



Lunchtime Concert

# Programme

**Xander Benham**  
*piano*

## **Children's Corner L.113**

Claude Debussy (1862 - 1918)

- i. Doctor Gradus ad Parnassum*
- ii. Jimbo's Lullaby*
- iii. Serenade for the Doll*
- iv. The Snow is Dancing*
- v. The Little Shepherd*
- vi. Golliwogg's Cakewalk*

## **Concert Étude No 3 “Un Sospiro” S.144**

Franz Liszt (1811 - 1886)

## **Sonata-Fantasy No.1**

Nikolai Kapustin (1937 - 2020)

- i. Vivace*
- ii. Largo*
- iii. Scherzo*
- iv. Allegro molto*

## **Meet the Musician**

Xander Benham (Essex, UK) is a pianist, composer, and recording artist based in the Netherlands. His musical journey began at age eleven when he was gifted a piano by his late grandmother—a moment that sparked a deep fascination for the instrument. Within a year, he was performing works by Debussy and Liszt. He later completed his Bachelor of Music with honours at City, University of London, receiving classical training at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama under Edward Liddall (MA GGSM), and studying composition with Aaron Einbond. Seeking to continue blending performance with contemporary creation, Xander moved to the Netherlands to study at HKU Utrecht Conservatory, completing his Master's degree in Composition and Performance in 2019 under Henry Kelder.



As a performer, Xander has appeared in major venues across the Netherlands, including TivoliVredenburg (Utrecht), Het Concertgebouw (Amsterdam), and live on Dutch national radio NPO 4. He has premiered modern classical works and concertos, maintains an extensive modern repertoire—particularly the music of Nikolai Kapustin—and performs both as a soloist and with his ensemble, The Xander Trio. Internationally, he has been recognised as a finalist in the HONENS International Piano Competition (2021) and the UK Piano Open (2023).

Based in Utrecht, Xander is also an active teacher of piano and composition, works closely with the modern publishing house Edition MatchingArts, and is the founder and organiser of the Utrecht Piano Meetup Group — a growing community for adult pianists and piano enthusiasts.

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**Welcome to Chelmsford Cathedral for this lunchtime concert.**  
Admission is free but we invite your contributions to cover the costs of these concerts.

Tea and coffee are available before concerts and you are most welcome to bring your own lunch: we ask that you take all packaging and leftover items home with you.

The use of mobile phones, cameras and recording equipment is not permitted; please ensure that all devices are switched to silent mode.

## Forthcoming concerts

### January

16<sup>th</sup> Selion Big Band  
23<sup>rd</sup> New City Voices  
30<sup>th</sup> Simone Tavoni *piano*

### February

6<sup>th</sup> Paul Walton *organ*  
13<sup>th</sup> Brentwood School *big band*  
20<sup>th</sup> Juanjo Blazquez *piano*  
27<sup>th</sup> Andrew Liddell *violin*

### Stay in touch!

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*All details are correct at the time of printing*

