

PROFILE Pianist Michael Li (22yrs)

Michael Li is competing in 2016 Australian National Piano Award

5-10 September

22-year old Michael Li commenced piano studies at the age of 4 and has been a student of Glenn Riddle since 2006. He has received many accolades, including LMusA with Distinction (2008), inaugural winner of the Melbourne Recital Centre's Richard Mills Bach Prize (2010), and winner of the Preston Symphony Orchestra Concerto Prize (2012). In 2014, Michael was a finalist in the prestigious ABC Symphony Australia Young Performers Awards, where his performances in the Recital Round and Chamber Music Round were broadcast nationally on ABC Classic FM. Alongside his piano studies, Michael also pursues his medical and research interests at the University of Melbourne.

A frequent guest soloist with orchestra, Michael has performed concertos by Tchaikovsky, Brahms and Rachmaninoff with orchestras such as the Zelman Memorial Symphony Orchestra, the Scotch College Symphony Orchestra, the Preston Symphony Orchestra and the Old Scotch Symphony Orchestra. Michael has also performed in New Zealand, when he was selected to compete in the 2010 Kerikeri International Piano Competition. Most recently, Michael performed at the Melbourne Recital Centre as a finalist in the Great Romantics Competition, and in Geelong as a finalist in the Australian Youth Classical Music Competition.

Before deciding to focus on the piano, Michael also studied percussion for many years, completing his DipABRSM with Distinction (2010), and performing with the Scotch College Symphony Orchestra. An avid chamber musician, Michael has performed in numerous piano trios and piano quartets, and currently performs in a piano duo.

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