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## BIOGRAPHY

Niel du Preez has inspired live and radio audiences in the UK, continental Europe and his native South Africa with his expressive and poetic solo playing, performances with leading orchestras and collaborations with chamber musicians. His most recent collaboration comes in the form of a duo with Paris-based clarinettist Myriam Carrier.

Upcoming performances and master classes are scheduled for the 2018 Piano Week International Summer School and Festival at Moreton Hall in Shropshire, a recital in Sankt Goar am Rhein in Germany and a performance of the Saint Saëns Piano Concerto in F Major Op. 103 with the Chamber Academy Orchestra of London this summer. Recent performances include solo and duo recitals in Perth Australia, Beijing China, Frankfurt Germany, St. John's Smith Square, St. Martin-in-the-Fields, the Blüthner Piano Concert Series as well as a performance of Shostakovich's Piano Concerto no. 2 in central London.

Niel was awarded DAAD & SAMRO scholarships for overseas studies and has won numerous prizes at various national and international competitions, including the *Oude Meester* and *FORTE* music competitions in South Africa and the International Silvio Bengali Piano Competition in Italy.

He studied at the Stellenbosch Conservatoire of Music in South Africa, the *Hochschule für Musik und Theater Hannover* and the *Staatlichen Hochschule für Musik Karlsruhe* in Germany. Former teachers include Christopher Oakden, Peter Nelson, Kaya Han and Simone Kirsch, and over time he has engaged with various acclaimed pianists and teachers such as Ari Vardi, Karl-Heinz Kämmerling, Peter Feuchtwanger, Andzrej Jasinsky, Peter Eicher, Martino Tirimo, Nelly-Ben Or, Melvyn Tan and Graham Fitch.

Today Niel is a member of faculty at the St. Paul's Cathedral School and King's College School in London where he teaches piano.