Award for 2003. He was also the winner of the Margaret Smiles Best Instrumental Performer Award in 2003.

In addition to playing casually with the Canberra Symphony Orchestra, a performance of his was broadcasted on ABC's Young Australia Program in 2001. He was also a participant in the 2001/2002 National Music Camps and played in the 2003 season of the Australian Youth Orchestra.

**GEOFFREY XEROS**... is an accomplished young pianist who has received numerous prizes, awards, and scholarships through various eisteddfods and championships. He is a National Undergraduate Scholar at the Australian National University School of Music where he completed his Bachelor of Music in 2004, and will graduate with Honours in 2005. Geoffrey's teachers have included John Luxton and Keith Radford, as well as study with Geoffrey Lancaster, Geoffrey Tozer, Larry Sitsky, and Susanne Powell. He won the People's Choice prize in the 2004 Margaret Smiles Accompaniment Competition.

Geoffrey teaches, accompanies, and performs regularly in the Canberra area, as well as performances in Sydney, Wagga Wagga, Cootamundra, Bermagui, Leeton, Cowra, Newcastle, Orange, and Darwin.