



The Yehudi Menuhin School Leavers 2021

Thursday 8 July
7.30pm


The
Yehudi
Menuhin
School

KINGS PLACE

www.kingsplace.co.uk

Welcome

Welcome to the 2021 Menuhin School Leavers Concert. I am particularly delighted that we are here at Kings Place; as one of the most forward-thinking, innovative and creative venues around, it is an organisation that I see as the perfect partner for us as we drive forward with the School's 21st-century development.

Chamber music is at the heart of the School's activities and, during lockdown, it was collaborative music making that we missed the most. It is with great joy and a sense of celebration that we have been able to bring everyone together once again for tonight's programme of chamber works. I trust there is something to suit all musical palettes.

Our evening begins with Boccherini - a cellist and a great composer of chamber music with many string quintets and nearly one hundred quartets to his credit. The music in this quintet reflects some of the influence of Spanish culture, with rhythmic tags characteristic of Spanish dances and use of repeated syncopated notes.

Next is Haydn's *Cassation in C Major Hob.III:6*, written around 1766. Here the role of the lute or guitar is a little different from that in the Boccherini - it is described as an *obbligato* instrument and therefore more given to solo passages.

Like many of Mendelssohn's chamber works which include the piano, in his sextet, the lion's share of the notes falls to the pianist so that in parts, it seems like a chamber piano concerto. He was only 15 when he composed this work in 1824, but it was not published until after his death more than 20 years later.

Our final piece deserves to be heard far more frequently than it currently is. In the latter part of the 19th century, composers were beginning to explore different musical forms, and Bridge's first piano trio - the Phantasie Trio - took the form of a single overarching movement. Musically it relates to the late romantic genre, with more than a nod to Fauré. The piano is no longer completely dominant, and themes are shared between the three instruments.

I hope you will agree that this is a recital which celebrates the remarkable talents of each of our leavers. Waving them goodbye is always bittersweet; we are sorry to lose them as members of our community but excited for them as they venture off to pastures new. Please join me in wishing them great success and happiness wherever their lives may take them.

Ashley Wass
Director of Music

Programme

Quintetto No 7 in E minor

Allegro moderato

Adagio

Minuetto

Allegretto

Martin Keane *Guitar*

Felicia Tsai *Violin*

Alix Vaillot *Violin*

Leon Sturdee *Viola*

Eddie Mead *Cello*

Luigi Boccherini

1743–1805

Phantasie Trio (Piano Trio No 1) in C minor H79

Allegro moderato ma con fuoco

Andante con molta espressione

Allegro scherzoso

Andante

Allegro moderato

Con anima

Claire Wang *Piano*

Kasina Ansvananda *Violin*

Özgür Deniz Kaya *Cello*

Frank Bridge

1879–1941

Cassation in C Major Hob III:6

Presto

Minuetto

Adagio

Finale. Presto

Selina Staeheli *Violin*

Caterina Isaia *Cello*

Alfred Leishman *Guitar*

Franz Joseph Haydn

1732–1809

Sextet Op110 in D Major

Allegro vivace

Adagio

Menuetto. Agitato

Trio

Allegro vivace

Allegro con fuoco

Allegro con fuoco

Darwin Chang *Violin*

Salvatore Di Lorenzo *Viola*

Henry Quan *Viola*

Hattie McGregor *Cello*

Emanuel Samant-Crampton *Double bass*

Julius Backer *Piano*

Felix Mendelssohn

1809–1847

Performers



Kasina Ansvananda (19, Thailand): "I would like to meet Yehudi Menuhin. I would like to talk to him about his wisdoms and how I could help to change the world."



Salvatore Di Lorenzo (18, Italy): "If I were a piece of music, it'd be Mahler *Symphony No 2* because of the infinite colours that are featured and for the wonderful orchestration techniques."



Julius Backer (18, Netherlands/Germany): "When not practicing, my favourite thing to do is playing football with my friends on a sunny day."



Caterina Isaia (18, Italy): "If I were a piece of music, I would say that Schumann *Cello Concerto* is the piece which represents me the most."



Darwin Chang (18, Taiwan): "If I could meet someone from history, it would be Ravel, to talk about the contrast of life in and out of Paris."



Martin Keane (19, Ireland): "If I could meet someone from history, I'd want to meet Schumann so I could ask him to compose something for guitar."



Özgür Deniz Kaya (19, Turkey): "If I were a piece of music, I'd be *The Magic Flute* by Mozart - contrasting elements compliment one another. My glass is half-empty and half-full."



Alfred Leishman (18, Scotland) Favourite place: "Edinburgh (my hometown) as it's a city of sombre theatricality, deriving from its distinctive dark stone buildings and rich history."

Performers



Hattie McGregor (18, Scotland/Japan): "If I could meet one person from history, I would want to talk to Felix Mendelssohn about his life outside of music."



Selina Staeheli (18, Japan/Switzerland): "I love the Grieg violin sonatas because the music beautifully paints a picture of the atmosphere."



Eddie Mead (18, UK): "In my free time I like listening to film music, which in turn inspires my compositions."



Leon Sturdee (18, UK/Russia): "When I am not playing the violin, I very much enjoy reading, walking, swimming in the sea and sailing."



Henry Quan (17, South Korea/UK): "I would love to meet Muhammad Ali to discuss freedom, strength of mind, and principles of being the best human being I can be."



Felicia I Chiao Tsai (18, Canada/Taiwan): "My favourite place in the world is Vancouver where I grew up, especially White Rock beach in the south."



Emanuel Samant-Crampton (18, UK): "I would choose to meet Chopin and would discuss why the majority of his works are for solo piano."



Alix Vaillot (18, France): "I would love to meet Simone de Beauvoir and let her see how society evolved up to today. I would be very interested to get her opinion."



Claire Wang (13, UK/China): "If I could meet one person from history, it would be Chopin. I would ask what made him compose his 24 virtuosic études and why."

Thank you for making our work possible

We are immensely grateful to all of our loyal supporters, many of whom are in the audience tonight. It is thanks to you that we can offer the opportunity of a lifetime to talented young musicians from around the world, in a safe and nurturing environment.

The following list recognises those who have made donations of £1,000 or more in the 2020/21 academic year. We are also grateful to all of those donors who prefer to remain anonymous, a number of whom have made substantial gifts to the School.

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"As a leaver, I would like to particularly thank all those of you who support the School. The time here has really made the difference in my life; the School teaches us how to be outstanding performers, musicians and particularly how to find the artist which is deep within ourselves. Thank you again to all of you who support! I hope you enjoy the Summer Festival!"

- Salvatore Di Lorenzo

How you can help support the future of classical music



The Yehudi Menuhin School provides a specialist education for exceptionally talented young musicians from around the globe. Pupils are admitted based on talent, potential and passion for music, not on their ability to pay the fees. With more than 90% of pupils needing financial support to attend the School, it takes significant funding to fulfil this mission, particularly in times of global crisis.

Friends of The Yehudi Menuhin School

The Friends of YMS bring together people who share a love of music and a passion for supporting the next generation of performers. Friends provide a warm and loyal audience to our pupils, and benefit from priority booking to concerts in The Menuhin Hall as well as invitations to exclusive Friends-only events.

Membership starts from just £40 per year. To find out more or to join, please visit www.menuhinschool.co.uk/friends.

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Named for our Founder, the Menuhin Circle brings together people who donate between £1,000 - £5,000 per year to our Annual Fund for a minimum of three years. Members receive invitations to exclusive opportunities to meet pupils, alumni, teachers and those who were close to Yehudi Menuhin.

To join, please visit www.menuhinschool.co.uk/support-us.

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Stoke d'Abernon, Cobham, Surrey
KT11 3QQ

Main Reception: 01932 864739

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