



**inner
musician**

If the world was music,
what would it sound like?



WHAT IS IMPROVISATION?

Improvisation is a shared human activity; we do it everyday in normal conversation and thought. We improvise - we make it up as we go along. In fact human beings are innately proficient in this activity. Right from the moment we are born, we improvise sounds and gestures to convincingly tell our story, spontaneously... no script needed!

HOW MUSICAL ARE YOU?

How often have students been labelled 'musical' or 'not musical' according to their ability to learn to read and play a piece of music accurately. Play a Story is shifting the goal posts. Begin the journey towards identifying your own musical personality through improvisation.

Play a Story helps you discover your 'inner musician', empowering you to play the piano freely and in the moment.

We have a vision - not to make musicians - but to reveal the musician that already lives inside, especially for those who haven't had the chance to get acquainted yet!

And it's worth getting acquainted. Science shows that having music in our lives, especially playing and improvising, increases brain development. Growing evidence also suggests that it improves social, emotional and even physical health! That's a good friend to have.

Hear [what parents are saying](#) about Play a Story





CHOOSE YOUR EXPERIENCE

What flicks your switch? Our younger musicians might choose to experience the journey by playing along to our animated stories, while our older and more advanced musicians might choose to experience it by playing along to our short movie clips. But as we've discovered... the choice is not always predictable!

Our stories.

Travel through a storybook world; listen, feel and literally 'play the story' across the whole piano, while it is being read.

The musical dress-up corner - what great childhood memories it evokes. Children get to dress-up as different characters, discovering how they look, act and feel. In the same way, Play a Story gives us an opportunity to 'try-on' different musical characters, dynamics and colours. Instead of taking children out of their imaginative world and into a piano lesson, let's bring the piano lesson to their imagination.

Play a Story provides the skills to express our world on the piano. Sounds, rhythms, melodies and harmonies wind their way around the keyboard.

What would the music sound like if it was the wind in the forest, or a shell tossed around the ocean? In the world of Play a Story, every imaginative thought, every emotion is an opportunity for us to express ourselves in the language of music – a language that can be deeply profound. Piano lessons have never been this fun!





Our movies.

As human beings we are irresistibly drawn to music. Whether it be to celebrate the ball-game victory, or to honour a life well lived, music gives us a profoundly emotive language to express our world.

Imagine with me, a world where everyone is musically expressed... literally!

In this imaginary world, your daily life is just like a movie, accompanied by a full musical score. Just as in a real movie, the music reflects how we feel about ourselves, about the common things that surround us, about people who touch our hearts, about the beauty, or the turmoil that surrounds us. The music reveals our feelings in ways that words cannot... perhaps this world would be a little too revealing!

In fact screen composers have been doing exactly this for decades. Even during the silent movie era, the transportive power of music was provided using live piano improvisation. Through music we are intimately drawn into the scene, whether we are aware of it or not. It's irresistible. When we learn to play, tapping into this deep internal musicality, our relationship to music changes forever.

We discover how it feels to play more like an artist; to play with more feeling, freedom and authenticity.

At Inner Musician, our program provides the movies, the tools and the inspiration. You create the mood, the colour and nuance... your own unique musical interpretation of each scene.





HOW DOES IT WORK?

First, the scene - our inspiration

We begin by viewing the scene, accompanied by a full musical score. This score infuses the scene with a specific mood, establishing an emotional context for your improvisation. It's the foundation of every project, enabling us to assimilate the interpretive centres of our brains, forging pathways toward a truly creative musical experience.

Next, the motif - our vocabulary

The key to improvisation lies in the simple motif. Sometimes called a leit-motif, it's a short musical idea... melodic, harmonic, rhythmic, or a combination of all three. This motif has been thoughtfully crafted to capture the scene's musical signature - think Sergei Prokofiev's brilliant 'Peter and the Wolf' in which each character in the story has been brought to life through individual motifs.

These simple motifs form the vocabulary used to express the scene. They contain key musical concepts, building the foundation for all music. We provide a playing understanding of concepts such as major/minor chords with a few basic chord extensions, chromatic, whole-tone and pentatonic scale, 12 bar blues, blues scale and blues riffs, melodic, rhythmic and accompaniment styles, sustain pedal choice, as well as an experience-based understanding of essential dynamic terms.





Finally, the improvisation - an entire language.

From here, in the same way that words become sentences and conversations, the motif is interpreted, developed, combined and explored across the piano... retelling the story in music.

Grab your device, sit at the piano and play along with the scene, creating your own spontaneous musical sound track as you play. This type of ground-up, organic improvisation produces music that is rich, layered, honest, complex, and fluent. In many ways it is just like giving you a voice to speak your own language.

What we love is that these are all hands-on playing projects. Concepts are taught systematically, step by step, and then released to your own imagination.

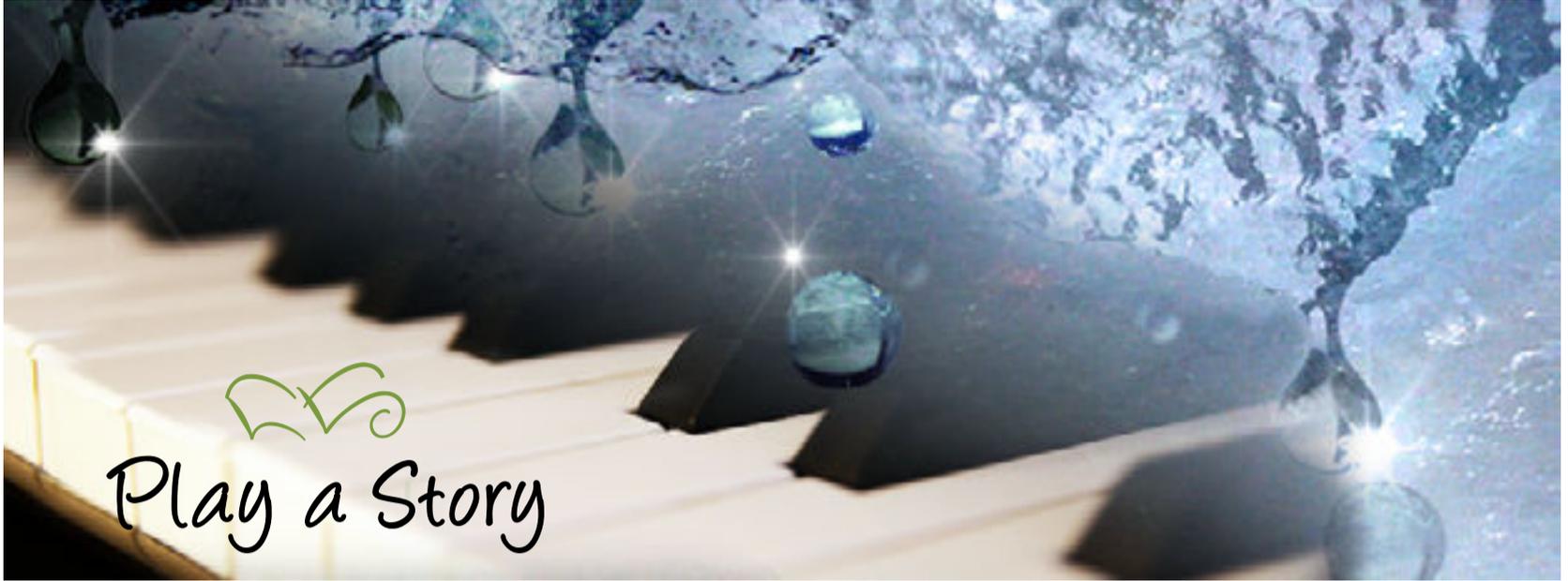
STUDENT HOME MATERIALS

Play a Story explores three journeys: Song of the Zephyr-Wind, Ocean Lulby and Travel Notes. Student Home Materials support your progress. It's like having a music coach at home. They include on-line audio and video components plus optional fully illustrated books.

More than just accessories, these materials provide the environment in which you can explore improvisation everyday.

You can learn at home, or with a teacher, both on-line or face-to-face. We have a growing number of teachers around the world who teach both private and group lessons, bringing a unique energy to the learning experience. Carefully structured and engaging lessons with a fully trained Play a Story teacher brings the learning experience to life.





TEACHER TRAINING AND SUPPORT MATERIALS

Am I qualified to teach Play a Story?

Our program provides a unique opportunity for you to share the joy of creating music with others. While formal qualifications and playing proficiency are valuable, every journey is a personal musical discovery. As a teacher you are invited to explore your own individual ability to naturally speak this language - and because of how it is presented, you won't experience the fear factor that the word 'improvisation' so often evokes!

With our guidance, support and comprehensive training, we will take you on your own improvisational journey, helping you to unveil your unique musical identity and in turn equip you to do the same for others.

Simplicity and structure.

Play a Story has a simplicity that appeals to teachers who love to explore 'outside the box'. It also has a structure that appeals to teachers who love to build on each learning experience, layer by layer. Regardless of your teaching background, whether it is traditional piano, early childhood music and movement, or home-schooling, this program will challenge, excite, and motivate you to take your teaching experience to a new level of musical self-expression.





Distance-based training.

Our Teacher Training Program is a carefully designed distance-based training model, allowing you to do your training in the comfort of your own home and at your own pace. The materials provide a clear teaching pathway and present unique strategies for addressing the typical concerns and challenges that you may encounter along the way. It consists of online audiovisual material. Live workshops are offered at various locations when available. Dates are published on the website as they are confirmed, or [contact us](#) to organise your own. The teaching process is supported by the founder, Lyndel Kennedy, as well as a. We welcome teachers who have a love of playing and a desire to help others express themselves musically. Read [what teachers say](#) about our program.

Marketing resources for teachers.

We provide proven print and presentation materials to aid our teachers in building their studios. We have a vibrant community of educators from many musical backgrounds who are invited to join our online chat group for encouragement and discussion.

Getting started.

[Sign up as a student](#) or [sign up as a teacher](#) now and experience Inner Musician for yourself. Or register for a free, one week trial of our exclusive [Student Home Materials](#) or [Teacher Training Program](#).





MEET THE CREATOR, LYNDEL KENNEDY

Lyndel lives in Perth Australia, with her husband and their four children. She believes in a world where everyone is created to be musical.

Her programs have emerged from her rich music and visual arts career including graphic design, videography, photography, story telling and 35 years of piano teaching. Her musical journey began as a young child, and included opportunities to play at national level competitions, through to directing school musicals and choirs, attending Composition Master Classes with conductor and screen composer Brian May, and conducting international teacher workshops.

Lyndel is passionate about encouraging students and teachers wherever they are on the journey, to express their own musical identity.

Mailing list:

Let us keep you informed, inspired and innovated with our email blog and news updates.

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