

2018 Great Romantics Competition

Sunday 23 September 3pm
Elisabeth Murdoch Hall
Presented by Melbourne Recital Centre

The Great Romantics Competition is supported by Annamila Pty Ltd, Mrs Margaret S. Ross AM & Dr Ian C Ross.

ADJUDICATORS

Marshall McGuire (non-voting chair)
Tamara Smolyar
Markiyan Melnychenko
Jack Schiller

ABOUT THE GREAT ROMANTICS COMPETITION

Now in its ninth year, this important national competition provides a platform for young musicians and ensembles passionate about Romantic repertoire, including such luminaries as Brahms, Liszt and Schumann. Open to soloists, duos or small ensembles, Australia's talented young musicians battle it out for the prestigious Elisabeth Murdoch Prize, which includes a combination of cash, recording opportunities and a performance as part of the Peninsula Summer Music Festival.

FINALISTS

JAMES HE piano
FRÉDÉRIC CHOPIN (1810-1849)
Scherzo No.3 in C-sharp minor, Op.39

ELIZA SHEPHARD flute
ALEX WAITE piano
BENJAMIN GODARD (1849-1895)
Suite de trois morceaux in B-flat, Op.116
II Idylle
III Valse

MILES JOHNSTON guitar
GIULIO REGONDI (1822-1872)
Introduction et Caprice, Op.23

CALEB WONG cello
PETER DE JAGER piano
PYOTR ILYICH TCHAIKOVSKY (1840-1893)
Pezzo capriccioso in B minor, Op.62

INTERVAL

JESSICA TAYLOR voice
GEORGE CAROLIN-UNKOVICH piano
RICHARD STRAUSS (1864-1949)
'Allerseelen' from 8 Gedichte aus 'Letzte Blätter', Op.10
PYOTR ILYICH TCHAIKOVSKY
'Uzh polnoch' blizitsa' from *Pique Dame*, Op.68
HENRI DUPARC (1848-1933)
La vie antérieure

KARLA HANNA violin
LAURENCE MATHESON piano
PABLO DE SARASATE (1844-1908)
Zigeunerweisen, Op.20
I *Moderato*
II *Lento*
III *Un poco più lento*
IV *Allegro molto vivace*

WILLIAM SOO piano
FRANZ LISZT (1811-1886)
Ballade No.2 in B minor, S.171

During the adjudicators' deliberation there will be a short performance from the winner of Melbourne Recital Centre's 2018 Bach Competition.

DANDAN WANG violin
JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH (1685-1750)
Violin Partita No.3 in E, BWV 1006
I *Preludio*
II *Loure*
III *Gavotte en Rondeau*

Please note judges' deliberation and presentations will immediately follow the performances.

ABOUT THE PERFORMERS

James He is studying a Bachelor of Music at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music. James started playing piano at the age of seven and is a student of Professor Ronald Farren-Price. He achieved his AMusA in 2014, LMusA in 2016 and has been successful in competitions during his time in Tasmania. He is particularly drawn to romantic works by Chopin due to their lyricism and emotional intensity and hopes to bring across the same musical emotions that he feels in his playing to everyone who listens.

Eliza Shephard is a graduate of the Australian National University with a Bachelor of Music with Honours (First Class) in Flute Performance studying under Virginia Taylor. In 2017 she was accepted into the ANAM/Griffith University Master of Music degree. Eliza was awarded second place in the Open Competition at the Australian Flute Festival, at Melbourne Youth Orchestra's Virtuosity competition and in the Musical Society of Victoria's Hephzibah Menuhin competition.

Miles Johnston has been learning guitar since age four. He attended the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School and is currently studying classical guitar at Monash University under Geoffrey Morris, and externally with Slava Grigoryan. Miles was awarded first place in the 2015 Melbourne Recital Centre Bach Competition, and recently was awarded 1st place in the 2018 Adelaide International Guitar Festival Competition. Miles, along with his brother Ziggy, are an internationally award-winning guitar duo.

Caleb Wong has studied under Takao Mitzushima and Uzi Wiesel and is currently undertaking his third year at the Australian National Academy of Music (ANAM) with Howard Penny. In 2014 he was awarded a scholarship to attend the Keshet Eilon Strings Mastercourse in Israel. He was a finalist in the ANAM Concerto Competition, and tied first for an Outstanding Performance in a Solo Recital award. Caleb has been involved with many Australian Youth Orchestra programs and international tours.

George Carolin-Unkovich and **Jessica Taylor** met at the West Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA) in 2018. George is currently enrolled in his third year of his Bachelor of Music studying under Professor Geoffrey Lancaster AM, and Jessica is enrolled in the Graduate Diploma of Music, studying with esteemed soprano Emma Matthews. They have a shared passion for collaboration, especially in art song repertoire, and in 2018 were awarded the inaugural Royal Overseas League Artsong Prize at WAAPA.

Karla Hanna began learning the violin at the age of three. In 2017 she completed three years at the Australian National Academy of Music (ANAM) where she studied under Dr Robin Wilson and Sophie Rowell. She has won numerous prizes as a soloist and chamber musician. A keen orchestral player, Karla was Concertmaster of the Melbourne Youth Orchestra in 2014 and the Australian Youth Orchestra in 2017. She has completed fellowships with the Melbourne and Adelaide Symphony Orchestras and regularly performs in both.

William Soo is currently studying piano with Glenn Riddle at The University of Melbourne. William's international successes include winning first prize and the gold medal at the 4th ASEAN International Chopin Competition in Kuala Lumpur and 2nd prize in the first Indonesia Pusaka International Piano Competition in Jakarta. William has also won numerous competitions in Australia. He has performed for Chinese pianist Lang Lang and Steven Osborne in public master classes at Melbourne Recital Centre.

Dandan Wang was the winner of Melbourne Recital Centre's 2018 Bach Competition, having also won a major prize in its 2017 Bach Competition. Dandan has been a member of the Melbourne String Ensemble (MSE) since 2015 and has played a broad range of chamber music with other members. She played the Mozart Concerto as a soloist with the MSE at its annual Concerto Concert in 2016.

Melbourne Recital Centre acknowledges the people of the Kulin Nation on whose land this event is being presented.