

WACIDOM

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Holy Trinity Church, Market Gate, Warrington

Saturday 21st February 2026 1:45pm – 2:30pm

Recital by students from Chetham's School of Music and the RNCM

Programme

Grace Hughes (violin) and Alex Booty (piano)

J S Bach Violin Partita no. 2 in D minor (BMV 1004)

- i. Sarabande
- ii. Gigue

Bedrich Smetana for violin & piano "From my homeland"

- i. Moderato
- ii. Andantino-Allegro vivo

Tom Hughes (horn) and Evan Watkinson (piano)

Franz Liszt	'Sposalizio' from the Second Year of Pilgrimage: Italy for solo piano
Alan Abbott	'Alla caccia' for horn and piano
Saint-Saens	Romance for horn and piano Op.36
Franz Strauss	Nocturno for horn and piano Op.7
Arnold Cooke	Rondo for horn and piano

Biographies

Grace Hughes (violin)

Grace is currently studying violin with Catherine Yates at the RNCM (first year) after several years learning from her grandfather, Martin Hughes. From North Yorkshire, Grace benefitted from the Yorkshire Young Musicians scheme based at Leeds Conservatoire and has enjoyed being a member of Opera North's excellent youth orchestra. Grace was leader of the acclaimed Tees Valley Youth Orchestra, providing direction at venues such as the Glasshouse in Gateshead and in various cathedrals on a tour of northern Spain. A versatile musician, Grace also loves to sing and play piano and is comfortable and accomplished in different genres such as folk, pop and improvisation. She is passionate about sharing music as a powerful tool for change and healing, enjoying outreach experiences playing in care homes and in her ambassador role for Orchestras for All.

Tom Hughes (horn)

Younger brother of Grace, Tom is currently in his final year at Chetham's School of Music where he studies with Lindsey Stoker. Prior to Chetham's, Tom greatly benefitted from lessons with Catherine Hewitt in Ripon, and also enjoyed his time in the Tees Valley Youth Orchestra. More recently Tom has benefitted from an access scheme which has enabled him to perform twice with the BBC Symphony Orchestra at their famous Maida Vale studio in London. In 2025 he performed in lunchtime recitals at the Bridgewater Hall and Stoller Hall respectively and has had masterclasses with Ben Goldscheider and Martin Owen. He was recently offered a scholarship to study at the RNCM though is likely to take up a place at the Royal College of Music in London where he hopes to pursue his dream of becoming a professional horn player.

Alex Booty (piano)

From Norfolk, Alex now studies piano at the RNCM with Annabelle Lawson (first year). A graduate of the distinguished Aldeburgh Young Musicians scheme, Alex has enjoyed masterclasses with internationally acclaimed pianists including Zeynep Ozsucu, Fred Thomas and Tyler Hay. He won the Inspiration Trust Piano Competition in 2024 and 2025.

Evan Watkinson (piano)

From Doncaster, Evan is an upper sixth student of piano and saxophone at Chetham's School of Music where he learns with Jonathan Middleton. Evan is also looking forward to continuing his musical studies in London at the Royal College of Music.

Next week's concert 28th February Adam Davies, Piano

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