

Editorial

We are delighted to publish this special issue of *Music Performance Research*. What makes it special is that it contains five articles, the content of which first appeared in the form of oral presentations at the Music, Health and Happiness conference in November 2008. Two of the Editors of *Music Performance Research*, Jane Ginsborg and Antonia Ivaldi, were also – with Aaron Williamon – the organisers of this conference, and we invited speakers to submit articles based on their presentations for publication. These are the five that were eventually selected, and they are pleasingly representative of the conference as a whole. They report research carried out using a variety of methods, addressing a range of topics including psychological as well as physical health, solutions as well as problems, for amateur and student as well as professional musicians.

Briefly, Kristie Kava and her colleagues evaluated two kinds of exercise for enhancing the performance of student instrumentalists, and Christian Bernhard investigated music students' experience of burnout. Melissa Dobson interviewed jazz and classical musicians to find out how they differed in terms of autonomy and self-expression, and Lili Allsop and Tim Ackland looked at pianists' playing-related musculoskeletal disorders in relation to technique and practice strategy. Stephen Clift and Grenville Hancox report the findings of a large-scale international survey demonstrating the effects of choral singing on wellbeing.

We are enormously grateful, as ever, to the Action Editors and reviewers for these articles: Eckart Altenmüller, Daniel Bishop, Jochen Blum, Alice Brandfonbrener, Stephen Clift, Norma Daykin, Jane Edwards, Jörg Fachner, Robert Faulkner, Rodney Grahame, Liz Haddon, Susan Hallam, Alan Hewitt, Gunter Kreutz, Raymond MacDonald, Laura Mitchell, Nikki Moran, Ian Morrison, Kathrin Schlemmer, Anke Steinmetz and David Wasley. Finally, this is the last issue of *Music Performance Research* for which Clemens Wöllner is Co-Editor; we have very much enjoyed working with him and wish him well in his new post.

Antonia Ivaldi (Managing Editor)
Jane Ginsborg (Co-Editor)
Clemens Wöllner (Co-Editor)