

# JAMES TIBBLES

## BIOGRAPHY

**James Tibbles** is one of New Zealand's leading players of historic keyboards, having an active career as a soloist, accompanist, recording artist and conductor. James is Associate Head, Performance, Senior Lecturer in Early Music Performance / Performance Practice and Head of the Early Music Department at The University of Auckland, as well as being Artistic Director of the early music organisation *Age of Discovery* and a member of the baroque chamber ensemble *Extempore*.

James started learning the organ at the age of 14, continuing his studies at The University of Auckland, during which time he held the position of Belinda Godfrey Memorial Organ Scholar at Auckland Cathedral of the Holy Trinity. His interest in historic instruments was kindled at an early age, seeing him assembling a kitset clavichord and harpsichord, and performing in baroque music ensembles while still at school.

After completing a Masters degree in Organ and Harpsichord under Anthony Jennings, James undertook post-graduate study at the Royal Conservatory, The Hague under Professor Bob van Asperen, as well as pursuing studies on historic organ and fortepiano. On his return to New Zealand in 1985 he was appointed Director of Music at Auckland Cathedral of the Holy Trinity - a position he held until 1993. Since being appointed to the staff of The University of Auckland, James has held the positions of Deputy Head and later, Head of School.

His research interests include the history of Early Music in New Zealand, early New Zealand organs, and aspects of keyboard touch and articulation in the performance of historic keyboard repertoire.

James' CD output includes *And I saw in a New Heaven* (Auckland Cathedral Singers), *Sesquialtera* (1779 Avery organ, Ponsonby Baptist church), *J.S. Bach 'In the Italian Style'* (solo harpsichord), and *North German Organ Music* (pmr 0015)