

# Dylan Christopher: Biographical Programme Note

## Short

**Dylan** completed his music studies with honours at **Colchester Institute**, where he studied piano with Australian pianist **Lesley Young**, and composition with **Mark Bellis**. While studying, in 2009, Dylan won Colchester Institute's **Canon Jack Award for Solo Piano** adjudicated by **Andrew Ball**. Dylan has established himself as a music educator in Colchester, founding **Da Capo Academy, Ltd** with his wife **Samantha Christopher**. A promoter and advocate of contemporary classical music, Dylan joined the membership of **Colchester New Music** in 2014.

## Long

**Dylan Christopher** is a pianist, composer and music educator, based in Colchester providing piano lessons, workshops and concert performance opportunities to aspirant musicians young and old.

His music has been described as “Sparkling ... with just right amount of grandiose”, in terms of, fluency and engagement, rhythmic energy, in dramatic film-like episodes.

As an undergraduate, Dylan completed his music studies with honours at **Colchester Institute: Centre for Performing Arts**, where he studied piano with Australian pianist **Lesley Young**, and composition with **Dr Mark Bellis**, completing his teacher training under the mentorship of **Phil Toms** and **Matthew Simpkins**. There, in 2009, Dylan won Colchester Institute's **Canon Jack Award for Solo Piano** adjudicated by **Andrew Ball**. He was awarded 2nd place in **The Roy Teed Cup for Composition** in 2010 adjudicated by **Vincent Lindsay-Clarke**. After graduating, Dylan continued his personal study by receiving coaching and mentorship from Colchester-based pianist and musical director of **Colchester Choral Society**, **Ian Ray**.

An avid musician, Dylan has performed in masterclasses lead by pianists **Victor Sangiorgio** and **Lin Lin Tao**, and, showcased his compositional work to **Philip Cashian**, **Ian Clarke**, **Hans Kuijt** and **Jeffery Wilson**. More recently, Dylan has established himself as a music educator in Colchester, founding **Da Capo Academy, Ltd** with his wife **Samantha Christopher**, providing tuition, workshops and concert performance opportunities to aspirant musicians young and old. A promoter and advocate of contemporary classical music, Dylan joined the membership of **Colchester New Music** in 2014.

## Further Information

Date of Birth: 16 December 1987

Place of Birth: Rush Green, Essex, UK