

Lilburn Trust Research Grants Offered

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The Alexander Turnbull Library and the Lilburn Trust are increasing their support of New Zealand music research. Alongside the Lilburn Research Fellowship offered for 2021, a new initiative has been established: the Lilburn Research Award. Two inaugural Lilburn Research Awards commenced in September 2020. These have been offered to Mathew Hoyes and Michael Vinten. Both of whom have projects focusing on providing New Zealand music resources to students and performers.

Mathew Hoyes' research will include examining scores and recordings of popular New Zealand songs, and an investigation of their historical context. The result will be online resources intended as a NCEA teaching resource. Michael Vinten will research and edit a collection of New Zealand art songs, pre-1950. The published song album, which will include a CD of the songs, will make New Zealand's classical music heritage more widely available for performers and audiences.

Established as a biennial award in 2012, the Lilburn Research Fellowship encourages the scholarly research about New Zealand music. The Fellowship is funded by the Lilburn Trust, which was established by Douglas Lilburn in 1984. The Lilburn Trust is administered as a charitable trust under the Alexander Turnbull Library Endowment Trust. Previous recipients of the Lilburn Research Fellowship were:

Daniel Beban (2019)

Aleisha Ward (2017)

Chris Bourke (2015)

Philip Norman (2013)

Next year's fellow will be Dr Anton Killin (see Fig. 1), furthering his research on the cross-cultural music composition in New Zealand. His project will relate specifically to the use of gamelan, a traditional ensemble music of Indonesia. Gamelan has been a significant cultural influence on New

Zealand composers since it was introduced here in the 1970s. Composers who were subsequently inspired to write works for gamelan include David Farquhar, Jack Body, Gareth Farr, John Psathas, Helen Bowater, and Juliet Palmer.



Figure 1: Dr Anton Killin, 2021 Lilburn Research Fellow. Image supplied by author.

Dr Killin studied music composition and philosophy at Victoria University of Wellington, with cross-cultural music being the focus of much of his subsequent research. Since being awarded his doctorate in 2017, he has held post-doctoral fellowships in Australia, USA, and Canada.

Douglas Lilburn (1915 – 2001)

Douglas Lilburn was an influential composer and music teacher who inspired and promoted later generations of New Zealand composers.

The Alexander Turnbull Library Archive of New Zealand Music (which Lilburn helped establish) continues to preserve New Zealand's musical heritage and The Lilburn Trust continues to fund music related projects and offer annual composition awards.
