

# BEIJING FESTIVAL 2008 REPORT

The Beijing International Youth Festival for the Performing Arts was held recently in Beijing at the famous Central Conservatory of Music. More than 600 talented young musicians from Australia, Hong Kong and mainland China participated in the festival. There were some amazing performances in the evening concerts and competition. One of the highlights was a performance of Traditional Chinese Instrumental Music by young students from the Central Conservatory of Music Middle School.

Guest conductors who gave masterclasses, did workshops and functioned as the jury for the competition included Professor Gary Hill from the USA, Professors Wing Ho and Dai Zhonghui from China, Jennifer Tham from Singapore, Virginia Taylor from the ANU School of Music, Australia, John Morrison and Ian Cook from Australia. These guests worked with all the participants in the festival, giving them an invaluable educational experience in developing their musical talents.



Sightseeing opportunities were included around the events of the festival and these included some of the amazing scenic and historical aspects of China's historic capital city, Beijing.

The participants in the festival had an unforgettable social, cultural, educational and musical experience as they joined with each other in all the activities of the festival.

We look forward to the next Beijing Festival in April, 2009.

**Dr Ronald Smart PSM**  
**Artistic Director**