

# Emmanuel Despax



Photo by Clive Barda

***“...Here was an outstanding performance by a young musician of great potential.”*** David ALKER, Musical Opinion, London

French pianist, Emmanuel Despax, has made his home in England. He embraces the cultural opportunities London offers but chiefly what draws him to this country is his teacher, Ruth Nye. She first heard him when he auditioned for the Menuhin School at the age of 12 and recognized a great talent in the making. During his five years at the prestigious Menuhin School, Emmanuel was given numerous opportunities to appear in concerts, both as a soloist and as a chamber musician, most notably at the Royal Festival Hall, the Queen Elizabeth Hall, St. John's Smith Square and the Wigmore Hall.

In 2002 Emmanuel gained a scholarship to the Royal College of Music where he won the Kendall Taylor Prize in the Beethoven Competition, the Esther Fisher prize for best undergraduate, the Chappell Medal and was awarded the RCM's most prestigious prize, the Tagore Gold Medal which was presented to him by HRH the Prince of Wales. While still at college, he made his London debut performing Brahms' First Concerto under Andrew Litton.

As winner of the Jaques Samuel Piano Competition, Emmanuel made his Wigmore Hall debut in September 2005. He has played in the London Festival Orchestra's Virtuoso Pianists series at Cadogan Hall, with the Arion Orchestra at St James's Piccadilly and in many festivals including Chipping Campden and Petworth. In Europe he has given recitals at La Roque d'Antheron in France and the Fazioli Auditorium in Italy. In 2009 Emmanuel returns to New Zealand where his Mozart concerto performance last year drew rapturous reviews. ***“... (his) playing shows maturity way beyond his years and a command of his instrument that augurs well for a stellar career.”*** Patrick Shepherd, The Press, Christchurch

Emmanuel will be returning to the Wigmore Hall on Friday 12th September 2008.

For further information please visit [www.emmanueldespax.com](http://www.emmanueldespax.com)

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