*MUSIC AT WESLEY*

TUESDAY LUNCHTIME CONCERT

WESLEY CHURCH CENTRE, ST JOHN STREET, CHESTER CH1 1DA

May 21st 2024, 12.45pm

**MATTHEW LAU – Piano**

**6 Variations in F major Op. 34 Beethoven (1770 – 1827)**

*Theme: Adagio cantabile*

*Variation 1*

*Variation 2: Allegro, ma non troppo*

*Variation 3: Allegretto*

*Variation 4: Tempo di Minuet*

*Variation 5: Marcia. Allegretto*

*Variation 6: Allegretto*

*Coda: Allegretto - Adagio molto*

**Quejas, o la Maja y el Ruiseñor Granados (1867 – 1916)**

(‘The Maiden and the Nightingale’) from ‘Goyescas’

**Gaspard de La Nuit Ravel (1875 – 1937)**

*Ondine*

*Le Gibet*

*Scarbo*

*Thank you for supporting this recital. The retiring collection (suggested minimum donation £4 per person) covers performing rights and other direct expenses, with the balance in aid of Wesley Church funds. If you are a taxpayer it would be much appreciated if you would donate using a Gift Aid envelope (just add your name, address & post code).*

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**Matthew Lau** is an accomplished pianist, having been awarded 1st place at the Beethoven Junior Intercollegiate Piano Competition to become the first winner of the competition from the Junior Royal Northern College of Music and reaching the final of the prestigious RNCM Gold Medal Competition. He has enjoyed playing in various concerts series and recitals across the UK, such as Chester Wesley Church, Chester Music Society, Wigan Music Society, Manchester St Ann’s Church, Nantwich, Ealing St Barnabas Church and the Leigh Music Society. Matthew’s performances are not just limited to recital settings, having also played in an RNCM Research forum given by Dr Denis Herlin and for a lecture by the Verdun Allen Music Foundation on the works of Debussy and Ravel.

At a young age, Matthew started performing at JRNCM where he had the opportunity to take part in the RNCM Keyboard Day, informal and formal lunchtime concerts. He continued his studies at the RNCM graduating with a first class honours a degree and a Masters with Distinction. Since his first year as a JRNCM student, Matthew studied with John Gough, but has also had the pleasure of playing to established artists, such as Kathryn Stott, Jean Efflam Bavouzet, Pascal Rogé and Trio Gaspard. Matthew is now conducting doctoral research at the RNCM and his project centres around the 20th Century composer Charles Griffes. The project will involve recording the complete catalogue of solo piano works, with the inclusion of world premieres.

*Forthcoming ‘Music at Wesley’ Concerts*

**Tuesday Lunchtime Concerts, 12.45pm. Retiring Collection**

May 28th: Richard Haslam (guitar), with David Hammond (piano)

June 4th: Philip Sharp (piano)

June 11th: Lionel Clarke (cello), Brian Heald (piano)

**Saturday Organ Recitals, 12.45pm. Retiring collection**

June 15th: Paul Carr (Birmingham)

***‘Wednesdays at One’ Lunchtime Concerts at St John’s Church run throughout the summer.***

***See*** [*www.stjohnschester.uk*](http://www.stjohnschester.uk) ***for performer details***