

Toby Tan Kai Rong, 9 years old

Toby started to develop his interest in music through YouTube at 3 and has been self-playing piano and composing since. He won his 1st 2 compositions "The Journey" and "Sorrow Of Love" at the Singapore Junior Original Concert in 2015 & 2016, Gold in the Asia Arts Festival and 1<sup>st</sup> Place at the American Protégé International Music Talent Spring Competition 2017. He has his debut performance at the New York Carnegie Hall in December 2017.

Toby started to learn classical piano at about 7. He was selected by the renowned film composer Mr Ricky Ho to perform the theme song "The Serenade of 7 Letters" at the Capitol Theatre for the Gala Premiere Screening in celebration of Singapore's Golden Jubilee.

His recent achievements include 1<sup>st</sup> Prize and Category Winner for the "eMuse" Online Music Competition 2017, 1<sup>st</sup> Prize (100/100 Absolute Prize) and Exceptional Young Musician Award for the 'Salzburg' Grand Prize Virtuoso, 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize for the Bradshaw and Buono International Competition and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Open Category 2016 Singapore Asia Youth Competition. In 2017, he also made his debut performance in Gyzi Megaron Festival in Santorini, Greece and competed at the Japan Piara Piano Competition and won an Apollo Award.

In January 2018, Toby is one of The Inspiring Trio to perform at the Moving Hands, Overflowing Hearts, a fund-raising concert in support of The Business Times Budding Artists Fund put together by Musique Loft. He specially composed a piece of Piano Trio "Magical Musical Box" for the finale.

His dream is to be a composer and performer who can inspire and reach out and connect people around the world with his music.

Prelude

Chants d'Espagne, Op. 232, (Spanish: Cantos de España = Songs of Spain) is a suite of originally three, later five pieces for the piano by Isaac Albéniz. Prelude is the 1st, also known under the title Asturias or Leyenda. It is an example of flamenco music, which mimics a guitar technique of alternating the thumb and fingers of the right hand, playing a pedal-note open string with the index finger and a bass melody with the thumb. The short middle section of the piece is written in the style of a malagueña — a flamenco style piece that returns to its first theme. After that, a "hymn-like" passage ends the piece.