

## **PROFESSOR ANDRÉ DE QUADROS**

Doctor of Fine Arts and Music, *honoris causa*

André de Quadros is music educator, conductor, ethnomusicologist, writer, and human rights activist, who has conducted research in over forty countries. He has often worked in impoverished locations with victims of torture and trauma, using the power of music and the creativity inherent in humanity to build peace, and repair communities and individuals from within.

His professional life stands at the confluence of multiple disciplines, yet choral and community music, ethnomusicology, and music and arts education are at the core of his practice. Working with richly diverse tools, he engages epistemologies that are situationally relevant, bringing Indigenous, critical, and other perspectives to those struggling to establish peace, those experiencing forced migration, those developing more human approaches to public health, and those entangled in battles of race-related mass incarceration.

André de Quadros works within the great tradition of freedom dreaming, which calls for a new construction of social systems and grassroots participation. His work is founded on radical compassion, dialogue, reconciliation, and community engagement. Mixing history with contemporary developments in the role of the arts and education in society, he draws together the forces that both inhibit and promote change.

A childhood refugee and now a senior international leader in these fields, André de Quadros' life's work has been aimed at the establishment of fair and equitable social systems. His work has occurred across a diverse range of settings, including leading music ensembles within disadvantaged communities, running projects with prisons that use song to form understanding between mortal enemies, and working with refugees and asylum-seekers to reinforce hope. He engages the highly social and personal physicality of music-making, deploying it for peacebuilding, reconciliation, and psychosocial rehabilitation.

Currently a Professor of Music at Boston University, Professor André de Quadros was a Miegunyah Distinguished Visiting Fellow in the Faculty of Fine Arts and Music in early 2024. A longstanding colleague of our staff who research arts and health, he has made significant contributions to promoting university values through harnessing the inherent creativity that is common to all peoples.

Two of his seven degrees are from the University of Melbourne, gained during a formative time in his career – a Graduate Diploma in Music, and a Graduate Diploma in Movement and Dance. He has collected many awards in his career, most recently including the Brazeal Wayne Dennard Award for work in social justice from Chorus America, in 2021, and the Helen Kemp Lifetime Achievement Award from the Eastern Region of the American Choral Directors Association, in 2022.

Through the unifying vehicle of music, his international reach is impactful locally and situationally, and he will continue to contribute to the university's peacebuilding and arts and health initiatives in the years to come.