

# Biography

Clare Hammond, pianist

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Acclaimed as a pianist of “amazing power and panache” (*The Telegraph*), Clare Hammond is recognised for the virtuosity and authority of her performances and has developed a “reputation for brilliantly imaginative concert programmes” (*BBC Music Magazine*, ‘Rising Star’). In 2016, she won the Royal Philharmonic Society's 'Young Artist Award' in recognition of outstanding achievements. Highlights last year included a performance at the Royal Festival Hall with the Philharmonia, and a concerto tour of Poland, with a newly discovered work by Josef Myslivecek, a mentor of Mozart. Over the autumn, Clare curated three concerts for the BBC at the Belfast International Arts Festival, which were broadcast in November as part of the BBC Radio 3 Lunchtime Concerts series.

In the 2017/18 season, Clare performs Edwin Roxburgh’s *Concerto for Piano and Winds* with the BBC Symphony Orchestra and will make world premiere recordings of two keyboard concertos by Myslivecek with the Swedish Chamber Orchestra and conductor Nicholas McGegan for BIS Records. BBC Radio 3 and the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra have recently co-commissioned composer Kenneth Hesketh to write a concerto for Clare, to be premiered in 2019 with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales.

Clare’s most recent disc for BIS, of music by Ken Hesketh, has been widely praised with the Observer describing her as a “star interpreter of contemporary music”. Her previous release, ‘Etude’, received unanimous critical acclaim for its “unflinching bravura and conviction” (*Gramophone*) while the BBC Music Magazine stated that “this array of wizardry is not for the faint hearted”.

Clare completed a BA at Cambridge University, where she obtained a double first in music, and undertook doctoral study with Ronan O’Hora at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama and with Professor Rhian Samuel at City University London.

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