

## HEY MISTER BASS MAN – PLAY A SONG FOR ME

The Australian International Conservatorium of Music (AICM) currently based in Harris Park, with a new campus opening in Rozelle/Balmain in mid 2008, is delighted to have recruited Leon Gaer to the teaching staff in 2008.



Born and raised in Los Angeles, California, Leon studied music privately and in high school. An interest in all styles of music led him to be a member of a working Latin Band (on electric bass) as well as a member of the American Youth Symphony Orchestra (on double bass) at the age of 18. Leon joined the Don Ellis big band in 1977 and became fascinated with Don's odd time compositions. Also in that same year, Leon became a member of Don Randi's house band at the Los Angeles jazz club "The Baked Potato" playing a very new instrument - Synthesized Electric Bass (synthesizers triggered by an electric bass).

Leon then went on to record with Gino Vannelli on 'Brother To Brother' that went platinum (over one million units sold) in the US and launched Leon's recording career with: Gino Vannelli's Platinum selling 'Brother To Brother'; Barry Manilow's Gold Albums 'Here Comes The Night' and 'A Touch Of Magic'; and Jose' Feliciano's Grammy winning album 'Escenas De Aor'.

Leon has performed and recorded with - Demis Roussos; Barry White; De Barge; Krokus; Maria Muldaur; Jason and the Scorchers; Debbie Boone; Cynthia Clausen; Pat Boone; Rolf Harris; Barry McGuire; National American Jingles; Don Ellis; Boy Meets Girl; Sadao Watanabe; The Surf Punks; 2nd Chapter of Acts; Jamie Owens; Seals & Crofts; Sonny Rollins; Moonlighting; Phil Keaggy; Doc Severinsen; The Johnny Carson Show; Jeff Tyzik; Allen Vizzutti; The Joan Rivers Show; Reg Lindsay; The

Stylistics; Hanna-Barbera Cartoons; Keith Urban; Jackie Love; Star Search; Simon Gallaher; Slim Dusty; Home & Away; Rick Price & Margaret Urlich; Wildside (TV Show); Tommy Emmanuel; Grace Knight; HG & Roy Club Buggery; Chad Wackerman Group; and the Sydney Symphony (Symphony of Australia).

'There is something very special about having people of the caliber of Leon Gaer around the place. Not only is he an amazing player, but also an amazing teacher and mentor for young players intent on a musical career. Just this week Leon has been touring nationally with Neil Sedaka and this in turn gives inspiration and pause to students who are fortunate enough to study with him' says Principal of AICM, Dr Greg Whateley.

**In 2008 Leon teaches bass and double bass to a very fortunate select few students at AICM.**