

Callum Smart – violin

"...the sincerity of Smart's singing line is cause for celebration, and the recital is quite outstanding in its unique sequence and profile of a superb young player" Andrew Parker, International Record Review

Callum Smart attracted wide public attention at the age of thirteen having won the strings category of the 2010 BBC Young Musicians Competition performing Mendelssohn's *Violin Concerto* with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales and Vasily Petrenko. In the same year he went on to become the top European prize-winner at the Menuhin Competition held in Oslo.

Since then Callum has appeared at a number of European festivals including the Dvořák Festival in Prague, the Menuhin Festival, Les Sommets Musicaux in Gstaad and the Valdres Sommersymfoni Festival with pianist Gordon Back, the Mecklenburg Vorpommern with the Polish Chamber Orchestra, and the Malmö International String Festival with Jonas Vitaud. In March 2016 Callum gave recital performances with the pianist Richard Uttley in Birmingham, London's Wigmore Hall, the Konzerthaus Berlin and the Auditorium du Louvre in Paris. Other UK recitals have included the Cheltenham Festival, Glasgow, Leeds, the Lichfield Festival, Manchester and Perth.

Following his recent debut with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, this season sees Callum make his debut with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra performing Bruch's *Violin Concerto No. 1* under Matthew Halls, and a performance of Bach's *Double Violin Concerto* at the Windsor Festival with Matthew Trusler and the Orpheus Sinfonia. His previous concerto appearances have covered repertoire from Mozart and Beethoven to Prokofiev, Britten and Glazunov, with orchestras such as the BBC National Orchestra of Wales, European Union Chamber Orchestra, the Orchestra of Welsh National Opera and the Philharmonia Orchestra at the Royal Festival Hall under Michael Collins. Further afield Callum has performed with the Polish Chamber Orchestra and in 2013 made his North American debut with the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra under Grant Llewellyn.

March 2016 saw the release of Callum's second recital disc on the recording label Orchid Classics with pianist Richard Uttley. Featuring works by Fauré, Poulenc and Ravel the disc featured as one of the Strad Magazine's recommended recordings of the month, and was accorded 4 star reviews both in the BBC Music Magazine and the Observer, highlighting Callum's silky tone, lyrical lines and accomplished interpretation. This follows the critical acclaim of his first recital disc with pianist Gordon Back, when he was named as a BBC Music Magazine Rising Star: Great Artists of Tomorrow.

Callum began his studies with Maciej Rakowski whose tutelage continued alongside his studies at Chetham's School of Music. As the recipient of the Premier Young Artist Award, Callum studies with Mauricio Fuks at the Jacobs School of Music in Indiana.

Callum plays on a c.1730-35 violin by Carlo Bergonzi.