

Christopher George, Pianist

Born in Jersey in 1980, Christopher George commenced his studies at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in 1998 with Professor Emeritus James Gibb. During his time at the Guildhall, he built up a wealth of experience performing throughout the UK, and studying in Masterclasses with Peter Donohoe, Boris Berezovsky, Angela Hewitt, the Florestan Piano Trio, and Leon Fleisher, among others.

In 2003, Christopher was chosen by the Worshipful Company of Musicians as the recipient of the Carnwath Scholarship, which enabled him to study a further year on the Advanced Instrumental Studies course at the Guildhall, with the tuition of Caroline Palmer. This period saw a series of competition successes, including First Prize in the EYO Young Soloists Competition (2003), Equal First Prize in the Marlow Open Piano Concerto Competition (2004), and Third Prize in the Watford Festival Award (2004). Christopher was also a Semi-Finalist in the prestigious Guildhall Gold Medal Competition (2004).

Over the years, his playing has been recognized through numerous BBC Radio 3 broadcasts, including Composer Portrait – Zhou Long (Victoria and Albert Museum, July 2004), the Philip Glass Festival (Barbican Hall, January 2003), and John's Earbox – John Cage Festival (Barbican Hall, January 2002). Solo and chamber music performances include the Barbican Hall, Wigmore Hall, Bridgewater Hall, St. Martins in the Field, St. George's Cathedral, St. James' Piccadilly, Paxos Festival (Greece, 2003), Paris Conservatoire (Guildhall New Music Ensemble, 2002), and the Echoing Shadows tour (Australia, 2001).

Christopher is a member of two established chamber ensembles, the Rosina Trio (clarinet, cello, piano), and the Flanagan Trio (violin, cello, piano), and performs frequently with the French cellist Emmanuelle Dumas and the Belgian violinist Caroline Frenkel. A keen specialist in concerto repertoire, Christopher has performed concertos with the West Forest Sinfonia, Ealing Youth Orchestra, Jersey Symphony Orchestra, Emfeb Symphony Orchestra, Channel Islands Youth Orchestra, Guildhall Symphonic Wind Ensemble, and Emfeb Symphonic Wind Ensemble. Christopher has also had a piano concerto written for him recently by Owen Bourne, one of the leading young composers in the country. The work is entitled Brine – A Jersey Concerto.

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