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COLLEGE of MUSIC

**‘Accenting the Classics’:
Workshop and Concert for Young Pianists
Saturday 22 June 2019, Royal Birmingham Conservatoire
Junior Conservatoire Event Led by Roy Howat**

Workshop Programme (Workshop 3, Level 1), 3.00–5.00pm

PART I: Couperin and Debussy

Couperin, ‘Le Tic-Toc-Choc’, *Third Book* (1722) – Jia You Yang

Debussy, ‘Le petit nègre’, *Méthode de piano* (1909) – Sofia Beleva

Debussy, ‘Le petit berger’, *Children’s Corner* (1908) – Leo Hong and George Marin

SHORT BREAK (10 minutes)

PART II: Ravel (4.00pm)

Ravel, ‘Modéré’, *Sonatine* (1905) – Amber Hilton and Sebastian Carrington

Ravel, *La Valse* (transcr. Ravel, 1920) – Lauren Zhang

REFRESHMENTS SERVED 5.00pm

FOLLOW-ON CONCERT: RECITAL HALL 6.00–7.00pm

All Junior Conservatoire piano students, piano tutors, parents and guests are welcome. Admission is free.



Arts & Humanities
Research Council

Biography: Roy Howat

We are delighted to be joined today by the renowned concert pianist and scholar of French music, Dr Roy Howat, to lead what promises to be a really exciting and interesting piano event. A graduate of King's College, Cambridge, Roy made a special study of French music in Paris with Vlado Perlemuter and is one of few British artists repeatedly invited to teach and play French music at major French-speaking conservatoires and on French radio. He is known for his lively lectures and masterclasses, which have been given worldwide at venues including the Juilliard and Eastman Schools.

A Steinway Artist, Roy knows much of his concert repertoire from the composers' manuscripts and is a founding editor of the Paris-based *Complete Debussy Edition*, for which he has edited much of the piano music. Among his other publications are Urtext volumes of Fauré (mostly for Peters Edition), two seminal books (*Debussy in Proportion* and *The Art of French Piano Music*), an English edition of Jean-Jacques Eigeldinger's *Chopin, Pianist and Teacher*, and chapters in books on Schubert, Chopin, Debussy, Ravel, Bartók and other topics. His championship of Chabrier has led to recordings and a Dover edition of Chabrier's marvellous piano music. Following a three-year AHRB Fellowship at the Royal College of Music, since 2003 he has been Keyboard Research Fellow at the Royal Academy of Music.

Roy has played concerts and broadcast with an array of distinguished soloists, singers and chamber groups, such as with the Panocha Quartet in Japan, the Czech Republic and the UK, including at the Wigmore Hall. His book *The Art of French Piano Music* was chosen as 2009 Book of the Year by *International Piano* and has earned citations including 'Outstanding' in *International Record Review* and 'Editor's Choice' in *Classical Music*. Equally enthusiastic reviews have appeared in *Musical Times*, *Piano* and *Gramophone*.

Outreach Project with the Junior Conservatoire

'Accenting the Classics' is a prestigious, three-year research project (2016–2019) about early twentieth-century French music and piano editions, hosted by the French Music Research Hub at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, in partnership with the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester. The team of four researchers includes Prof. Deborah Mawer, Prof. Graham Sadler, Dr Rachel Moore (RBC) and Prof. Barbara L. Kelly (RNCM).

The project focuses on a large French edition of European piano music published in Paris during and after the First World War, which was edited (often 'accented') by famous composers, amongst them Debussy, Ravel, Fauré, Saint-Saëns and Dukas. It also looks at the impact of this music of the past upon the new, modern music that these composers were creating. It is the aspect of mixing old and new that has inspired our event for young pianists, collaborating with the Junior Conservatoire. The music you will hear exerts a strong relationship with its classical past, in terms of form (sonatina, dance), style, tonality and subject-matter: sometimes it evokes that past; at other times it transforms it.

Today's double event comprises an afternoon Workshop and an early evening, informal Concert, with refreshments served in between. We are privileged to be working with seven very talented young musicians in what is sure to be a most enjoyable, stimulating experience for everyone involved. We are especially pleased to be exploring two sets of alternative interpretations of the same piece. The event will be recorded as part of the legacy of the 'Accenting the Classics' Project, but it will only be used publicly with the permission of participants. We are very grateful for the generous financial support provided to the 'Accenting the Classics' research project by the Arts & Humanities Research Council (AHRC), which has made this event possible.