

# Andy Firth Biography

“Andy Firth is a joy to hear. He is a virtuoso that goes beyond virtuosity. The joy and enthusiasm in his playing and teaching reminds us all of why art exists, and why as musicians we wanted to play music in the first place.”

Victor Morosco US composer and woodwind master



[andyfirthmusic.com](http://andyfirthmusic.com)

**From his introduction to the clarinet at the age of five, Andy has devoted his life to music and is now recognised as not only one of Australia's most accomplished performers and jazz educators but also one of the finest jazz clarinet and saxophone players in the world today.**

**Andy's long list of achievements in teaching, performing, composition, arranging, and studio recordings combined with the tributes of some of today's most renowned musicians and educators are testimony to these high praises.**

**Alongside his teaching commitments, Andy's reputation as an international soloist also continues to grow.**

**“Rarely do you find a musician of Andy Firth’s calibre who can so enthusiastically and ably share his vast knowledge. I would like all music educators to have the opportunity to be inspired and enlightened by Andy Firth.”**

Mike Tyler  
Head of Music Education,  
Queensland, Australia

## Performance

Andy is widely regarded as one of the most outstanding clarinet players in the world today, having played internationally with some of the greatest performers, bands and orchestras in both classical and jazz music. His mastery of the clarinet and saxophone, unrivalled expression of tone and technique, and endless devotion and enthusiasm to the music that he plays has earned Andy a reputation as a performer not to be missed.

Andy Firth has performed with some of the world’s finest jazz and R’nB musicians; Buddy DeFranco, Diana Krall, Wynton Marsalis, B.B. King, Lee Konitz, Phil Nimmons, Bud Shank, James Moody, Ingrid Jensen, Don Lusher, Steve Harlos, Steve Haughton, The Dutch Swing College Band, Kenny Ball and his Jazz Band, Acker Bilk, The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra.

Australian artists include; Maestro Tommy Tycho, Anthony Warlow, James Morrison, Marina Prior, Julie Anthony, Don Burrows, Tommy Emmanuel, George Golla, James Muller, Ray Alderidge, Julian Lee, Kevin Hunt, Galapagos Duck, Rolf Harris, Daryl Somers, Tony Gould Trio, Jackie Love, Little Pattie, Bob Barnard, Ian Date, Graeme Bell, Tom Baker, Ed Wilson, Vince Jones, Jonathan Wade, Emma Pask, Ian Cooper, Peter Hooper, James Clark, The Society Syncopators, Larry Stellar, Rob Guest, Mike Nelson, John Foreman, Jonathan Wade, Fiona Burnett, John Morrison, Liam Burrows and Sarah McKenzie. Andy also worked with the late great, Ricky May, and Bobby Limb. Andy has also worked with many of Australia’s major symphony orchestras as a jazz and classical soloist where he was featured in arrangements by the great Australian Maestro, Tommy Tycho.

Andy Firth continues to tour and perform with Australia’s leading jazz and classical artists and ensembles and he is a regular guest performer at National and International clarinet and saxophone conferences both in Australia and overseas.

## Some of Andy’s major performance highlights include:

- Andy appears at the Sydney Opera House as a special guest artist with Australian Jazz sensation, James Morrison in tribute to the great, late jazz legend, Don Burrows.
- Andy is invited to perform a concert at Carnegie Recital Hall entitled “Goodman & Beyond”. Andy’s guest artist for this special event was the US jazz clarinet legend, Buddy DeFranco.
- Andy appears as the guest soloist at the Buddy DeFranco Jazz Festival in Montana USA
- Andy Firth is honoured with an Australian MO AWARD for “Best Jazz Instrumentalist” in Australia
- Andy Appears as guest soloist with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra at the International Clarinet Conference USA
- Andy is honoured by his late mentor Tommy Tycho’s family when asked to be the sole performer at Tommy’s memorial ceremony
- Andy is inducted into the South Australian Jazz Hall of Fame.
- Andy performs and records three CDs and performs live in the role of alto saxophone legend, Paul Desmond in the Australian Dave Brubeck Tribute Show.
- Andy visits Pesaro Italy to meet up with excellent classical clarinetist Sergio Bosi to perform and record Andy’s classical duets for clarinet
- The Andy Firth Big Band and quintet perform concerts at Manly Jazz Festival. Andy appears as guest soloist with rising Australian vocal star Liam Burrows at the famed “Basement” in Sydney. The Andy Firth Big Band appears as the opening act for the Newcastle Jazz Festival
- Guest soloist for the Mozart Clarinet Concerto with the Cairns Symphony orchestra under the direction of the Welsh Symphonia conductor, Mark Eager
- Guest soloist at the Sydney Male Choir concert at Angel Place in Sydney.
- Guest soloist with rising Australian vocal star, Sarah McKenzie and the Queensland Pops Orchestra under the direction of Barrie Gott
- Guest soloist with jazz guitarist Ian Date and his band at the famed Wangaratta Jazz Festival

**“Andy sent me a cassette of his playing as a lad in Port Augusta. He amazed me then, and what he is achieving now, I can’t find words for!”**

Don Burrows  
Australian jazz legend

- Andy performs a series of Benny Goodman tribute concerts at Theatre Australia and other concert venues in Sydney
- Guest soloist at the International clarinet and saxophone conference in Melbourne Australia
- Andy and his trio perform sell-out concerts at the “Jazz in the Pines” Norfolk Island Jazz Festival
- Andy performed the clarinet solos on the Baz Lurhmann epic film, “Australia”
- Andy performs the Siegmeister clarinet concerto with the Queensland Symphony Orchestra
- Andy also signs with Australian publisher Reedmusic
- Guest Artist with Marina Prior and Maestro Tommy Tycho
- Guest soloist with Anthony Warlow & Maestro Tommy Tycho
- Guest soloist with Anthony Warlow and Maestro Tommy Tycho at Wyndham Estate
- Guest soloist at Australian Clarinet Festival with Paul Dean
- Guest soloist with the Tommy Tycho big band for the Taronga Twilight Concert series
- Associate artist with Anthony Warlow & Maestro Tommy Tycho with the West Australian Symphony Orchestra
- Guest soloist at the National Clarinet Symposium, USA
- Guest soloist and educator at the McGregor Summer School, McGregor, Queensland
- Appeared at the Sydney Opera House with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra as soloist
- Invited to perform Artie Shaw’s Concerto for Clarinet with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra
- Guest Soloist with the Queensland Army Band
- Guest artist and educator at the Queensland Music Teacher’s Conference, Maryborough
- Guest soloist with Maestro Tommy Tycho and his orchestra for the Premier’s Concert Series, NSW
- Guest soloist and clinician with Greg Smith, the Associate Principal Clarinet of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra
- Performed the Artie Shaw Concerto for Clarinet with the Queensland Conservatorium Orchestra under the direction of Professor Simone De Haan
- Guest soloist at the International Clarinet Conference, USA
- Guest soloist at the Queensland Energex Festival with Maestro Tommy Tycho
- Clarinet soloist with the Sydney Concert Orchestra for the Mozart Clarinet Concerto, KV 622
- Soloist for Rico International at the Oklahoma Clarinet Symposium, USA
- Presented jazz concert with the North Texas State Jazz faculty band, University of Oklahoma, USA
- Chosen as a Jazz Mentor for Jazz Train which toured regional Queensland, performing and teaching students
- Guest performer alongside Diana Krall, Phil Nimmons and Ed Soph at MusicFest Canada, where Andy received standing ovations for his performance of Benny Goodman’s classic hit Sing, Sing, Sing
- Soloist for Boosey & Hawkes representing Australia at the National Music Festival, Canada
- Performed as both a jazz and classical soloist with the Pacific Wind Ensemble under the direction of David Branter, Canada
- Clarinet soloist and lead alto saxophone with the All-Star Big Band, featuring Diana Krall, Tommy Banks and Steve Haughton, Canada and USA
- Performed on the ABC television feature Jazz As Now and ABC Radio’s The Geraldine Doouge Show

Performed on numerous television programs including Good Morning Australia (channel 10), the Sunday program (channel 9) and Hey, Hey it’s Saturday! (Channel 9)

- Toured Germany and Holland with the great jazz trumpeter Bob Barnard where Andy performed as a featured soloist with The Bob Barnard Band in Bonn, Freiburg, Dusseldorf, Frankfurt, Chamonix and the North Sea Jazz Festival
- Toured England with the Kenny Ball Band and Acker Bilk Band as a guest soloist
- Appeared with US saxophone artist Bud Shank at London's famed Pizza Express jazz club
- Appeared as a guest performer with bassist Alex Dankworth and his trio at the Pizza on the Park jazz venue in Knightsbridge, London
- Performed a Tribute to Benny Goodman tour of Japan by invitation of the World Projects organization
- Represented Australia in performances at the World Clarinet Summit, Japan
- Appeared at the Monterey Jazz Festival with the Goodbye Dizzy Tribute Band led by US trumpeter Chuck Findley.
- Appeared with James Moody and Randy Brecker as the headlining artists for the Sanctuary Cove Jazz Festival, Queensland
- Performed with John Denman (UK) and Eiji Kitamura (Japan) at the World Clarinet Summit, Japan
- Appeared as soloist with popular Australian guitarist Tommy Emmanuel and the Sydney Youth Orchestra at the Sydney Opera House
- Toured Australia as a support artist with B.B.King and the Philip Morris Super Band
- Performed Artie Shaw's Concerto for Clarinet with the Sydney Youth Orchestra for ABC Radio
- Toured as support artist for Wynton Marsalis during his Australian tour
- Appeared as soloist with Maestro Tommy Tycho and the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra
- Performed a duet with Don Burrows in the second movement of The Burrows Suite, Festival Theatre, Adelaide.
- Principal clarinet and alto saxophone with the South Australian College of Arts & Education Concert Band
- Invited to tour Papua New Guinea as a Cultural Ambassador for the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and the Musica Viva organisation. This tour included a series of concerts to introduce traditional Papua New Guinean performers to jazz music. This marked a series of follow-up visits by other Australian artists which has nurtured jazz music in Papua New Guinean schools and colleges, particularly the highly regarded National Arts School in Port Moresby. While on tour, Andy was also Invited to play a jazz concert for the Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea, the Honourable Pius Wingtii
- Performed a tribute show to jazz legend Charlie Parker with the American jazz artist Lee Konitz, Adelaide
- Invited to perform as soloist with UK trombonist and bandleader Don Lusher in a tribute to the great swing bands of the 1940s, Adelaide Festival Theatre.
- Invited as a soloist on both the clarinet and baritone saxophone with the Dutch Swing College Band during the Adelaide performances of their Australian tour

# Teaching

Andy Firth has been a woodwind teacher for 40 years and is currently the Director of Andy Firth Music and Accessible Music Publishing.

Andy has always believed that teaching music to others is one of the most important accomplishments of a great musician. His own teaching is based on this philosophy, and he focuses his skills and enthusiasm on enabling his students to not only master their instruments but more importantly to develop their own appreciation and joy of music.

In the many years that Andy has been teaching, he has held positions at a number of highly regarded specialist music schools and colleges in Australia, at both secondary and tertiary levels. In addition, he has conducted master classes both across Australia and overseas.

This work has included tutoring both students and accomplished musicians, directing and conducting ensembles, preparation of specialised arrangements and compositions for soloists and groups, teaching in a classroom environment in areas such as music history, theory and appreciation, and other essential teaching duties such as the preparation and grading of student's work, and helping students to prepare and excel in examinations.

In each position, Andy has also endeavoured to promote music within the wider college communities, such as organising tours and performances, developing specialist master class programmes, and even using musical events as valuable fundraisers.

Andy's teaching is also supported by his wealth of musical experience in areas such as performance, composition and arranging, as well as his skills in professional solo and ensemble recording, and use of modern music technology.

Andy's specific teaching experience includes:

- Director of Jazz Studies. Newcastle Conservatorium of Music (2002-2004)
- Guest soloist and jazz master class presenter for Canadafest with the Tommy Banks All-Star Big Band with Dina Krall. (2007)
- Guest artist and masterclasses at Florida State University and the University of Montana. (2007)
- Invited to be a guest clinician at the McGregor Summer School, McGregor, Queensland (2003)
- Clinician for both Boosey & Hawkes and MusicCorp dedicated to developing music through the
- Andy Firth Master Class Series, a series of both private and public classes dedicated to inspiring clarinet and saxophone players at all levels (2002)
- Clinician at the Queensland Music Teacher's Conference, Maryborough, Queensland (2002)
- Invited to be a guest adjudicator for the Fanfare Music Awards, Queensland (2000 & 2002)
- Masterclasses on performing and composing contemporary and pop song styles for Boosey & Hawkes (2000 & 2001)
- Masterclasses on jazz improvisation and performance for Winds Music, Brisbane, Queensland (2001)
- A clinician with Greg Smith, the Associate Principal Clarinet for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra (2001)
- Composer, conductor and arranger for the Sydney Grammar School saxophone quintet "Saxophone" (2001-2003)
- Lecturer in saxophone at the exclusive private school, Sydney Grammar School (1999-2002)
- Appointed to a full-time music teaching position at Presbyterian Ladies College (PLC), Sydney (1996 to 1999)
- Directed and conducted the PLC Senior Jazz Ensemble and Concert Band and on occasion the college's Symphony Orchestra for which Andy also wrote arrangements that featured the ensemble in a jazz setting (1996 to 1998)
- Assisting in organising and presenting a tour of Japan with the PLC Senior Jazz Band and Senior Concert Band (1997)
- Assisted in developing the Swing Music Dinner Dance at PLC to promote music within the college's community, which has since become a significant fundraising event for the college (1996 to 1998)
- Clinician and performer at the International Clarinet Conference, USA (2000)
- Assisted Lomax Mouthpieces (USA) to design and producing the Andy Firth Jazz Model mouthpiece series. While it is rare for a manufacturer to name a clarinet mouthpiece series after a performer, Lomax recognised Andy's experience as being invaluable in their creation of a series of mouthpieces designed to professionally perform both classical and jazz works on the same mouthpiece (2000)
- Master class in jazz improvisation and performance at the University of Oklahoma, USA (2000)
- Chosen as a Jazz Mentor with Don Burrows, Kevin Hunt, John Hoffman and Ian McDougall for "Jazz )
- Train" which toured Queensland performing and teaching students in the regional areas (1999)
- Rico Jazz Clinician for a master class on clarinet and saxophone technique at the University of Oklahoma, USA (1999, 2000, 2003)
- Clinician for Boosey & Hawkes representing Australia at the National Music Festival, Canada (1998).
- Appointed to the position of Jazz Saxophone Tutor in the Extension Jazz Studies Department of the
- New South Wales Conservatorium of Music, Sydney. This position focused on tutoring saxophone applicants in theory and technique for the Jazz Diploma course under the direction of Australian jazz legend, Don Burrows. (1987)



**“Andy Firth is the best! In the years since I first met him he has turned into a frightening clarinettist and, I might add, an excellent arranger.”**

George Golla

Australian jazz guitar legend, composer, arranger, educator

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## Composing & Arranging

Andy started writing and recording his own multi-tracked arrangements for big bands at the age of 12 and has since produced hundreds of arrangements and original compositions. His composition and arranging skills have grown in tandem with his experiences as a performer and teacher of music, and over the years Andy has worked or studied with such renowned arrangers as Maestro Tommy Tycho, Jerry Nowak, Julian Lee, George Golla, Ed Wilson, Victor Morosco and Eric Bryce.

In 2021 Andy's 10-year contract expired with reed music and Andy regained publishing rights to over forty of his best compositions which are subsequently re-scored and published on [www.andyfirthmusic.com](http://www.andyfirthmusic.com)

In 2019 Andy sets up [andyfirthmusic.com](http://andyfirthmusic.com) a website that offers Andy's compositions for clarinet, saxophone & flute for sale. In 2010.

Andy's works are now part of the main list selection for the Australian Music Examination board main list syllabus and in the Trinity College London syllabus. His works remain as popular choices in schools and concert stages worldwide.

### Some of Andy's other accomplishments in composing and arranging include:

- Andy was commissioned by the Lake Macquarie council NSW to compose the opening theme for the Multi-Cultural Arts Building in Speers Point Park, (The MAP Building). 2020
- Andy Performed the clarinet solos on Baz Luhrmann's Epic feature film, "Australia".
- Andy composed a saxophone concerto for Australian saxophone virtuoso Barry Cockcroft which Barry premiered at the Clarsax festival in Melbourne
- Andy is also invited to compose a large scale saxophone ensemble work for the Strasbourg saxophone ensemble ("Bach's Pianola") under the direction of Philippe Geiss
- Andy is also invited by Trinity College in London to compose music for their examination woodwind syllabus publications
- Conducted and directed the Brisbane State High Big Band for recording project The Heat's On (1999)
- Freelance arranger and soloist for Song Zu Studios and Fox Studios in Sydney for numerous television advertisements, including composer of "The Footy Show Theme" and the multi-award winning "Dining Out" VISA commercial (2000)
- Andy's compositions "Another Samba" and "Deep Fried" were used as the theme tunes for the ABC TV's Australian Jazz series, "Jazz As Now" (1997)
- Andy has composed over seven hundred original compositions featuring his many styles of arranging abilities
- His CD "Me, Myself & I - 16 Clarinet Big Band" features Andy as arranger, composer, engineer and producer, and has received critical acclaim from many prominent clarinet soloists both in Australia and overseas
- Composed "Treacherous Tango", "Tycho, Tycho, Tycho", "24 Hours", "Cuban Fantasy" for the principal flute of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Janet Webb. (recorded on "Tango & All That Jazz")

**“Andy Firth is a clarinet & saxophone legend in both the classical and jazz music spheres. A regular performer with the world's leading jazz and blues musicians, he is also a dedicated teacher and composer -“Play Clarinet with Andy Firth” & “Play Saxophone with Andy Firth” brings the expertise of this amazing musician to aspiring young clarinet and saxophone players everywhere”.**

Diana Tolmie

Australian Clarinet & Saxophone Journal

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& Saxophone**  
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**“Andy, congratulations on a superb album! I can’t imagine the time and sheer physical effort that you put in to it. I only hope that the world will take note of your great talent.”**

Buddy DeFranco  
US jazz clarinet legend

**Andy Firth Albums  
NOW AVAILABLE  
for digital download at  
[itunes.com](https://itunes.com)**

## Albums

Andy has always believed that recording is an important part of musical development, as it provides an excellent way for the musician to analyse their own abilities and fine tune their instrumental skills.

Andy began recording his performances at the age of 12 and has since compiled several albums of both jazz standards and original compositions. He was an artist for Song Zu and Fox Studios in Australia, and has earned international recognition for his compositions for television and advertising media. Through these experiences, Andy has developed skills in all aspects of professional recording and music technology which he uses through his own music studio in Sydney to compliment his teaching, arranging and composition.

### **2020-2021: The Lockdown Albums**

- “Songs of Hope & Inspiration” (Songs to ease stress and worry of the Covid-19 lockdown and epidemic)
- “Wind on Wood” (relaxation and meditation music)
- “Bossa Romantica” (Tribute to Paul Desmond and Bud Shank)
- “Take My Hand” (Original songs; clarinet and tenor sax)
- “Bossa Nova Brazil” (Tenor sax with Latin styled originals)
- “Sax on the Mind” (Tenor sax with hammond quartet groove music)
- “Sax on the Beach” (Original Latin styled music for tenor)

### **2015 “Chill!” Andy Firth & Ian Date**

Andy Firth & guitarist Ian Date play a selection of relaxed and beautiful jazz and Latin standards.

### **2012 “Dates with Firth”**

On a very quick trip through Newcastle NSW, Ian and Nigel Date with bassist Howard Cairns came over for a very quick recording session. After 5 hours recording nine good tracks were in the can. A few more tracks were done the next morning and a gig played later that night.

### **2012 Andy Firth & Bob Barnard Quartet-“JAZZ ON AIR”**

A rare recording of tracks played on air in 1988 with legendary Australian trumpeter, Bob Barnard & his Quartet. This recording is the only copy that survives as the show was a live radio broadcast and not committed to tape at the time.

### **2011 “Only 2”**

An experiment as to whether it would be possible to sustain a whole tune using only two woodwind instruments at a time. It was decided to test the theory...it could be done, as long as one instrument provided the melodic content and the other the bass function and harmonic structure.

### **2011 The Clarinet Duos & Quartets**

A collection of Andy’s duos and quartets for clarinet. Most of these works are set in either 18 Century classical or 19th Century romantic styles.

### **2011 “SWING! In The Benny Goodman Style”**

A live concert at the St. George Auditorium “Theatre Australia” Kogarah 26th November 2011. Andy memorised and played the actual Benny Goodman solos from the famous sextet and quintet recordings. Musicians include: Andy Firth-clarinet, Glenn Henrich-vibraphone, Joathan Wade-piano, Ed Gaston-bass and Ron Lemke-drums.

### **2010 “Montage”**

Recorded at Atlantis Sound Studios in Melbourne, 6-7th May 2009.

On a trip for a week in Melbourne, Andy headed into the studio with a bunch of muso friends and record an album. Jonathan Wade, James Clark and Dean Cooper as well as the very talented Monique Di Mattina appear on this album. A new friend was made on this project, which is always wonderful. Rory McDougall sharing the drum tracks with Dean Cooper. First call bass player in Newcastle, Pete Gray playing brilliant electric bass on some tracks as well.

### **2009 “Poco Latino”**

For 4 years this album has been trying to get off the ground! Guitarist after guitarist have taken the arrangements, listened to the demo and come back to me with “I’d love to do it but it’s too complicated etc”. This is a release of the demo version.

### **2009 “City Heat!”**

This album is a collection of original tunes that were written in a pop oriented style over the years. Most of these compositions have never been recorded or performed.

### **2008 “The Clarinet Trios”**

This album is a collection of the clarinet trios that were composed between the 16-26th of September in 2008. The three works were written within days of each other and the average time of each trio was 3 to 4 days.

### **2006 “Live in Springfield”**

Recorded live at a concert in Springfield, Missouri, USA.

### **2005 Sax to the Max!**

A “16 Saxophone Big Band” - A World First! Multi-tracked and performed (ex. drums: Nic Cecire/James Jennings) arranged, produced by Andy.

### **2003 The Andy Firth Quartet: Sweet ‘n Swingin’!**

From 1988-1990 era, the Andy Firth Quartet was Glenn Henrich (vibes), the late and great Ed Gaston (bass), John Morrison (drums) and then from 1995-2003 Simon Fishburn joined us on drums. Unfortunately this recording is the only studio album that was ever recorded.

### **2000 “Me, Myself and I”**

“A World First” This unique big band tribute album features 16 individual clarinets (all arranged & played by Andy) and multi-tracked in Andy’s Sydney studio.



## Albums continued...

### **2000 16 Clarinet Big Band "Sounds of the Swing Era"**

This album was rescued from reel to reel tapes recorded in 1988. This was a first attempt at the 16 clarinet multi-track Big Band sound. The charts were done by the great Australian genius Julian Lee and a few by Andy (C Jam Blues and Lover). Recorded in Sydney. Andy was 22 yrs old when this album was recorded. The arrangements were sight read to tape while the ink was still drying on the pages!

### **1999 "The Heat's On"**

Andy Firth & The Brisbane State High Big Band

Andy features on clarinet and saxophone with this fine jazz ensemble. A rehearsal of the band was conducted for this album by Andy. Produced by Andy and Bruce Jacobsen at Grevillia Studios, Queensland.

### **1998 "Andy Firth Live at the York Jazz Festival"**

Andy live in action with the Mike Nelson Quartet.

### **1997 "Swingin' Upstairs"**

A swingin' jam session with the John Morrison Quartet featuring guitarist Ian Date. Recorded at Morrison Studios, Sydney by John Morrison and Ian Cooper. Produced by Andy and John Morrison.

### **1995 "Throughout Time"**

A groove-based album of standards and originals by keyboard wiz Jonathan Wade and Andy. In 1995 the opportunity to record such an album availed itself and so we set about recording demo tracks and scoring charts of well-known songs.

### **1995 "Colours"**

Andy featuring and performing reeds and synthesisers and arranging a collection of Glenn Miller styled songs from the pen of Adelaide jazz radio presenter Tony Bretherick.

### **1993 "Let There Be Firth"**

A live to air on Margaret Peterson's "Mainly Jazz & Blues" 3WRB FM jazz program. The phones rang hot after the performance, and the CD was subsequently released a few months later. Funded by the late Margaret Peterson and produced by Dave Hannan in Melbourne. The performances feature Andy on clarinet, alto and soprano saxes, with John Foreman (piano), Andrew Swann (drums) and Nick Heywood (Bass).

### **1993 "Fresh Starts"**

A self-styled and arranged collection of original compositions and jazz standards. The album featured modernised arrangements of "Flight of the Bumble Bee", "Misty" and "Sing, Sing, Sing". Andy features on alto, tenor, soprano saxes as well as clarinet and synthesisers.

**"I have never heard anything like this guy; he is a one in a million! His musicality and playing is totally unique! Andy Firth is, in my opinion, one of our greatest artists and musicians like him pass this way but once. I am thrilled to have met and heard him perform!"**

### **Vincent J. Abato**

Revered U.S reeds virtuoso, teacher & industry legend

## Accolades

Andy's services to music have earned a number of notable awards, including:

- South Australian Jazz Archive Award for services to Jazz Music in South Australia (November 2013)
- 30th Australian MO AWARD for "Best Australian Jazz Musician"-live performance award (2005) Presented in 2006
- Screen Music Award for composition. Arranging & Performances on VISA "Dining Out" Advert (2001)
- The South Australian Young Citizen's Award for services to music in South Australia (1988)
- The Ricky May Jazz Encouragement Award for services to music in Australia (1988)
- The Pro Musica Award for musical excellence (1986)
- The Musician's Union Award for services to jazz music in Australia (1988)

## Education

Andy has completed formal qualifications in both music and education, including:

- Diploma of Education (Secondary), University of Adelaide, South Australia (1990)
- Bachelor of Music (Performance), South Australian College of Advanced Education (1987)
- Matriculation from Augusta Park High School, South Australia (1983)

## Contact

Email: [info@andyfirthmusic.com](mailto:info@andyfirthmusic.com)

**[www.andyfirthmusic.com](http://www.andyfirthmusic.com)**

## "A genius of the clarinet."

Maestro Tommy Tycho (A.M, M.B.E.)

Renowned Australian composer, arranger, conductor and performer