

Matthew McLachlan Biography

Matthew McLachlan was born in 2000 and started piano lessons with his father in 2008. At 11 years of age he passed grade 8 and entered Wells Cathedral School as a specialist musician, studying with John Byrne. After two years in Somerset he entered Chetham's in Manchester where he studied piano with Dina Parakhina and Cello with Gill Thoday. After gaining the ATCL and LTCL recital diplomas with distinction in 2014 and 2015, Matthew was awarded the FTCL in 2016. This followed on from winning third prize in the senior division of the first Scottish International Youth Prize Competition, held at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland in July 2016. In 2014 Matthew's performance of Ravel's G Major Piano Concerto was commended in the Chetham's Concerto competition and in the same year he was a prizewinner at the 2014 Mazovia Chopin Festival in Poland. As a result of his performance in Mazovia, he was selected to perform a 60-minute solo recital at the 2015 World Piano Teachers' Conference (WPTC) in Novi Sad, Serbia. In 2016 Matthew gave many recitals and was a finalist in the Chetham's Beethoven Piano Competition for the second year running. In March 2017 he was awarded first prize in the Chetham's Senior Bach competition. In August 2017 he performed Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto no. 1 in the Paderewski Festival in Poland. In Autumn 2017 he had a tour of concert performances featuring Brahms' Sonata no. 1 in C major. Matthew is currently on a gap year, but before leaving Chetham's he won the school's Bosendorfer competition, playing Stravinsky's 'Three movements from Petrushka'. In 2018 he performed Mozart's 13th concerto in Trieste, Haddington and Rhyl as well as Tchaikovsky's first and Beethoven's fourth concerto in Buxton with the orchestra of the High Peak. In the winter of 2018, the Knights of The Round Table awarded Matthew with a full scholarship at the Royal College of Music in London, where he now studies.