

## Daniel Fardon

Daniel Fardon is currently studying for a PhD in Composition at the University of Birmingham under the supervision of Michael Zev Gordon. As a graduate of the University of Cambridge, and the Birmingham Conservatoire, he previously studied under the tutelage of Richard Causton, Howard Skempton, and Errollyn Wallen. He has written for groups such as The London Symphony Orchestra, BCMG, Psappha, The Britten Sinfonia, Kokoro, and CHROMA Ensemble, and researches how musical eclecticism is understood and manifested across new music platforms, with a specific focus on stylistic construction and historicism in contemporary concert music. This interest particularly drew him to the Love Songs Project, which explores how older musical models can still be relevant in today's art.

## Saudade for piano solo

*Saudade* is a word used mostly in music and poetry to describe a deep emotional state of nostalgic or profound melancholic longing for an absent person that one loves. It is the recollection of feelings, experiences, places, or events that once brought excitement, pleasure, and well-being, and is a word in Portuguese and Galician (from which it entered Spanish) that has no direct translation in English. My piece attempts to evoke some of these feelings through a layering of musical textures. The opening section is split across three piano staves working simultaneously: the bottom (bass) providing a warm and romantic undertone; the middle communicating contemplative melodic material; and the top (treble) expressing the sounds of something distant. The music grows in intensity until it then gives way to an extended coda, which takes the form of a retrospective *Lied ohne Worte*.