



Thursday 27 July 2023, 12pm – 1pm
St Mary's Church, Petworth

Royal Academy Lunchtimes: Clara Orif (soprano) & Daniel Silcock (piano)

BIOGRAPHIES

Clara Orif

Soprano Clara Orif currently performs with Royal Academy Opera and is an Oxford Lieder Emerging Artist. Born in Paris into a Scottish family and based in London, Clara Orif started out her singing career at a very early age at the renowned *Maîtrise de Radio France*, under the direction of Sofi Jeannin. Alongside her vocal studies, she successfully trained as an organist at the Conservatoire Régional de Paris (CRR). After graduating in Musicology from La Sorbonne in Paris, she joined the Royal Academy of Music in London, studying with Mary Nelson, James Baillieu and Jonathan Papp, to complete a Master's degree in Voice (2022).

Clara Orif is a winner of the Richard Lewis / Jean Shanks Award and the Isabel Jay prize (2022). She is generously supported by the London Women's Clinic Foundation Award.

Clara Orif's engagements include the roles of Adina, Marie, and Armida, and was Iphis in Haendel's *Jephtha* at the 2023 Petersfield Festival. After playing Barbarina in the Royal Academy's production of *The Marriage of Figaro*, Clara takes up the leading role of Fanny in their 2023 production of Rossini's *La cambiale di matrimonio*. She works with the English Touring Opera and has been collaborating as a soloist since 2020 with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra & Chorus in their productions of Fauré's *Requiem*, Orff's *Carmina Burana* and Haydn's *Nelson Mass*.

Daniel Silcock

Originally from Scotland, Daniel Peter Silcock is a pianist particularly distinguished as a song accompanist. Currently based in London, Daniel is a scholarship student at the Royal Academy of Music, specializing in ensemble piano with Joseph Middleton.

Daniel is a Samling Institute Young Artist. He accompanied Annabel Kennedy (Mezzo-Soprano) at the Royal Over-Seas League Gold Medal Final held at London's Wigmore Hall, after winning the vocal section of the competition in February 2023. Together with Charles Cunliffe (Bass-Baritone), Daniel was awarded the Franz Schubert Institute UK prize as a Leeds Lieder Young Artist in 2023, leading to recitals and masterclasses on *Winterreise* with Roger Vignoles at Conway Hall. He has won major prizes at the Royal Academy of Music, including Major Van Someren-Godfrey prize for song accompaniment.

Prior to his time in London, Daniel studied at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland with Aaron Shorr and James Willshire, where he found particular affinity with the French piano repertoire - being awarded the Conservatoire's A Ramsay Calder Debussy Prize as well as second prize in the Governors' Recital Prize for Keyboard. Around this time, Daniel won second prize in the Roma International Piano Competition, in December 2019. Daniel continued his solo studies with Mei-Ting Sun at the Royal Academy of Music,

specializing in the music of Chopin. Daniel made his concerto debut at the age of 15 whilst at the RCS Junior Conservatoire, performing Mendelssohn's first concerto under the baton of David Danzmayr.

Recent seasons have seen Daniel performing around the country's top music centres: at Wigmore Hall, Edinburgh's Usher Hall, and Caird Hall in Dundee; as well as part of international music festivals: Music at Paxton, the Petworth Festival, and the Zeist International Lied Festival in the Netherlands. Daniel accompanied the first recital given by the prestigious Academy Song Circle at the Institut Français UK in Chelsea, as well as concerts at the Italian Cultural Forum and Regent Hall.

This event is kindly sponsored by the Anstruther Family



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