

## **Margaret Caley –Bio**

A versatile classically trained violinist who specializes in Early Music, Margaret has a wide range of performance experience, from chamber music ensembles and symphony orchestras, to salon orchestras and bush bands.

Margaret graduated in violin performance from the Universities of Southern Queensland, Queensland, and Tasmania before specialising in early music. From 1988-91 she studied baroque violin with Lucy van Dael at the Royal Conservatory, the Hague, the Netherlands, and performed in several European baroque orchestras, including the Nederlands Bach Vereniging, The European Union Baroque Orchestra and Concerto Currende. During orchestral projects at the Royal Conservatory, The Hague, Margaret performed in orchestras directed by William Christie, Sigiswald Kuijken, and Hidemi Suzuki.

After returning to Australia in 1992, she performed in most major cities in solo and chamber music recitals, as well as with orchestras such as the Brandenburg Orchestra, the Sydney Chamber Orchestra and the Brisbane Early Music Festival Orchestra (leader 1998). She founded and lead the Ensemble of the Golden Age, and with this group presented concert series in Sydney and surroundings, performed in live broadcasts for ABC-Classic FM, and performed in festivals in Sydney, Melbourne and Canberra. Margaret performed in the internationally renowned baroque orchestra 'Les Talens Lyriques', and in the Netherlands Opera production of 'The Return of Ulysses' by Monteverdi, highlights of the 1998 & 1999 Sydney Festivals.

Based in Townsville, North Queensland, from 1998 - 2010, Margaret taught strings at Townsville Grammar School for several years before taking up a position as General Manager of Music Centre North Queensland. In this role she coordinated several exciting projects including the See Hear Now Festival 2010, diversCITY, and Court Stories, as well as a regular series of concerts and workshops.

Together with recorder player Malcolm Tattersall she formed the Telemann Ensemble early in 1999 and has presented concerts and led workshops in Townsville, Atherton, Innisfail, Cairns and Brisbane. She also teamed up with guitarist David Roberts to present several recitals of Latin music, including the music of Piazzolla, Machado, and more. She completed a Masters in Music at James Cook University in 2007, having undertaken research into Early French violin sonatas.

Based in Brisbane since early 2011, Margaret has renewed musical contact with several colleagues, including specialist early music group the Badinerie Players, and is looking forward to exploring many new opportunities for collaboration.

As an educator, Margaret has presented numerous workshops and lectures in various aspects of Historically Informed Performance for organizations including the Qld Conservatorium of Music, the University of New England, Pimlico State High School, AUSTA North Qld, and the Early Music Society of Qld. With many years experience as a string teacher, she has worked with students of all ages and levels of expertise. Margaret is also a skilled accompanist of students and choirs, and has supported many students in exams, eisteddfods and other competitions.