

Stonevale Concerts 2023

Scarlett Banks (Soprano) and Lucas Cunha (piano)



Programme includes works by Bach, Scarlatti, Schubert, Mozart

**Sunday 26th February 2023 at 4 pm
Great Coxwell SN7 7NB**

As usual, the concert is free but donations will go towards the artists' fee. Please email or phone Lynette to reserve a seat. lynette.stulting@abingdon.org.uk or 07813950045

Scarlett Banks is a 16 year old soprano currently studying in Manchester at Chetham's school of music. She is under the tutelage of Mezzo soprano Kathryn Rudge and has classes with baritone Marcus Farnsworth who is head of vocal at Chetham's school of music. She takes part in lunchtime concerts, performances classes and performs in external concerts.

Scarlett has been singing from a young age and started studying and singing opera at the age of 10 where she attended her first masterclass in Greece, Musical Odyssey. Over the years of attending, she has studied with soprano Nuccia Focille, tenor Dennis O'Neil, soprano Susan Bullock and baritone Sergei Leiferkus.

She was part of opera north and was one of the main roles in the opera production "Brundibar" which she thoroughly enjoyed. At the age of 13, Scarlett sang in the Royal Albert hall with her school choir for Music for youth where she was featured as one of the soloist. Recently she has taken part in performing as one of the soloist in the Bridgewater hall for the pre concert before The Hallé, A night at the opera. Scarlett's aspiration is to become an opera singer and perform in multiple operas later on in the future.

Lucas Cunha is a 19 year old pianist based in London. He studied at the Royal College of Music Junior Department for three years under the tutelage of Yekaterina Lebedeva. He is currently studying piano at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance, where he is a recipient of the Alfred and Therese Kitchin Scholarship, and is continuing lessons with Prof. Lebedeva.

Since beginning piano lessons from a young age, Lucas has taken part and won various competitions, such as being awarded first prizes at the North London Music Festival for Romantic, 20th Century and Jazz U18 categories, as well as winning the Enfield U18 Piano Competition in 2017. He has made a solo piano appearance with Haringey Young Musicians Symphony Orchestra, of which he is a former member of, playing both piano and orchestral percussion.

His successes have recently expanded from regional to international - he was invited to play in a gala concert in Shunde, China as part of celebrations for the Chinese republic's 70th anniversary, as well as being one of the prize winners at the 2022 Musical Odyssey Masterclasses in Nafplio, Greece.