

LUNCHTIME RECITAL

THURSDAY 7TH NOVEMBER 2024

RUDDOCK HALL, 13.10

PRIYAMVADA AGARWAL – violin

JESSICA LI – flute

KAREN MAO – viola

GUITAR QUARTET

(JESSICA LI, flute; KAREN MAO, viola;

AIDAN ZHANG, 'cello; MING JIANG, guitar)

PIANO: MICHELLE SANDERS AND LUCY AKEHURST

Violin Sonata no. 4 in C minor, BWV 1017

J.S. BACH

iv. Allegro

Estrellita

PONCE

4 Airs de Ballet

DRIGO

ii. Valse Bluette

Flute Sonata 'Hamburger' in G major, Wq. 133

C.P.E. BACH

Three Pieces, Op. 40

BEACH

iii. Mazurka

Quartet for Flute, Guitar, Viola and 'Cello, D. 96

SCHUBERT

i. Moderato

J.S. BACH (1685-1750): Violin Sonata No. 4 in C minor, BWV 1017 (1720-3)

iv. Allegro

Johann Sebastian Bach was a prolific German composer known for his mastery of counterpoint and harmony, making his music timeless and extremely influential across a multitude of genres. Bach composed Violin Sonata No. 4 in C minor as part of a set of six sonatas originally for violin and obbligato harpsichord. This piece is a trio sonata, meaning the melodic lines of the violin and right-hand harpsichord are on equal terms with each other while the left hand supplies a continuously moving bass line. The *Allegro* movement is written in binary form with the fugue subject from the beginning being inverted in the second half.

MANUEL M. PONCE (1882-1948), ARR. HEIFETZ (1901-87): *Estrellita* (1912)

Manuel M. Ponce was one of the most celebrated Mexican musicians and composers of the twentieth century whose works brought the magical world of Mexican folk song to the concert hall. One of his most famous works is the Mexican love serenade, *Estrellita* meaning “little star”, for which Ponce also wrote the lyrics. The words show the singer telling the “estrellita” in the distant sky about her potential demise without the love of her beloved and wants the star to tell her if her beloved loves her even a little. The piece features a gorgeous melody with large leaps that is repeated at different tessituras intensifying the yearning of the singer.

Jascha Heifetz was a Russian-American violinist, considered one of the most exceptional violinists in history. In 1923, while he was in a cafe in Mexico City, Heifetz heard one of the local musicians perform *Estrellita*; he took notes on his napkin and later composed an arrangement for violin and piano based on Ponce’s popular song. He performed this arrangement in the 1939 film, *They Shall Have Music* and brought Ponce’s work to the masses.

RICCARDO E. DRIGO (1846-1930), ARR. AUER (1846-1930): 4 Airs de Ballet (1903)

ii. Valse Bluette

Riccardo E. Drigo was an Italian composer for ballet and opera, a conductor and a pianist. He was Director of Music for the Imperial Ballet of Saint Petersburg, Russia. He received many commissions from choreographers such as Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov, and also composed original full-length pieces for the ballet. He has also composed a large catalogue of smaller incidental pieces written for use in pre-existing works. Besides his outstanding ballet music, he is renowned for his adaptations of older works such as his 1895 edition of Tchaikovsky’s score for *Swan Lake*. The *Valse Bluette* from 4 Airs de Ballet is a both lyrical and lively waltz that utilises many virtuosic violin techniques like *spiccato*, harmonics, quick quaver runs and consecutive octaves.

CARL PHILIPP EMANUEL BACH (1714-1788): Flute Sonata 'Hamburger' in G major, Wq. 133 (1786)

As the second surviving son of J.S. Bach, C.P.E. Bach established himself as a leading composer of the early Classical period. Despite studying law and earning a degree in Frankfurt, C.P.E. Bach was destined for a career in music, receiving musical training from his father at a young age. C.P.E. Bach's early works exemplified the grandeur of Baroque style but after settling in Hamburg, Bach developed a more adventurous style with bolder, more experimental music.

This Hamburger Sonata, one of C.P.E. Bach's later works, is a stark contrast to the grandeur of baroque music, demonstrating the move towards the more heartfelt 'Galant' style, with light accompaniment and pleasing melodies. *Allegretto* portrays the light-heartedness of the style, consisting of scalar and arpeggio figures amongst beautiful melodies. Whereas the second movement, *Rondo*, is lively and vibrant with fast moving passages and flourishes.

JESSICA LI, UPPER SIXTHS

AMY C. BEACH (1867-1944): Three Pieces, Op. 40 (1898)

i. *Allegro moderato*

Amy Beach was a pioneering composer and pianist, widely regarded as the first successful American female composer. Born in New Hampshire, she showed extraordinary musical talent at a very young age and became an accomplished pianist in her teens. Upon her marriage to a surgeon, she was restricted in her performances due to his wishes, and focused on composition. Following his death, she resumed performing and toured Europe with her own music, to great acclaim.

KAREN MAO, LOWER SIXTHS

FRANZ SCHUBERT (1797-1828): Quartet for Flute, Guitar, Viola and 'Cello, D. 96

i. *Moderato*

Schubert's charming Quartet for flute, viola, violoncello and guitar has been for several decades one of the minor mysteries of the world of music. References to this work in the literature of music history are rare and generally contradictory.

The piece was originally composed for flute, viola, and guitar by Wenzel Thomas Matiegka. Schubert later enhanced the work by adding a 'cello part and composing a second trio for the minuet. It consists of 5 movements: *Moderato*, *Menuetto*, *Lento e patetico*, *Zingara*, and finishing with *Thema con Variazioni*.

COLLECTIVELY WRITTEN BY THE SCHUBERT GUITAR QUARTET

PRIYAMVADA AGARWAL is 15 years old and has been playing the violin since the age of 4 and piano since the age of 6. Last year, she also started learning the viola. She achieved her violin ARSM diploma at the age of 14 and learns with Sarah Murphy. She achieved her Grade 8 piano at the age of 13 and is currently working towards the piano LRSM diploma and Grade 8 music theory exam under Shi Ling Chin. She leads the second violin section in KES/KEHS Symphony Orchestra and has been a member of the CBSO Youth Orchestra since 2023. From a young age, she has participated in several other musical ensembles and is currently a member of KEHS Chamber Choir, KEHS Chamber Ensemble and is part of the Mendelssohn Octet. In her free time, Priyamvada indulges in composition and music technology and hopes to study music at A-level and beyond. Besides classical music, she has interest in computer science, decrypting ciphers and has taken part in numerous maths competitions.

JESSICA LI is 16 years old and began playing the flute at the age of 10 in Year 5. She is currently taking lessons from Japheth Law and is working towards her Diploma. In addition to playing the flute, Jessica has been playing the piano since she was 5. At school, she enjoys participating in orchestra and co-runs Econ Soc. In her free time, she plays badminton and enjoys travelling with her family. As a Year 12 student at KEHS, Jessica is taking 5 A levels and hopes to study economics and finance in the future.

KAREN MAO is in Year 12 at King Edward VI High School for Girls and is currently studying viola under Lucy Akehurst. She has completed her viola diploma and has also achieved distinction in piano Grade 8 with Dr Heng Ching Fang. Aside from music, Karen likes to make soap and decorate cakes.

AIDAN ZHANG is 15 years old and he studies piano with Robert Markham and cello with Elaine Heinen. Aidan attained Grade 8 distinction in piano, 'cello and violin (under Sam Mason) when he was at Bluecoat School. He achieved the LTCL Licentiate Diploma in piano performance when he was 12 and has won several music competitions. Aidan also made his concerto debut in 2023. Outside music, Aidan has also regularly participated in training and competitions in swimming and badminton.

MING JIANG is 15 years old and started studying the guitar when he was 7 years old and is taught by John Gerighty. He did his DipABRSM in 2021 for the guitar alongside piano where he is taught by Mike Adams. He also began studying the cello at the age of 7 with Mark Walkem, he passed grade 8 with distinction five years later. Now he receives tuition from Emma Barron. Outside of music, Ming enjoys playing rugby in his free time.

FORTHCOMING CONCERTS

INSTRUMENTAL EVENING

Monday 11 November 2024, 18.00 / Ruddock Hall / Admission free.

An informal concert given by vocalists, drum kit, and percussion players from both schools.

LUNCHTIME RECITAL

Thursday 14 November 2024, 13.10 / Ruddock Hall / Admission free.

Harry Green, voice.

Vivaldi's Concerto for two oboes: KEHS Chamber Orchestra,
with Shalu Arun and Violet McNeill.

Debussy's *Danse Sacrée et Danse Profane*: KEHS Chamber Orchestra and Derwent
Wilson, harp.

INSTRUMENTAL EVENING

Monday 18 November 2024, 18.00 / Ruddock Hall / Admission free.

An informal concert given by guitar players from both schools, including a
performance from the Guitar Orchestra.

INSTRUMENTAL SHOWCASE

Wednesday 20 November 2024, 18.00 / Ruddock Hall / Admission free.

A programme of highlights from this term's Instrumental Evenings.

STEINWAY JAZZ NIGHT 1

Wednesday 4 December 2024, 18.00 / Ruddock Hall / Admission free.

A seasonal concert of solo and group jazz performances given by musicians from both
schools.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT 1

Sunday 8 December 2024, 15.00 / Ruddock Hall / £5.00 adults, £2.50 conc.

Performances by Choral Society, Wind Band, String Orchestra, KES/KEHS Big Band,
KEHS Chamber Choir and KES/KEHS Symphony Orchestra.

*Tickets available to parents and members of the school community from Tuesday 12
November 2024; on general sale from Tuesday 19 November 2024.*

CHRISTMAS CONCERT 2

Sunday 8 December 2024, 19.30 / Ruddock Hall / £5.00 adults, £2.50 conc.

Performances by KES Choir, Swing Band, KEHS Chamber Choir, Concert Band and
KES/KEHS Symphony Orchestra.

*Tickets available to parents and members of the school community from Tuesday 12
November 2024; on general sale from Tuesday 19 November 2024.*

For information on these and other concerts, visit **www.ruddockpac.co.uk**.
If you have a query or need to book an accessible space, please contact the Box Office
by email: **ruddockpac@keschools.org.uk**.