

300 word bio:

Mikaela is a pianist based in South East London, specialising in contemporary works and improvisation. Originally from Cyprus, where she was a member of the Cyprus National Youth Orchestra Wind Band, Mikaela first developed an interest in contemporary music at the age of 16. This led to involvement in projects such as The International Pharos Contemporary Music Festival, as well as various masterclasses from visiting artists.

Her interest in multiple art forms led to performances in two Youth Music Theatre productions: Korczak (The Rose Theatre, 2011) and The Dark Tower (Riverside Studios, 2013) as a pit band musician, playing both piano and tuned percussion.

She is currently in her fourth year of study at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance under Katya Lebedeva, previously studying piano with Simon Young as well as composition with Errollyn Wallen and improvisation with Douglas Finch.

Whilst at Trinity Laban, Mikaela holds joint first place in the Gladys Puttick Improvisation Competition (2014) and was a finalist in the Alfred Kitchin Solo Piano Competition (2015). She has taken part in events including the CPE Bach festival and the Recycling The Past Festival and she has participated in piano masterclasses held by Maurizio Moretti and James Willshire.

More recently, Mikaela has premiered the works of composers Talia Morey, Richard Edwards and Erica MacLeod and enjoys collaborating on projects with musicians and dancers from Trinity Laban. Her recent partnership with dancer Yanaelle Thiran has led to winning first prize in the Gladys Puttick Improvisation Competition (2017) for the second time.

She has a keen interest in piano duo works, and has worked with various other pianists on a wide range of repertoire from Rachmaninov to Peter Racine Fricker and newly commissioned works.

Mikaela has over 5 years of teaching experience, and takes students of any level, catering the lessons to suit each student's interests and requirements. She enjoys teaching free improvisation and composition alongside more traditional music routes.