

Anthony van den Broek

I run a very successful piano studio in Sydney, and read widely on the topic of piano pedagogy. When I chanced upon material about the Taubman Approach to piano technique, I realised I was on to something quite unique. Unlike other descriptions of piano technique, the Taubman Approach provides a logical basis on which to define piano technique and from which to understand how to play the piano with ease and virtuosity. I wondered why I hadn't come across such a clear, scientific and logical explanation of piano technique.

Having watched the Golandsky Institute's 10 DVDs, I decided I would attend the Institute's Summer Symposium where I met Therese Milanovic.

At the time, Therese was (and remains) the only qualified instructor in Australia. Since I live in Sydney, I have commuted once a fortnight to Brisbane to take lessons with Therese in person: such is the value of my lessons with her.

Fortunately I wasn't injured when I started lessons with Therese, but I did have technical issues that I wanted to address in my playing. Since taking lessons with Therese, I find that I have incredible ease at the piano and a freedom in my technique I never thought possible.

Through her logical approach to each work I'm studying, I find I am able to learn pieces faster, memorise more effectively and work through the virtuosic piano literature (some of which I never thought I'd be able to play) with ever more speed, facility and expressiveness. I have greatly increased my repertoire and have given more solo and chamber performances as a result of my studies with Therese.

Most importantly for me, my skills as a teacher have been vastly improved having studied the Taubman Approach with Therese Milanovic. And with her guidance and lessons, I have been admitted to the certification program at the Golandsky Institute.

Having taken lessons with Therese, attended weekend workshops where she has presented on piano pedagogy, and observed lessons that she has taught to students from a wide range of levels, styles and abilities, I couldn't recommend her more highly as a piano teacher. Indeed, I thank her for the big changes she has facilitated in my technique.