

# ‘Get Orff on Singing’

for ISME, KL, Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2006

with Susie Davies-Splitter & Phil Splitter, Australia

## About Orff Schulwerk

The Orff Schulwerk was founded by Carl Orff, a German composer and music educator who lived from 1895 -1982 and colleague Gunild Keetman (1904 - 1991).

Orff Schulwerk is based on things children naturally like to do such as sing, chant rhymes, dance, clap, etc. These instincts are directed into learning music by hearing and making music first, then reading and writing it later. This is the same way we all learn our language. It is “Music for Children”, designed for ALL children, a unique music learning approach. Each child contributes according to his/her ability. It is a general artistic education rather than a method of music instruction.

*“I wanted to discover a way of reviewing the natural unity of music and movement, a way that would be available not only to a few natural artists but would solve the educational problem of awakening and stimulating a love of dancing and music making - a general freedom of expression and receptivity.”* Carl Orff (in Goodkin 1993)

This approach helps to educate the whole individual intellectually, physically, socially, emotionally, aesthetically and creatively through active music making, individual input and improvisation. The ideas are centred on the fundamental unity of music including Speech, Singing, Movement and Instruments which are integrated to teach the elements of music. It provides an opportunity to be playful, inventive, creative and at the same time experience the joys of music. “As every phase of the Schulwerk provides stimulation for new independent growth, it is never conclusive and settled, but always developing always growing, always flowing”. (Orff 1963)

Goodkin, D. (1993). Reflections on Orff Schulwerk – a collection of articles, USA

Orff, C. (1963) Speech given by Orff. Published by Schott in the 1963 Orff Institute Jahrbuch. English translation by Margaret Murray: ‘Orff Schulwerk Past and Future’

## Repertoire

Title	Resource
Welcome here Today	Sing, Jam & Jive (avail 2007)
Ndinani Na	Razzamajazz
Sing and Scat	Move It
Feel the Joy	The Power of You
I can Do It	Anything is Possible

