

# 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*). In 2016, she won the Royal Philharmonic Society's 'Young Artist Award' in recognition of outstanding achievements. Highlights that year included a performance at the Royal Festival Hall with the Philharmonia and a series of three concerts at the Belfast International Arts Festival, broadcast as part of the BBC Radio 3 Lunchtime Concerts series.

In the 2017/18 season, Clare performed Edwin Roxburgh's *Concerto for Piano and Winds* with the BBC Symphony Orchestra under Michael Seal and Panufnik's Piano Concerto with the Warsaw Philharmonic Orchestra under Jacek Kasprzyk. She has recently made the world premiere recording of a keyboard concerto by Myslivecek with the Swedish Chamber Orchestra and conductor Nicholas McGegan for BIS Records. BBC Radio 3 and the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra have 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 “unfaltering 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 postgraduate study with Ronan O'Hora at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama.

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