

## Anne Norman: short bio

Anne Norman is a passionate shakuhachi performer and composer working as soloist and in collaboration with a diverse range of musicians and other artists including the Faraway Trio, Deborah Cheetham, Polyphonic Voices and the Plexus Collective. Anne has composed works for shakuhachi, various ensembles, choirs and the federations bells at



Birrarung Marr; performed in festivals across Australia and in Europe, America and Japan; and been invited to give workshops on vocalising while blowing shakuhachi, including Shakuhachi Festivals in London, Lisbon and Shenzhen. Anne majored on flute at Melbourne Conservatorium before taking up shakuhachi in Kobe and later Osaka, culminating in a scholarship to study under Living National Treasure Yamaguchi Goro at Tokyo University of Fine Arts and Music. Knowledge of Western flute repertoire in addition to training in traditional Zen, classical and contemporary Japanese genres have combined with her studies in ethnomusicology and cross-cultural music collaborations, resulting in Anne's unique voice on shakuhachi. <https://AnneNorman.com>

**Shakuhachi** is a bamboo flute constructed from various lengths of the root-end of a heavy species of bamboo. Used for centuries in Japan as a monk's tool for "Blowing-Zen," it was also played to accompany song and in chamber ensembles with plucked strings. Shakuhachi is now found globally in a wide range of genres and in evocative film music.