



**DR. MARISA LEE
NAISMITH**

Curriculum Vitae

Doctor of Philosophy

Singing Teacher, Voice Researcher & Music Industry Mentor

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Present Employment

- 2019 – current
Sessional Singing Teacher – private tuition
Queensland Conservatorium, Griffith University (Southbank Campus)
Bachelor of Music Program (Popular Music)
- 2016 - current
Singing Teacher/Voice Coach – private tuition
Lindisfarne Anglican Grammar School
Grades 6 – 12
- 2015 - 2020
Sessional Voice Craft Teacher - masterclasses
Queensland Conservatorium, Griffith University (Gold Coast Campus)
Bachelor of Popular Music Program
- 2008 - current
Singing Teacher/Vocal Coach – private tuition
Private Voice Studio

Employment History

- 2016 – 2018
Sessional Stagecraft Teacher
Queensland Conservatorium, Griffith University, (Gold Coast Campus)
Bachelor of Popular Music Program
- 2014 – 2015
Voice teacher - private and group tuition
Launch Performing Arts Centre
- 2012 - 2017
Voice Teacher/ Business Teacher/Program Developer/Examiner/Business Mentor/Career Advisor
Dance Force – Cert III, Cert IV & Diploma in Performance
Delivering units from ATOD a nationally accredited Full Time Course Program
- 2011 – 2013
Voice Teacher/ Business Teacher/Program Developer/Examiner/Business Mentor/Career Advisor
Gold Coast Triple Threat – Cert III, Cert IV & Diploma in Musical Theatre
Delivering units from ATOD a nationally accredited Full Time Program
- 2010 – 2013
Voice teacher – private tuition
All Saints Anglican School
- 2011 – 2012
Guest Voice Teacher & Workshop Presenter
National Academy of Performing Arts
- 2010 – 2011
Voice teacher - private and group tuition
Queensland College of Performing Arts – Cert IV in Musical Theatre
- 2009 – 2010
Senior Singing Teacher - private tuition
Hyped Performance Academy
- 2001 – 2008
Owner/Operator/Voice Teacher
Moonlighting Productions Academy of Performing Arts
- 1997 - 2001
Voice Teacher – private and group tuition
Paradise Performers Academy
- 1989 – 1993
Voice Teacher – private and group tuition
Dance Conxion
- 1988 - 1989
Voice Teacher – private and group tuition
Simon Gallaher's Stage & Television School

Tertiary Qualifications

- **Name of Qualification:** Doctor of Philosophy
Institution: Queensland Conservatorium, Griffith University.
Year Awarded: 2019
- **Name of Qualification:** Masters in Music Studies (major in Vocal Pedagogy)
Institution: Queensland Conservatorium, Griffith University.
Year Awarded: 2013
- **Name of Qualification:** Graduate Diploma in Music Studies (major in Vocal Pedagogy)
Institution: Queensland Conservatorium, Griffith University.
Year Awarded: 2010
- **Name of Qualification:** Graduate Cert in Music Studies (major in Vocal Pedagogy)
Institution: Queensland Conservatorium, Griffith University.
Year Awarded: 2008

Academic Distinctions

- 2019 - Doctor of Philosophy – Ranking 1 (no reviews required from both Examiner 1 & 2).
The report from examiner 1 was as follows:
This study and thesis is outstanding and a most valuable contribution to the field of vocal pedagogy. Her research is impeccable, her findings most intriguing. I heartily approve and endorse that she be awarded a PhD without reservation.
- 2008 - Graduate Certificate of Music Studies – Academic Award

Professional Memberships

- Australian Voice Association (member)
- Australian National Association of Teachers of Singing (Past Secretary of National Council, Current National Board Member, President Queensland Chapter & Gold Coast Regional Representative)
- National American Teachers of Singing (member)
- Association of Popular Music Education (member)
- Golden Key Academic Society (member)
- Queensland Conservatorium Research Centre (QCRC)

Publications Thesis

Naismith, M.E. (2019). *A class of its own – Towards a pedagogical framework for singers of contemporary commercial music (CCM)*. Unpublished doctoral thesis, Griffith University, Brisbane, Queensland.

Journal Articles

Bartlett, I. & Naismith M. L. (2020). An Investigation of Contemporary Commercial (CCM) Voice Pedagogy: A Class of its Own. *Journal of Singing*, 76(3), 273–282.

Non-peer Reviewed Articles

2016 Voice Council Magazine – Vocalists Working on Cruise Ships

Books in Development

An academic textbook is scheduled for publication in 2020 based on my research on Contemporary Commercial Music (CCM): A Pedagogical Framework for Singers – Compton Publishing, United Kingdom

Conference Presentations:

Delivering presentations at national and international conferences has provided me the opportunity for feedback, the exchanging of ideas with other researchers & scholars, especially those in the same research area and fostered collaborations with other researchers for future works. I have delivered oral presentations:

- 2020 The Voice Foundation's Care of Professional Voice Symposium, Philadelphia, U.S.
Navigating Contemporary Commercial Music (CCM) Styles: A Foundational Singing Voice Pedagogy
- 2019 PEVOC (Pan European Voice Conference) – Copenhagen, Denmark
Towards a 21st Century Pedagogical Framework for Singers of Contemporary Commercial Music (CCM)
- 2018 The Voice Foundation's Care of Professional Voice Symposium, Philadelphia, U.S.
Contemporary Commercial Music (CCM) Vocal Pedagogy: Style Matters
- 2018 The Voice Foundation's Care of Professional Voice Symposium, Philadelphia, U.S.
Perfect Harmony: The Future of Cross-Over Singing Voice Education in University Music Programs - Panel Presentation:
- 2018 Australian National Association of Teachers of Singing National Conference - Luera, NSW
Profiling the 21st Century Pre-Adolescent Voice Teacher: The Tortoise and the Hare Syndrome
- 2018 Australian National Association of Teachers of Singing National Conference - Luera, NSW
Contemporary Commercial Music (CCM) Vocal Pedagogy: Fitting a Square Peg into a Round Hole
- 2017 International Conference for Voice Teachers, Stockholm, Sweden
Contemporary Commercial Music (CCM) Vocal Pedagogy: The Upside Down Approach
- 2016 The Voice Foundation's Care of Professional Voice Symposium, Philadelphia, U.S.
CCM Vocal Pedagogy: Fitting a Square Peg into a Round Hole
- 2016 Queensland Conservatorium Research Centre & Higher Degree Research Symposium: *The Next Generation of Music Research: In & Beyond the Academy*
Contemporary Commercial Music (CCM) Vocal Pedagogy: As a Matter of Style
- 2015 Pan European Voice Conference, Florence, Italy
CCM Vocal Pedagogy: A Class of its Own
- 2015 Australian National Association of Teachers of Singing National Conference – Hobart, Tasmania
CCM Repertoire: More than Words

Workshop Presentations:

- 2020 Brisbane, Queensland. *Developing a Sustainable Income from Your Teaching Business*. Queensland Conservatorium – Pedagogy in Practicum.
- 2019 Brisbane, Queensland. *CCM Repertoire for the Pre Change Voice* Workshop and Masterclass *Toolbox Top up and More* event. Australian National Association of Singing Teachers.
- 2019 Bundaberg, Queensland. Invited workshop presenter/adjudicator Bundaberg Eisteddfod.
- 2018 Brisbane, Queensland. *The Tortoise and the Hare: Teaching Pre-Pubescent Voices*. Workshop and Masterclass *Building Blocks 2* event. Australian National Association of Singing Teachers.
- 2018 Gold Coast, Queensland. Rockschoo Summer School Program Queensland Conservatorium, Griffith University. Five-day lecture/workshop/master classing to High School Students.
- 2017 Gold Coast, Queensland. *CCM Repertoire: A Matter of Style*. Regional event for Australian National Association of Singing Teachers.
- 2017 Gold Coast, Queensland. Rockschoo Summer School Program, Queensland Conservatorium, Griffith University. Five-day lecture/workshop/master classing to high school students.
- 2017 Gold Coast, Queensland. *Keeping it Real – Creating an Authentic Sound Across CCM styles*. Regional workshop –Australian National Association of Singing Teachers.
- 2016 Brisbane, Queensland. *10 Tips of Running a Successful Voice Studio*. Queensland Conservatorium.
- 2016 Gold Coast, Queensland. Rockschoo Summer School Program Queensland Conservatorium, Griffith University. (Christchurch College). Five-day lecture/workshop/master classing to High School Students.
- 2016 Beenleigh, Queensland. Invited Guest/adjudicator. Quota Beenleigh Eisteddfod.
- 2015 Mackay, Queensland. *The Business of Running a Voice Studio*. Regional Workshop Australian National Association of Singing Teachers.
- 2014 Brisbane, Queensland. *Secret Singing Business*. Queensland Conservatorium – Pedagogy in Practicum.
- 2009 - current Regular Workshop and Master Class Presenter within the cultural community on vocal issues and topics such as technical practical, group and choral work, vocal health, practice, stage craft, auditioning skills and microphone technique.

Webinar Presentation

2017 *The 21st Century Voice Studio*. Australian Voice Association Webinar Presentation.

Professional Development

Over the past five years I have attended a number of national and international conferences that have provided me the opportunity to expand my knowledge in my chosen research field by attending masterclasses, lectures, seminars and workshops delivered by leading voice researchers, medical practitioners, scientists and pedagogues. Listening to presentations provided information of current work being conducted in my field and inspired research ideas of my own.

Conference Attendances:

- 2020 Brisbane, Queensland. *Toolbox Top Up – Fly on the Wall* – Australian National Association of Singing Teachers Seminar.
- 2020 Webinar. Chris Johnstone (Naked Vocalist) *Registers in the Raw* – Australian National Association of Singing Teachers Seminar.
- 2019 Copenhagen, Denmark. *Voice Science and Experience*. 13th Pan European Voice Conference.
- 2019 Teranorra, NSW. Dr Gillyanne Kayes and Jeremy Fisher. *Joining the Dots – Art, Performance and Pedagogy*. Australian National Association of Singing Teachers 2 day Seminar.
- 2019 Brisbane, Queensland. Trevor Jones. *More than Words* – Australian National Association of Singing Teachers Seminar.
- 2019 Brisbane, Queensland. Sarah Marshall. *Freak Out – Performance Anxiety* – Australian National Association of Singing Teachers Seminar.
- 2019 Brisbane, Queensland. Dr Margaret Schindler and Geoffrey Ashenden, *Deconstructing a Classical Construct* - Australian National Association of Singing Teachers Seminar.
- 2018 Leura, NSW. *R3SONATE*, Australian National Association of Teachers of Singing National Conference.
- 2018 Philadelphia, U.S. The Voice Foundation's 47th Symposium, Care of Professional Voice Symposium.
- 2018 Shenandoah, U.S. Shenandoah University 3 days as invited guest to observe classes.
- 2018 Boston, U.S. Berklee College, Boston, 4 days as invited guest to observe classes.
- 2017 Stockholm, Sweden. *The Future of Singing: Tradition and Science in Harmony*, International Conference for Voice Teachers.
- 2017 Brisbane, Queensland. *Who's on your Team – Working with Allied Professionals*, Australian National Association of Teachers of Singing.
- 2017 Sunshine Coast, Queensland. Kate Schirmer. *Broadway – Musical Theatre Intensive*, Australian National Association of Teachers of Singing.
- 2016 Philadelphia, U.S. *The Voice Foundation's 45th Symposium*, Care of Professional Voice Symposium.
- 2016 Brisbane, Queensland. QCRC & QCGU Higher Degree Research Symposium.
- 2016 Brisbane, Queensland. Dane Chalfin & Mark De Lisser. *The Power of Emotion* Australian National Association of Teachers of Singing.
- 2015 Florence, Italy, 11th Pan European Voice Conference.

- 2015 Hobart, Tasmania. *Singing Futures: Pedagogies, Practices and the Digital Age*. Australian National Association of Teachers of Singing National Conference.
- 2015 Philadelphia, U.S. The Voice Foundation's 44th Symposium, Care of Professional Voice.
- 2015 Brisbane, Queensland. Janis Chapman. *Voice, Science and Medicine*. 4 day event Australian Voice Association.
- 2014 Melbourne, Victoria. Mark Meylan – *Vocal Pedagogy for Singers of Music Theatre Workshop*. Australian National Association of Teachers of Singing.
- 2014 Brisbane, Queensland. Heather Buchanan - *Body Mapping for Singers*. Australian National Association of Teachers of Singing.
- 2013 Brisbane, Queensland. *For the Love of Singing: Learning, Teaching, Performing*. International Conference for Voice Teachers.
- 2013 Brisbane, Queensland. Dr. Ron Morris – *Accent Method of Breathing for Singing*. 2 day workshop -Australian National Association of Teachers of Singing.
- 2012 Brisbane, Queensland. Anne Peckham – *Professional Training Event* - Australian National Association of Teachers of Singing.
- 2010 Brisbane, Queensland. Australian National Association of Teachers of Singing National Conference.
- 2008 Brisbane, Queensland. *The Singing Voice*. Australian National Association of Singing Teachers Seminar.

Teaching Background

I have been teaching singing since 1988 and my specialisation is across all contemporary commercial music (CCM) styles. Therefore, each teaching day involves dealing with students who wish to be trained specifically across a broad range of CCM styles, such as pop, rock, rhythm and blues (R&B), metal, Indi, rap, funk, and musical theatre. Regardless of the student's musical preference, the pedagogical approaches that I employ are designed to produce authentic CCM vocal style elements that differ greatly from what is described in the literature as a traditional Western classical approach.

Griffith University

Presently I am employed as a sessional voice teacher at Queensland Conservatorium in the Bachelor of Music (Popular Music) at the Brisbane campus in Southbank, as well as teaching within the Bachelor of Popular Music at the Gold Coast campus. Within these programs I am teaching vocalists who are writing and recording their own original music. My voice teaching at Queensland Conservatorium is focused on the development of technique, vocal health and performance styles for students across the diversity of contemporary styles. I employ a non-judgemental student centric approach, with the objective of creating a sustainable and proficient sound. Students are instructed in basic voice management, and specific style-based techniques while exploring elements of style building on existing vocal strengths to produce a professional level of performance.

Lessons within the Bachelor of Popular Music Program at the Gold Coast campus are delivered in a masterclass context. Vocalists are involved in peer-reviewed performance which provides a forum for the development of critical performance skills and the practical application of contemporary vocal technique. These sessions also encourage the development of positive critique and provide a forum for the development of professional performance where students meet demand scenarios typical for the industry.

Within the Bachelor of Music Program (popular music), I deliver one on one vocal lessons to students. I have co-written the assessment guidelines and rubric for the vocal students and I am responsible for assessing and grading these students.

Lindisfarne Anglican Grammar School

I am also presently contracted as a singing teacher at Lindisfarne Anglican Grammar School. This school provides wonderful opportunities for their students who are enrolled in the performing arts, boasting its own music label and has a recording studio located on campus within the music department. I currently teach students from Grades 6 to 12 in a one to one teaching arrangement.

Private Voice Studio

My small private studio has an eclectic student base, attracting students who are mostly making the transition from the studio into the professional world of CCM. Within my private teaching studio, I coach singers in performance and style, advising and correcting technique as necessary. I teach vocal health and basic physiology relevant to a particular style and as dictated by the objectives, experience and cognitive maturity of the students.

Dance Force and Gold Coast Triple Threat

While working at these performing arts academies, I was teaching students who were attending on a full time basis and seeking to acquire a Cert III, Cert IV or a Diploma in the performing arts or creative industries. My duties included:

- Preparing and delivering lectures
- Creating, Administering and grading examinations and assessments
- Rendered mentoring role for students as they transitioned from the studio to their professional careers
- Development of supportive handouts
- Organising, implementing and monitoring programs and assessments
- Developing students' skills in communication
- Presenting course material in a concise manner that encouraged applied knowledge of theory to real world settings
- Creating lesson plans and projects that incorporated a variety of learning styles, and online learning initiatives
- Preparation of educational materials and the writing of the following modules:

CUSFIM501A Secure funding for projects

- This unit describes the performance outcomes, skills and knowledge required to raise money for a creative or artistic project and to participate in negotiations with all parties.
- The students were responsible for creating an arts project and to apply the skills and knowledge outlined in this unit in order to secure funding.

- In this role they were responsible for determining the amount of funding required, locating likely funding sources, developing funding proposals and maximising their chances of ongoing funding opportunities.
- This role would typically be undertaken by an artist, artist manager, promoter or senior administrator.

CUSMPF407A Develop vocal techniques

- This unit describes the performance outcomes, skills and knowledge required to develop vocal techniques.
- It covers developing control of the range of scope of own voice, techniques to enhance vocal quality and health, as well as strategies for developing the technical skills required to perform a range of repertoire with confidence.
- Vocalists could apply the skills and knowledge outlined in this unit in a range of contexts, such as soloists, backup singers or in a choir.

CUSMPF605A Develop advanced vocal techniques

- More complex skills associated with vocal techniques are covered in this unit

CUFIND401A Provide services on a freelance basis

- This unit describes the performance outcomes, skills and knowledge required to operate as a freelance performer within the creative arts industry.
- It covers how to establish, follow up and regularly maintain business contacts within the industry.
- It describes how to identify and follow appropriate strategies to enhance professional reputation, identify and develop a network of supportive industry professionals.
- It covers marketing strategies and the marketing collateral required for the freelance performer.
- It describes business structures and associated tax obligations, and managing financial and business aspects of freelance work.
- The students were responsible for developing an individual business plan
- Freelance performers are usually responsible for negotiating their own contracts and this unit covered how to negotiate workplace arrangements and understanding contractual obligations.

BSBSMB405B - Monitor and manage small business operations***Moonlighting Productions Academy of Performing Arts***

For seven years I owned and operated Moonlighting Productions Academy of Performing Arts. When I opened the studio in 2001, I started with 3 students and by the time I sold the studio in 2008, I had built it up with over 300 students enrolments. I employed twelve teachers, who trained students in voice, dance, acting, guitar and piano. Within this business, I was involved in all areas of administration as well as teaching and overseeing staff. My work at the studio included:

- Marketing & Promotion of the business

- Training beginner to professional students of all ages & levels
- Staff development and training
- Audition preparation
- Eisteddfod work
- Microphone technique & stagecraft
- Producer for student's professional recordings
- Mentoring & music industry advice to emerging artists

- Organisation of school holiday programs in the Performing Arts
- Organisation of mid & end of year concerts
- Arranged tours, itinerary, workshops and performances in Sydney & Melbourne for the Performance Troupes
- Preparation & distribution of newsletters to the database quarterly
- Management of staff
- Organisation of timetables & bookings of classes
- Organisation of fund raising, community & local events
- Bookkeeping and finance reporting
- Payroll

Students' Career Advancements

Internationally:

Lead Roles in West End Productions of:

- Guys & Dolls
- Chicago
- Beautiful
- Grease
- Jersey Boys

Cast Members of:

- Disney – Tokyo, Paris & Hong Kong
- Universal Studios, Singapore & Japan
- Michael Jackson Tribute Show – USA, Middle East & Asia
- Production shows in Dubai
- Moulin Rouge, the movie
- Princess Cruise Lines
- Celebrity Cruise Lines
- Royal Caribbean
- Norwegian Cruise Lines
- Carnival Cruise Lines
- Disney Cruise Lines

Nationally:

Lead and ensemble roles in national professional touring productions of:

- Beauty & the Beast
- We will Rock you
- Jesus Christ Superstar
- Happy Days
- Mamma Mia
- Hairspray
- Grease
- Boy from Oz
- Dirty Dancing
- Annie

- Chitty Chitty Bang Bang
- Jesus Christ Superstar
- Wizard of Oz
- Sound of Music
- Aladdin
- Muriel's Wedding
- Saturday Night Fever
- The Bodyguard

Reality Television Finalists:

- Australian Idol
- XFactor
- The Voice
- Finalist in Cairo Song Festival competing against 50 countries

I have trained professional performers employed by Warner Bros Movie World and Seaworld, and Dreamworld, Gold Coast and many are enjoying a professional career in the entertainment circuit around Australia.

Teaching in Wider Community

2009 - current Workshop Presenter within the cultural community on vocal issues and topics such as technical, practical, group and choral work, vocal health, practice, stage craft, auditioning skills and microphone technique

Service in Wider Community

I have been actively involved in creating and convening professional development events for the singing voice community on the Gold Coast and throughout the state of Queensland over the past seven years. Currently I am on the following committees:

- 2018 – current - Board Member National Council, Australian National Association of Teachers of Singing

- 2019 – current - President (Queensland Chapter), Australian National Association of Teachers of Singing
- 2018-2020 - Secretary National Council, Australian National Association of Teachers of Singing
- 2017 – 2019 - Vice President (Queensland Chapter), Australian National Association of Teachers of Singing
- 2013 – 2019 - Gold Coast Regional Representative (Queensland Chapter), Australian National Association of Teachers of Singing
- Australian National Association of Teachers of Singing planning committee board member for the 2020 ‘National Conference’
- Justice of the Peace (Qual) Queensland

I have been actively involved in organizing events for our local singing voice community for a number of years. These events were not previously accessible to our Gold Coast regional community and teachers needed to travel to Brisbane to receive this caliber of professional development. I have engaged the services of international presenters as well local, state and national eminent pedagogues. It has been my aim for teachers to broaden their skills and knowledge on topics which are relevant to their day to day teaching, have the opportunity to share information and ideas with other singing teachers, create a support network and foster sustainable relationships with other industry professionals. The events I have facilitated are as follows:

- 2019 Teranorra, NSW. Dr Gillyanne Kayes and Jeremy Fisher. *Joining the Dots – Art, Performance and Pedagogy*. Australian National Association of Singing Teachers
- 2018 Teranorra, NSW. *The Young Singer’s Journey*. Regional event for Australian National Association of Singing Teachers.
- 2017 Gold Coast, Queensland. *CCM Repertoire: A Matter of Style*. Regional event for Australian National Association of Singing Teachers.
- 2016 Brisbane, Queensland. Dane Chalfin & Mark De Lisser. *The Power of Emotion*. Australian National Association of Teachers of Singing.
- 2016 Gold Coast, Queensland. *Puberty Blues*. Regional event for Australian National Association of Singing Teachers.
- 2015 Gold Coast, Queensland. *The Singing Teacher’s Toolbox*. Regional event for Australian National Association of Singing Teachers.
- 2014 Gold Coast, Queensland. *Not Just a Pretty Voice*. Regional event for Australian National Association of Singing Teachers.
- 2012 Gold Coast, Queensland. *Behind Every Great Singer*. Independent Event in collaboration with and funding received from the Arts Centre, Gold Coast.
- 2017 I created a Facebook Group for Gold Coast Singing Teachers to network share information especially for those who feel isolated

Grant Writing for Emerging Performers

I have worked with emerging artists to assist with making the transition from the studio to the professional world and have successfully obtained funding to finance projects that will advance their careers.

- **2012 RADF – Professional Development Grant** – Simone Nicole
- **2012 RADF – Professional Development Grant** – Naomi Pryor
- **2012 RADF – Professional Development Grant** – Undercover5
- **2012 RADF – Professional Development Grant** – John Olzard
- **2010 Artist in Residence - The Arts Centre Gold Coast** – Zealous Choreography Ben Veitch

Professional Performance Experience

Over 35 years' professional experience singing in all facets of the entertainment industry, touring the east coast of Australia performing in a variety of live venues predominantly in pop, rock and cabaret.

Television performances:

- In Brisbane Today
- Ernie & Denise Show
- At Nine
- Gold Coasting
- Gold Coast Review

Cabaret Work:

Main Act in clubs all throughout Gold Coast, Brisbane, North Queensland and Northern New South Wales and support act for numerous National and International artists

Industry Awards:

1993 Winner of Best Female Vocalist at the Professional Musicians Gold Coast Music Awards

Referees

Dr. Irene Bartlett (SFHEA)
Associate Professor
Acting Head Pedagogy
Coordinator Contemporary Voice and Voice Pedagogy
Head Jazz Vocal Studies
Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University
South Bank campus
140 Grey Street QLD 4101 Australia.
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