

PROFILE Pianist Joshua Hooke (23yrs)

Joshua Hooke is competing in 2016 Australian National Piano Award 5-10 September

Originally from country Victoria, Josh completed his secondary schooling at Wonthaggi Secondary College, where he received a perfect 50 for VCE music, and in turn was awarded the Margaret Scholfield Memorial Scholarship for music performance and a VCE Premier's Award for music. Currently, Josh is completing Master's of Music Performance at the University of Melbourne, under the guidance of Professor Ian Holtham. Since being at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, he has received a number of awards and prizes, including the Doris Chandler Bursary, the Phyllis Judd/Therese de Kretser Memorial scholarship and the Gwen Nisbet scholarship among others, and has twice been awarded the Lady Turner Prize. Recently he was awarded the Lady Elizabeth McComas Piano Scholarship, a traveling scholarship that enabled a period of intensive study in Vienna with Paul Badura-Skoda.

Joshua was invited to give a concert as part of the inaugural Kawai Young Artists Platform at the Port Fairy Spring Music Festival, and in 2013 was selected as a finalist in the Melbourne Recital Centre's Great Romantics Competition. Other concerts have included performances as part of the Melba Hall Lunch Hour Series, and the Scots' Church Holy Week Recital Series, as well as performances at Victorian Parliament House and the Australian Club. As a keen chamber musician, he has performed with Australian soprano Greta Bradman, and has given award-winning chamber music performances for the Music Society of Victoria as well as world premiers of new Australian works. Josh has had performances broadcast on ABC Classic FM and 774 as well as MBS radio network. He has performed as both soloist and orchestral pianist with a number of orchestras including The University of Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and Hopkins Sinfonia, and in 2015 he was selected as soloist for the UMSO's Chancellor's Concert Series in Sydney.

He has been hand picked to perform in masterclasses and lessons for a number of distinguished pianists including Paul Badura-Skoda (Austria), Pavalli Jumpanen (Finland), Alessio Bax (Italy/USA) Lisa Moore, Ronald Farren-Price, Anna Goldsworthy and Craig Sheppard (USA), among others.

For media interviews and photos please contact: Nicola Archer, Nicola Archer Communications on 0419 002 769 or nicola@nicolaarcher.com