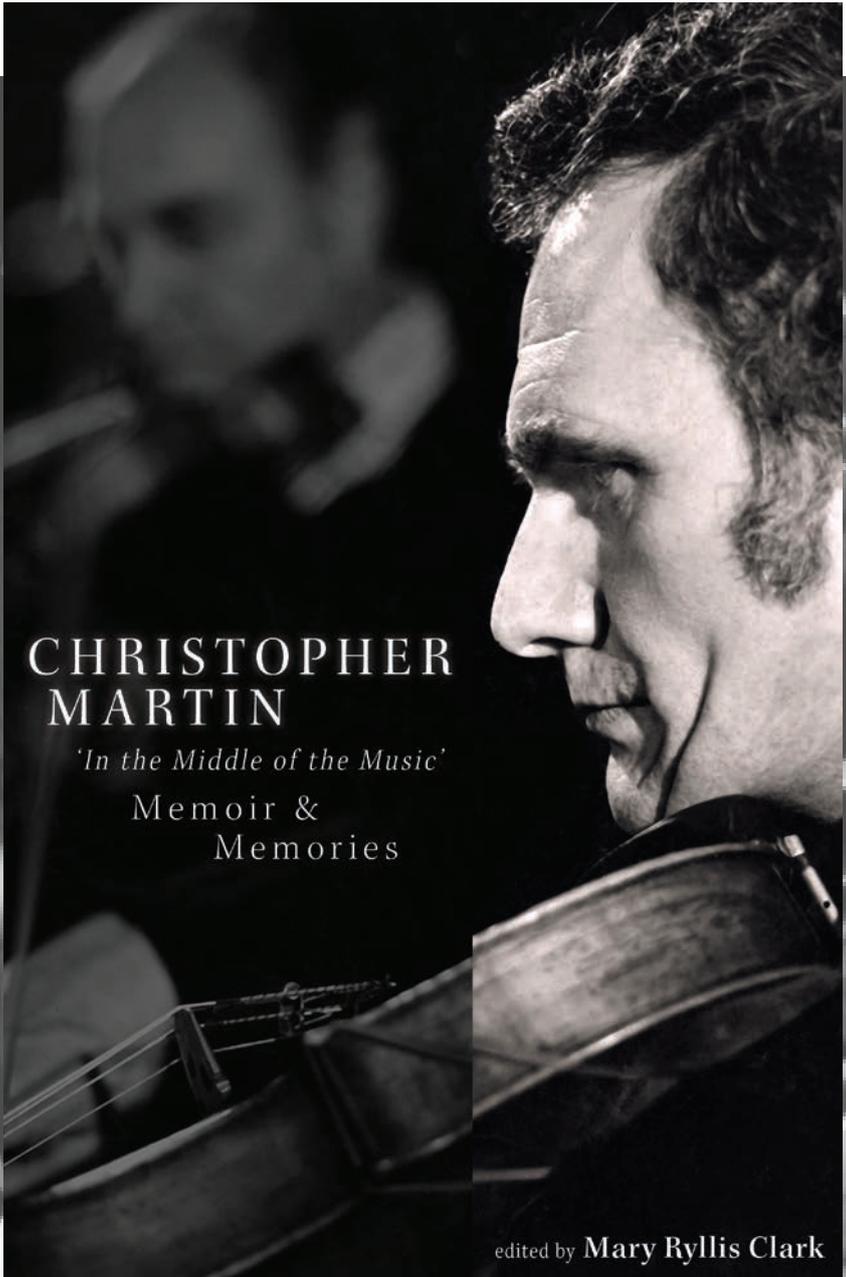


PRESS RELEASE

CHRISTOPHER MARTIN

'In the Middle of the Music'

Edited by Mary Ryllis Clark



CHRISTOPHER
MARTIN

'In the Middle of the Music'

Memoir &
Memories

edited by Mary Ryllis Clark

ARCADIA *an imprint of* AUSTRALIAN SCHOLARLY PUBLISHING

P.O. BOX 299 KEW, VIC 3101 • WWW.SCHOLARLY.INFO
ASPIC@OZEMAIL.COM.AU • P 03 93296963 • F 03 93295452

CHRISTOPHER MARTIN 'IN THE MIDDLE OF THE MUSIC' edited by Mary Ryllis Clark

\$34.95 • ISBN 978 1 921875 77 9 • PB

It was a sad day for music in Australia when Christopher Martin, highly respected and much loved musician and conductor, died of leukaemia in October 2011, aged 81.

Always a great raconteur, in the months before his death, Chris talked to writer Mary Ryllis Clark about his rich and varied life in Europe and Australia. The resulting memoir, *Christopher Martin 'In the Middle of the Music': Memoir and Memories*, is poignant, entertaining and reflective about the intense world of music and musicians.

In his life as a professional viola player, Martin played with some of the finest musicians of his day including Jacqueline du Pré, Daniel Barenboim, Leonard Bernstein, Yehudi Menuhin, George Solti and Benjamin Britten.

Born in Devon, England, to a poor working-class family where the only music played was Salvation Army hymns, as a teenager Martin successfully auditioned for the Royal College of Music, London and embarked on a life 'in the middle of music'.

Martin married Australian cellist Annette Rosefield and in the late 1960s they settled in Melbourne. From 1970–96, as Head of Strings at the Conservatorium of Music, he influenced hundreds of students who went on to make careers in music including baroque violinist Elizabeth Wallfish, conductors Warwick Stengårds and Nicolette Fraillon and recorder player Genevieve Lacey.

He was especially known as the conductor of many amateur orchestras in Melbourne, including the Chamber Strings of Melbourne, Corpus Medicorum, the Stonnington Symphony Orchestra and the University of the Third Age Orchestra Hawthorn as well as the national Australian Doctors' Orchestra.

Chris's memoir is augmented by conversations and memories contributed by family, friends and colleagues. 'It is often said about artists that to know them by their art is enough; how they choose to live is unimportant,' says his son, accomplished concert pianist Benjamin Martin. 'Dad believed this strongly, yet there is much to appreciate him about him that extended beyond his artistry.'

This is a not-for-profit publication to honour a man who made a great contribution to music in Australia.

For more information contact

Mary Ryllis Clark: tel: 9419 6947; 0402 067 319; maryryllisclark@gmail.com

Benjamin Martin tel: 0420 727 585; benjamindmartin@mac.com



Christopher Martin: 'In the Middle of the Music' • ed. Mary Ryllis Clark • PB • \$34.95

Name _____ Copies

Address _____

Email _____ Phone number _____

Please charge my Mastercard Visa Cheque attached (Please make out to Australian Scholarly Publishing and send orders to PO Box 299, Kew, Vic 3101)

Card name _____

Expiry date

ARCADIA an imprint of AUSTRALIAN SCHOLARLY PUBLISHING

P.O. BOX 299 KEW, VIC 3101 • WWW.SCHOLARLY.INFO
ASPIC@OZEMAIL.COM.AU • P 03 93296963 • F 03 93295452