

COSIMA YU - CLARINET

Cosima Yu was born in Taipei, Taiwan in 1986. She started playing the clarinet and studying in music colleges since the age of 10. She was the winner of the Taiwan National Music Competition for Young Clarinetists in 2005. In 2006 she was awarded a scholarship for the Bachelor of Music degree at Birmingham Conservatoire and came to the UK to continue her studies.

Cosima enjoys playing as an orchestral musician. She has played in The Voices of Spring Symphony Orchestra in Taiwan for nearly 10 years with various kinds of repertoire, including a concerto performance of Weber's Concertino in E flat major for clarinet and orchestra, op.26. During her studies at Birmingham Conservatoire she has been playing with all the major ensembles, recent events including a wind ensemble concert during the International Double Reed Society in July 2009, and playing the basset horn in the Sonatina No.1 for wind instruments by Richard Strauss. Outside college she also receives various engagements. Recently she has taken part in the well acclaimed Birmingham Opera Company production "Othello" in December 2009, playing the second clarinet in the opera orchestra. As a young soloist Cosima embraces any opportunity to perform and share her passion with the audience, and has played in various occasions and in competitions. Recent solo awards won include the Birmingham Conservatoire Woodwind Prize and the Symphony Hall Recital Competition, in March and May 2009 respectively.

Cosima is also experienced in chamber music playing. She is a member of the Aeolus Wind Quintet, a recently established ensemble which has received concert invitation such as the opening recitals of the Murch Wenlock Festival and Harvington Festival in June and July 2010. She has been involved in the Chamber Music Week at Birmingham Conservatoire each year, performances including the Brahms Clarinet Trio, Beethoven Clarinet Trio, op.14 and playing the basset horn in the Mendelssohn Concert Pieces for clarinet, basset horn and piano. In April 2010 Cosima gave performances of both the Mozart and Brahms Clarinet Quintets in the FRMS Musical Weekend, Daventry with the Boulton String Quartet. She will also give a lunchtime recital at the Lichfield Festival in July 2010.

Under the tuition of Michael Harris and Timothy Lines, Cosima is now in her final year of undergraduate studies. In September 2010 she will further her musical education at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, studying for a postgraduate orchestral performance degree. The remainder of her fees at the GSMD will be sponsored by the Musicians Benevolent Fund and an entrance scholarship offered by the GSMD, instruments purchased with the help of Inventec Company in Taiwan.