

SPOTLIGHT

NEWSLETTER OF PHOENIX PLAYERS

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Welcome to our April edition of Spotlight.
A short newsletter this month, but it includes
some very important information:
– Miss Saigon audition dates!!
– Welcome back to Bob Morris
– How to get perfect pitch ☺
– And more...



Enjoy!

MISS SAIGON AUDITION DATES

SATURDAY MAY 9 AND SUNDAY MAY 10 2009.

Put these dates in your diary and keep them free!!

MAY 2009

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|
| | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | |

Audition Requirements and **Booking Information** will be posted on the [Phoenix](#) and [Supa](#) websites very shortly.

Performance dates: Miss Saigon is being presented as a joint venture with Supa Productions at the ANU Arts Centre from 16-31 October 2009.

Rehearsals: Commence early June.

The Production Team comprises:

Director: Kelda McManus
Musical Director: Andrea Clifford
Choreographer: Amy Fitzpatrick
Stage Manager: Garrick Smith
Production Manager: Jennie Norberry
Costume Designer: Christine Pawlicki



~~~~THE PHOENIX COMMITTEE WISHES ALL OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS ~~~~  
A VERY HAPPY EASTER

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## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU...

Congratulations and happy birthday to our members (and special guests) who celebrate their birthdays in April:

|                     |    |       |
|---------------------|----|-------|
| Kirsty Lee Jones    | 1  | April |
| Stephanie Cannock   | 2  | April |
| Erin Gough          | 6  | April |
| Jonathan Flack      | 10 | April |
| Jane Bailey         | 18 | April |
| Lauren Joe          | 18 | April |
| Pam Mcmanus         | 18 | April |
| Paul Jackson        | 20 | April |
| Bob Morris          | 20 | April |
| Suzanne Rogers      | 23 | April |
| Alison Van der Zwar | 23 | April |
| Byron Fay           | 24 | April |
| Kathryn Jones       | 25 | April |
| Steve Holloway      | 29 | April |
| Ann Milligan        | 29 | April |

### The nice things about...

#### Aries - The Ram (March 21 to April 20)

Traditional Aries Traits:

- Adventurous and energetic
- Pioneering and courageous
- Enthusiastic and confident
- Dynamic and quick-witted

#### Taurus - The Bull (April 21 to May 21)

Traditional Taurus Traits:

- Patient and reliable
- Warmhearted and loving
- Persistent and determined
- Placid and security loving



Note: If you have any objections to having your birthday published in the newsletter, please email the editor a few months before your birthday on [gaby.schmid@finance.gov.au](mailto:gaby.schmid@finance.gov.au)

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## MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

Don't forget to renew your membership, or join if you are new to Phoenix Players!

Everyone in a Phoenix show needs to be a member to be covered by insurance. And there are also some other great benefits such as regular updates via Spotlight and tickets to Phoenix shows at member prices. So send in your membership form now! The membership application/renewal form can be found on our website at <http://www.phoenixplayers.com.au/images/membershipform.pdf>

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## THEATRE AROUND CANBERRA

Click on this link to get all the info:  
<http://www.canberralocaltheatre.info/>

**canberralocaltheatre.info**

*theatre in Canberra - information for local theatre goers*

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## WELCOME BACK BOB!

Some of you may remember Bob Morris, one of the stalwarts of Phoenix Players in years gone past. He performed both behind the scenes, in the role of Production Manager (for shows such as South Pacific in 1999 and Half a Sixpence in 2000) as well as on stage (in Arsenic and Old Lace in 2001), just to name a few shows. He also played the important role of President of the Phoenix Players Committee in 2000-01.

He has returned to Canberra after being away in Sydney and China for 6 years.

Bob was such a wonderful help to Phoenix, we are very glad to see him back! He would love to hear from his Phoenix friends... phone him on 6258 1880 to welcome him back and say hello!

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## WANT PERFECT PITCH?

Extract from the Squidoo website <http://www.squidoo.com/what-is-perfect-pitch>

What is perfect pitch? That's a question that gets asked a lot from people interested in the music business and becoming a performer.

This article will answer the question of "What is perfect pitch?", and throw in some simple things you can do to start getting yours!

What is perfect pitch exactly?

Another word for perfect pitch is "absolute" pitch. This is when a person can hear a note and then can tell you what note it is. Perfect (or absolute) pitch is imperative if you want to:

- Learn to name any note (or even chord!) just by hearing it
- Play any song by ear
- Sing impromptu any note at all
- Write music in your mind
- Tell whether a pitch is flat or sharp just by listening to it
- Read any sheet music and "listen" to it in your mind

OK, so we know now what perfect pitch (or absolute pitch) is, but maybe you've also heard the term "relative pitch". Relative pitch is when you can hear a note played, then another note played right after it and can tell where the two notes are in relationship to each other.

Let's say you hear the first two notes of "Hear Comes the Bride". That is a perfect 4th interval (4 white notes away from each other on the piano).

So, how can you get it?

Here are a couple of things you can do right now that have helped loads of people sing or play in perfect pitch...

1. Listen to yourself - I know it sounds funny but record yourself singing along with music and then listen to it. After a while, you'll learn to hear the difference as to when you're on or off-key. This could take a few weeks, but it works.
2. Have a friend help - Find a friend who has perfect pitch and have them listen to you sing along with music and tell you when you're on or off-key and how to adjust your pitch (higher or lower) so you're on key.
3. Embed your note - Play a note on an instrument and associate it with something. (What's the first thing you think of when you hear that note? Doesn't matter if you think it's stupid.) Think that thing while playing that note over and over. Then play random notes while not looking (having a friend do this is better). When you think you hear "your" note played, look to see if you're right. A couple of weeks of this and you should guess right all the time!

In conclusion:

Fact: You will not go far in the music field unless you have perfect pitch

Fact: You CAN learn to have perfect pitch

The techniques offered do work,  
but they take time to work... be patient and practice.

