



CHRIST CHURCH, ESHER  
LUNCHTIME CONCERT

***Rokas* VALUNTONIS**  
***piano***

Wednesday 16 September 2020  
at 1.10pm

COVID restrictions apply. Face coverings must be worn.  
Contact details are being taken for track and trace.  
Sadly we cannot offer lunch under present circumstances.

# Programme



## Music on the Green

*Quality music in the heart of Esher*

Music on the Green (MOTG) is the Parish of Esher's musical outreach programme based at Christ Church, overlooking Esher Green. At MOTG we believe that music should be accessible to all. Whilst having our firmest foot planted at the classical end of the spectrum, we seek to offer a rich and varied programme, presenting live music in interesting and rewarding ways so that it can be widely appreciated and enjoyed.

### **12 Variations on 'La Folia'**

Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach  
(1714-1788)

### **Kinderszenen, Op. 15**

*Of Foreign Lands & Peoples*  
*A Curious Story*  
*Blind Man's Buff*  
*Pleading Child*  
*A Happy Event*  
*Important Enough*  
*Dreaming*  
*At the Fireside*  
*Knight of the Hobby Horse*  
*Almost too serious*  
*Frightening*  
*Child falling asleep*  
*The Poet Speaks*

Robert Schumann (1810-1856)

### **Ballade no. 3 in A flat major, Op. 47**

Frédéric Chopin (1810-1849)

### **Rondo Alla Turca**

W A Mozart (1756-1791)  
trans. Arcadi Volodos

# Rokas Valuntonis

Praised for his 'liquidity of sound', 'kaleidoscopic colours' and 'astonishing command of the keyboard', Lithuanian pianist Rokas Valuntonis has drawn admiration for his imaginative interpretations and striking virtuosity.

A laureate of more than 20 international competitions, Valuntonis won First Prize at the 2018 Campillos International Piano Competition (Spain), and his previous triumphs include both the 'Societa Umanitaria' International Music Competition (Italy) and the Nordic Piano Competition (Sweden).

Rokas has performed all over Europe, including Denmark, Finland, France and Portugal. His London appearances have included venues such as Milton Court and the Wallace Collection, and his overseas engagements have included the Lithuanian National Philharmonic Hall, La Sala Verdi and La Sala Casella Accademia Filarmonica Romana. He has performed with the Lithuanian Chamber Orchestra and National Symphony Orchestra, Lund Symphony Orchestra, the St Christopher Chamber Orchestra and Panevėžys Chamber Orchestra.

Aside from traditional concerts, Rokas has collaborated with both actors and presenters. His most recent



collaboration, with the celebrated Lithuanian actor Kostas Smoriginas, explored the characters and emotional lives of great composers like Beethoven, Chopin and Rachmaninov.

The 2020/21 season sees him booked for solo recitals around Europe in venues such as the National Philharmonic and Klaipeda Concert Halls (Lithuania), Harpa Concert Hall (Iceland) and UK-based festivals such as the Barnes Music Festival and the Deal Arts & Music Festival. He has also just appeared at The Summer of Piano Music in the Lithuanian spa town of Druskininkai, where Charles Bronson's father was born.

In his native country, Rokas studied at the Lithuanian Music and Theatre Academy under Aleksandra Zvirblyte, before attending the Sibelius Academy (Finland), followed by studies with Eugen Indjic in Paris and Artist Diploma studies in London at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama under Peter Bithell. Rokas joined the City Music Foundation's Artist Programme in 2017. For his many achievements, he has been honoured with the prestigious Queen Morta Award and acknowledgements by two Lithuanian Presidents. Earlier this year, Rokas was awarded a special Artist Grant by the Lithuanian Ministry of Culture.



## **FUTURE LUNCHTIME CONCERTS AT CHRIST CHURCH**

*Third Wednesday of the month  
Concert from 1.10pm*

### **2020 Programme**

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|--------|--|
| Oct 21 | Flauguissimo Duo<br>(baroque flute, theorbo) |
| Nov 18 | Duo Kottos (guitar, cello)                   |
| Dec 16 | Come & Sing Carols                           |

*All autumn fixtures above are being kept under review;  
we intend to continue at least offering you monthly performances  
online, depending how the coronavirus pandemic plays out.*

*Today's concert will be uploaded to our MOTG YouTube channel  
Online donations welcome on our JustGiving page*