

## Jon Delaney Jazz and Improvisation Memorial Bursary

We're very pleased to provide this Bursary in jazz and improvisation for students in the Faculty of Fine Arts and Music in loving memory of my son and my brother, Jon Delaney. He passed away from brain cancer in March 2021 aged 44 years.

He was a student at the VCA from 1998 to 2004 graduating with a Master of Music Performance. Apart from his partner and young son, Jon found his life's true love and calling in music and the VCA captured and nurtured his creativity and talent while he was a student and beyond. His first instrument was jazz guitar, specialising in gypsy jazz composition and improvisation and later on, he mastered the double bass.

Jon was very well recognised in the Melbourne jazz scene and also performed regularly at interstate (especially in Brisbane) and overseas jazz festivals (especially in France, Belgium and the Netherlands) and he really looked forward to these annual trips to Europe for jazz and improvisation lessons from world renowned gypsy jazz teachers and fellow performers.

Jon's commitment to, and great talent in, music were unwavering and he successfully achieved the AMEB Grade 8 on double bass after 4 surgeries, radiation therapy and whilst on his fourth round of chemotherapy and just 4 months before his passing.

So, we are pleased to support you and hope you will have the commitment and enjoy the beautiful career in jazz and improvisation that Jon did. Congratulations on receiving this Memorial Bursary. We hope to be able to observe your progress during the Faculty's concert program.

Bernie Delaney and Amanda Delaney