



9th August 1.10pm - Lunchtime Recital
Joseph Myer Dawson - cello
Cristo Harijan - piano

Suggested donation £5

Zoltan Kodály (1882-1967)

Epigrams

Johannes Brahms (1883-1897)

Cello Sonata No. 1
in E Minor, Op. 38

Gabriel Faure (1845-1924)

Après un Rêve



St James's Church would welcome a donation of £5, or any amount that you feel able to give. Donations can be made in cash in the basket on your way out, or by tap donation at the machines at our exits.

Joseph Myer Dawson was born in Birmingham and started taking cello lessons from the age of 7. Now over a decade and a half later, music has cemented itself as his calling in life. Joseph studied the cello at Manchester's Royal Northern College of Music with the distinguished Professors of Cello Sally Pendlebury (Fitzwilliam Quartet), Eduardo Vassallo (Principal Cellist of the CBSO) and Petr Prause (Talich Quartet), who have all helped him mature as both a musician and a person.

He has been a finalist of the RNCM's annual Concerto competition and Barbirolli competition, as well a recipient of scholarships from Help Musicians UK and the RNCM itself.

Several long-term musical collaborations between Joseph and members of the RNCM's composition department were formed in the last year.

Notable projects include the debut performances of Christopher Cook's work for solo cello and orchestra *Dragonfly Vignette*, and Henry Page's *Aspiciens Simulacrum* for live and pre-recorded cello, which was a winner of the RNCM's Gold Medal Award 2021. In July, Joseph completed the London Sinfonietta Academy, another step into the world of contemporary music.

Joseph considers the cello the way to project his personality- his playing is praised for its intensity and rich sound alongside a strong expressive instinct.

Joseph closely studies the music and wisdom of the cellists he greatly admires, and tries to never miss one in concert- especially when Miklós Perényi, István Vardái or Steven Isserlis are performing.

And from beyond the grave, the indomitable legacy of Mstislav Rostropovich remains a constant source of inspiration to Joseph, as it is for cellists all over the world.

Cristo Harijan is a 22 year old pianist who has just concluded his final year as an undergraduate studying with Murray McLachlan at the Royal Northern College of Music, Cristo graduated with a first, receiving the outstanding mark of 94/100 for his final undergraduate recital. Cristo was born in upstate New York, and first started learning piano at the age of 9. After moving to the UK in 2012 he was self taught until 2014 when he began studying at The Sage Gateshead in the young musicians programme with Nick Butters. Cristo then went to study at the prestigious Chetham's School of Music in Manchester, where he first started having lessons with Dr McLachlan.

Cristo has extensive performing experience at venues in and around Manchester, as well as in internal and external competitions. In 2020, Cristo was given the highest award in the EPTA competition, in 2022 he performed in the final of the Krogulski international competition in Poland. Cristo also placed 1st in the RNCM's Mark Ray recital prize 2023 after a performance of Liszt's B minor sonata. Following this, he travelled to Verona, Italy to play in the 'Làszlò Spezzaferri music prize' where he placed 3rd in his category.

Cristo will be continuing his studies with the renowned pianist and teacher Pierre Reach at the Ecole Normale de Musique de Paris Alfred Cortot.