

Johnson Hok Kiu Leung

Johnson Hok Kiu Leung is a second year Engineering student of Downing College, the University of Cambridge. He is a talented young pianist, composer and conductor.

Under the teachings of the renowned pianists Mr. Gabriel Kwok, Ms. Jenny Stern (at Eton College) and composers Ms. Poly Ng, Mr. Philip Cooke (at Eton College), Johnson has captured championship in various international and local music competitions. He represented Hong Kong and captured the Champion of Llangollen International Eisteddfod (Western Instrument) when he was 11. He also won the Gold Medal Award (Hong Kong Schools Music Festival), Steinway International Youth Piano Competition and the Toyama Asian Youth Music Competition. His compositions received high recognition overseas and locally. At the age of 15, he became the youngest winner of the Best Composition Award of the “New Generation 2008” Composition Competition for the event’s 20 years of history with his piece “Galactic Fantasy” premiered by the City Chamber Orchestra of Hong Kong. The next year, he was awarded the Special Prize in the ABRSM International Young Composers' Competition commemorating the 120th Anniversary of the ABRSM and championship of Composition (Western Instrument) in the Hong Kong Schools Music Festival. He was also the Champion of Windsor Festival Composition Competition 2011. He obtained both Diploma of The Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (DipABRSM) and Licentiate of the Royal Schools of Music (LRSM) for the piano with distinction.

He started his public performance at the age of 8 locally and overseas and had cooperated with various professional orchestras. In April 2012, he delivered a full house concert, “It All Begins with Music” at the City Hall, Hong Kong, being the soloist of “the Yellow River Concerto” and received enormous applause from the audience.

Johnson started learning conducting under the renowned conductor, Maestro Henry Shek, at the age of ten and continued to learn under Mr. Ralph Allwood, Music Director of Eton College, U.K. and his successor Mr. Tim Johnson. Johnson has extensive conducting experience and is well noted for his thorough understanding of the repertoire he conducted.

At the age of 6, Johnson started playing the violin under the teaching of Mr. Yau Kin Wah, and continued to learn under Mr. Raymond Wong. During his study at Eton College, Johnson's violin playing was taught by Mr. Jack Rozman, Head of Strings of Eton College, U.K. Johnson obtained the Diploma of The Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (DipABRSM) for the violin.

Johnson founded the "Hong Kong Chordophonia" in 2012, a string orchestra comprising of a group of young and competent musicians, all aiming to raise the awareness and importance of string-related music.

Because of his outstanding academic and musical achievements, he was elected 2008-2009 Hong Kong Outstanding Students in 2009. He was awarded Young Artiste Award in 2007 and Hong Kong Outstanding Student Award in 2005. He was also the youngest ever who captured Outstanding Teen Award in 2005.

Currently reading Engineering to Masters level at University of Cambridge, Johnson was granted the Instrumental Award Scholarship at the University and co-founded the Arbury Trio and the Alighieri Quintet, performing locally and in public at various occasions. In May 2013, Johnson, together with the renowned Endellion String Quartet, performed Brahms' Piano Quartet No. 1 at the West Road Concert Hall at Cambridge, and received enormous applause from the audience. Johnson has been invited by the Endellion String Quartet again in its celebration of its 35th year in West Road Concert Hall on 23 April 2014, presenting Dvorak's Piano Quintet in A Major Op.81.