

26 November | Thursday

*Koh Andren*

*Piano Recital*

**PROGRAMME**

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH

French Suite No. 3 in B Minor, BWV 814

I. Allemande

II. Courante

III. Sarabande

IV. Anglaise

V. Menuet

VI. Gigue

FRÉDÉRIC CHOPIN

Polonaise-Fantasie Op. 61 in A-flat Major

## About The Performer

**Andren** started playing the piano at the age of 4. He completed his diploma in music at NAFA in 2016, and is currently studying at Yong Siew Toh Conservatory to pursue his bachelor studies under Prof. Thomas Hecht.

## Programme Notes

### **J.S Bach French Suite No. 3 in B Minor BWV 814**

Bach wrote a total of 6 French suites, of which the first three are in minor keys. The suites consist of baroque dances, each with their own characteristics. However, they are not written as a means for dancing. The Allemande has a melancholic quality. It is followed by the Courante which is livelier and noble. The Sarabande, a slow dance originated from Spain in triple metre has an expressive quality. Here, Bach inserted the Anglaise, or French for “English”. It is lively and evocative of an English country dance. The Menuet, a popular dance among the aristocrats in 17<sup>th</sup> century, is followed by a Trio. The suite closes with the Gigue, a fast dance that originated from England and Ireland.

### **Chopin Polonaise-Fantasie Op. 61 in A-flat Major**

Is it a polonaise or fantasy? Chopin was quoted “I’d like to finish something that I don’t yet know what to call”. The Polonaise-Fantasie is filled with a variety of emotions and moods, such as the noble polonaise rhythm, mysterious and ambiguous harmony, and dreamy texture. After a series of struggle that ranges from the melancholy, agitation, despair, hope and triumph, (Either 1 or 2: 1) the journey comes to an end with an explosion of colour, almost like waking up from a dream. 2) an Ab major chord signals the end of the dream).

*Programme notes by Koh Andren.*