



# MURRAY RIVER INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL

[www.mrimf.com.au](http://www.mrimf.com.au)

MRIMF Newsletter. Volume 3

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## Saxophone Virtuosi

**Saxofourte**, are four young Saxophone players, whose avowed goal it is to break conventions and cross borders. The four, who all studied classical music, manage to combine the charm and the intimacy of a classical chamber music ensemble with the passion and easiness of a modern "Band" in a most fascinating way. The diversity of work constantly demands commitment to new pieces, ideas and styles from the ensemble. All this contributes to an **overwhelming joy of playing, making Saxofourte a true experience for the senses.**



Thomas Sälzle, Simon Hanrath, Dieter Kraus and Ralf Ritscher studied with well-known saxophone teachers at various conservatories and colleges of music. Apart from their work with different orchestras, including the Stuttgart State Theatre, the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra and the Chamber Orchestra of Europe, the four musicians concentrate entirely on quartet playing, and since they founded "Saxofourte" in 1994 they have made successful concert appearances across Europe. They have also toured farther afield, e.g. to the Lebanon, Syria, Egypt and the USA. The saxophone quartet is a regular guest at various music festivals, such as the Schleswig-Holstein, the Rheingau and the Rheinland-Pfalz festivals, and has also appeared as an opening act to the "Young Tenors". After winning prizes in various competitions and being awarded a number of scholarships, the ensemble was particularly proud to win first prize ("Primo Classificato") at the 1997 International Chamber Music Competition in Verona, Italy.

**During their Murray River International Music Festival tour Saxofourte will perform in the Mildura region at the Gol Gol Pub beside the Murray River and Yarrowonga on the banks of the beautiful Lake Muwala in New South Wales.**

**Artistic Director**  
Sergio de Pieri

**Festival Director**  
Helen Healy

**Chair**  
Stefano de Pieri

### The Murray River International Music Festival:

**Delivers** world class performers to regional areas.  
**Nurtures** local artistic talent through support acts, workshops and masterclasses.  
**Showcases** the food and wine our of unique regions  
**Inspires** and uplifts local and national audiences.  
**Draws attention** to the future of the Murray River.  
**Increases** tourism to the Murray regions.

THE  
MURRAY RIVER  
INTERNATIONAL  
MUSIC  
FESTIVAL  
IS A  
SLOW RIVER  
EVENT

23 January - 5 March 2006



## SPONSORSHIP & SUPPORT

Funding applications are currently being assessed by Regional Arts Victoria, Arts Victoria, Country Arts SA and we have been invited after an Expression of Interest, to apply for NSW Regional Flagship Funding. We acknowledge the support of the Murray Campaign Committee, Tourism Victoria, Stefano de Pieri Enterprises and Mildura Rural City Council.

The Festival recently became incorporated and is developing a business plan to assist with funding submissions, sponsorship and implementation of the long term strategy. Negotiations continue with a major naming rights partnership and we look forward to an announcement soon.

We also acknowledge our many volunteers and supporters along the Murray River who contribute to the long term and very exciting vision for this Festival.

Tourism Victoria



We extend a warm welcome to all our sponsors. Sponsorship & Festival enquiries  
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## Grand Master of the Piano & Organ



"...Musician of the finest calibre ...." *El Diario, Spain*

**Anthony Halliday** has given numerous piano and organ recitals performances throughout Europe and Australia. He won critical praise from the renowned conductors with whom he appeared as soloist. The eminent conductor Walter Süsskind hailed Anthony Halliday's playing as "**magnificent**", and singled out particularly the performance of Beethoven's Fourth Piano Concerto, describing his interpretation as "**outstanding**". He has received many awards and prizes, including a Churchill Fellowship and all the Fellowship prizes at the Royal College of Organists (London), as well as the Silver Medal of The Worshipful Company of Musicians (London).

His transcription for organ of the nine symphonies of Beethoven won critical acclaim, and won the Myerson Prize. He won first prize in the A.B.C. Commonwealth Concerto Competition and regularly performs in Europe and Australasia. He has recently recorded all the Beethoven Sonatas for Pianoforte for ABC Music.

**Anthony will perform on many Murray River pianos including Mildura, Swan Hill, Echuca, Mulwala NSW, Shepparton and Corryong.**

## Massimo Scattolin



"...Exquisite guitar and musical art..." Alirio Diaz talking of Massimo Scattolin. He started his concert activity as a soloist, and took up later the chamber music, becoming specialized in the execution of the most important concerts for guitar and orchestra, including some concerts specially written for him by great composers, such as, for instance, Violet Archer and Astor Piazzolla.

**Massimo will be performing at Mildura, Red Cliffs, Swan Hill, Echuca, Yarrawonga, Kergunyah and Shepparton.**

## Swan Hill Chef of the Murray

Each year the Murray River International Music Festival works closely with the Slow River Project who produce the Chefs of the Murray Series.

In 2005 Swan Hill chef, Michael Amy, was a mentor of young apprentice chefs. Along with other regional chefs, hospitality students and local producers, they presented a fabulous dinner on the banks of the Murray River. The dinner featured regional produce such as pheasant, olives, stone fruits, beef, potatoes, almonds and Murray Cod along with their local wines.

On a hot summer's night, guests travelled to the event aboard the Paddleboat Pyap and were entertained by a musician from the Festival.

It was a great collaboration - inspiring performances, regional food, exceptional wines - and in 2006 will continue with many MRIMF events along the Murray providing regional food and wine for patrons.

To find out more about the Slow River Project.

[www.slowriver.com.au](http://www.slowriver.com.au)



**Chef of the Murray—Michael Amy, Swan Hill**

## Cobram Barooga

The centrepiece of "Sun Country on the Murray"

The Sun Country region is known for its many river beaches, with 103 between Yarrawonga and Tocumwal with Cobram Barooga in the middle boasting the largest inland beach being the famous Thompson's Beach.

Earlier this year Cobram Barooga presented, as part of the Slow River project, a "Chefs of the Murray" dinner. Held in superb conditions on the banks of the Murray River, 140 guests enjoyed the excellent local food & wines. With the Murray as a backdrop and a full moon towering above, the night was one that guests will never forget.

On 25 February 2006, visitors and locals will again have a chance to enjoy the region's hospitality when Cobram Barooga hosts accordionist Mirko Satto and Tango Dancers, Adrienne & Andrew Gill as part of the Murray River International Music Festival.

The evening, incorporating local food and wine with a Spanish theme, will be held under the stars at Thompson's Beach. A feature of this event is that local artists will have a chance to showcase their talents along with the stars. A dance floor will be erected amongst the trees for guests to dance the night away.

