

Timothy Orpen (clarinet), Victoria Simonsen (cello) and Daniel Tong (piano)

Timothy Orpen (clarinet)



Winner of the Gold Medal and overall First Prize in the Royal Over-Seas League Music Competition 2005 and described by *The Times* as a 'blazing talent', **Timothy Orpen** is one of the leading clarinetists of his generation. He made his Wigmore Hall recital debut in 2005, supported by the Musicians Benevolent Fund, and has since returned to the Wigmore Hall supported by the Royal Over-Seas League and the Park Lane Group; following this recital he was chosen as one of the 'best young British musicians of today' by *The Telegraph*. Timothy also appeared to critical acclaim at the Purcell Room as part of the Park Lane Group New Year series. More recently, Timothy gave a series of recitals in Singapore, New Zealand and Australia. As a chamber musician he has collaborated with the Australian, Allegri, Badke, Barbirolli, Doric, Heath, and Sacconi String Quartets and sopranos Elizabeth Watts, Lucy Crowe and Sally Matthews. Other chamber music performances include a recital and chamber music concerts with Pascal Rogé in Hong Kong and Messiaen's *Quartet for the End of Time* with pianist Melvyn Tan. Concerto highlights include the *Mozart Clarinet Concerto* at the Royal Albert Hall with Sir David Willcocks and Malcolm Arnold's *Clarinet Concerto No. 2* with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and Barry Wordsworth. Timothy studied at the Royal Academy of Music in London and at the Hochschule für Musik Karlsruhe, Germany with Wolfgang Meyer. In 2008 Timothy was appointed co-Principal clarinet of the London Chamber Orchestra by Christopher Warren-Green and he is the principal clarinet and founder member of the Aurora Orchestra.

Victoria Simonsen (cello)

Since graduating from the RNCM with the 2006 Gold Medal, **Victoria Simonsen** (cello) has developed a varied career performing in the UK and abroad. Selected Park Lane Group 'Young Artist' 2009 and Countess of Munster's Recital Scheme Soloist (2007-09), accolades include winning the English-Speaking Union Music Scholarship, Royal Over-Seas League Strings Competition, NZ Young Musician of the Year, Countess of Munster's 'Star' Award, Barbirolli Cello Prize and the prestigious Silver Medal of the Worshipful Company of Musicians. As a committed chamber musician, she is regularly invited to IMS Prussia Cove Open Chamber Music and for six years, until mid-2009, she was a member of the Barbirolli Quartet with whom she performed throughout the UK and was selected for the European Concert Hall Organisation 'Rising Stars' Series. Born 1983 in Auckland, New Zealand, Victoria moved to the U.K. in 2002 and studied primarily with Ralph Kirshbaum and Karine Georgian. While still a student she was appointed Section Principal Cellist with the Orchestra of Opera North (2005-07) before moving to London. Victoria receives continuing musical guidance from Professor Julius Berger at the Leopold Mozart Zentrum in Augsburg, Germany.



Daniel Tong (piano)



Daniel Tong's musical life is spent performing as soloist and chamber musician, as well as directing two chamber music festivals and teaching. Outside the UK he has performed in Sweden, France, Belgium and Portugal. He recently recorded a solo CD of works by Schubert, soon to be released on the Quartz label. Daniel has appeared at many of the foremost British venues and festivals - Wigmore Hall, South Bank Centre, St Georges Bristol, Birmingham Town Hall as well as the Cheltenham, Aldeburgh and Edinburgh Festivals. He is frequently heard on BBC Radio and has broadcast throughout Europe. His latest project, 'unravelling' in collaboration with musicologist Richard Wigmore, has seen a series of lecture-recital weekends on Beethoven and Schubert piano sonatas. In autumn 2012 he has been invited to curate a festival of Elgar's music at Kings Place in London. The recordings by his London Bridge Ensemble have been praised and recommended in the press and in 2012 the ensemble returns to the Wigmore Hall, appears at Kings Place in London and gives a series of concerts in Portugal. They will also present their fifth annual festival, the Winchester Chamber Music Festival. Each year Daniel plays with an array of wonderful artists, often at his own chamber festival in the Wye Valley.