



# Adamant Music School

## Faculty

### Franklin Larey

South African pianist Franklin Larey started his piano studies with Gideon Slingers at the age of sixteen. After finishing high school he continued his studies under Bruce Gardiner at the University of the Western Cape, from which he graduated with distinction.

A Fulbright Scholarship took him to the University of Cincinnati where he studied with Frank Weinstock and Richard Fields. After spending ten years in the United States, and receiving his doctorate from Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music, Franklin returned to South Africa in 1997 to teach piano at the University of Cape Town, where he was appointed Director of the South African College of Music in 2002. While in the USA he appeared regularly as a recitalist, soloist, and accompanist. Of his appearance with the San Jose Symphony, the San Jose Mercury News wrote, "When Franklin Larey turned to soft poetry, time stood still, and the audience held its breath for an eternity. His slow movement was sheer ecstasy--clear, measured, lyrical."

Franklin Larey has won several awards, including first prize at the 1991 Young Chang International Piano Competition, and third prize at the 1996 New Orleans International Piano Competition. In 1993 he established the IXOPO DUO with Mary Jo Roth, and the two have performed together throughout the United States. They won first prize at the Graves Duo Piano Competition, were finalists at the prestigious 1996 Murray Dranoff International Two Piano Competition, and were featured in the PBS television documentary, *Two Pianos - One Passion*. Currently the Ixopo partnership is between Larey and South African pianist Francois du Toit, and their performances have received rave reviews in the SA press.

Since his return home Franklin Larey has been hailed as one of South Africa's leading pianists, and he has appeared as a recitalist and chamber musician at numerous venues and arts festivals, and as soloist with a number of orchestras. He maintains an international performance schedule.

Most recently, Franklin Larey was awarded a prestigious Fulbright Researcher Award and spent six months in residence at his alma mater, the University of Cincinnati in 2003. During this time he worked closely with pianist Frank Weinstock, and also with Claude Frank, and Andre Watts; he made his Kennedy Centre debut in April 2003. In June of the same year the University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music honored Larey with its Distinguished Alumnus Award.