

Tomos Boyles – Young Artist Recital

Sunday May 26th

2.00pm – 3.00pm

Palmer's Hall, Ludlow College

Clara Schumann

Three Romances Op. 21

Ravel

Miroirs:

- *Une Barque sur la Océan*
- *Alborada del Gracioso*
- *La Vallée des Cloches'*

Chopin

Piano Sonata Op. 58

Programme shown may be changed without notice



Tomos Boyles is an exciting young Welsh pianist who has performed in numerous prestigious venues including St Martin in the Fields and the Wales Millennium Centre.

He was awarded the first prize at the Wales International Piano Festival and the Blue Ribband of the National Eisteddfod.

Tomos graduated from Christ Church, Oxford University in 2022 with a first-class degree in music and is currently a postgraduate student at the Royal Academy of Music.

Programme notes

As our “young artist” this year, Tomos will play a thoroughly Romantic programme that juxtaposes Clara Schumann (1819-1896) and Frédéric Chopin (1810-1849) with Maurice Ravel (1875-1937).

Clara Schumann's *Three Romances Op. 21* are a stunning example of her ability to write concise, jewel-like forms

Similarly adept at writing miniatures was Chopin, whose third *Piano Sonata, Op.58* closes the programme.

The Sonata is unusually vast. in comparison with the rest of his oeuvre, yet many of the hallmarks of miniature writing remain. The dreamlike quality of his Nocturnes permeates the sonata, though it is ultimately subsumed into a bombastic and grandiose finale.

Separating the Romances and the Sonata are a set of three pieces from Ravel's *Miroirs*:

Une Barque sur la Océan (A Boat on the Ocean), depicts a boat's journey on the water through its encounters with huge waves and siren calls.

Alborada del Gracioso (The Jester's Sunrise Song) marks out Ravel's Basque origins in its depiction of guitar strumming and throat singing.

The final piece in the set, *La vallée des cloches* (The Valley of Bells), paints a beautiful landscape of bells whose sounds vary in tone, density and distance from the listener creating a uniquely “3D” sound experience.