

# The Robert Anderson Research Charitable Trust

*Helping the brightest and best to succeed*



## Summer Concert 2019

[www.robertandersontrust.org](http://www.robertandersontrust.org)

# Robert Anderson – a personal tribute

*By Jack Wong*



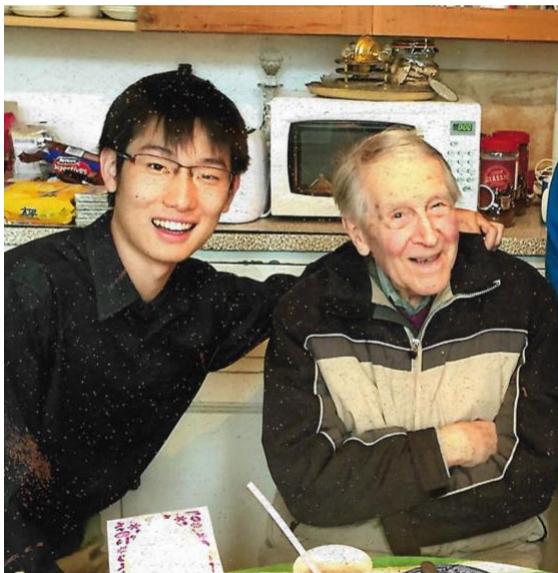
Robert and I first met in St Mary's church on Harrow-on-the-Hill, when I was giving a performance of Grieg's String Quartet no.1 in G minor with a few of my schoolmates. But we first spoke with each other properly after my own recital at the church when I performed both on the piano and the violin in a lunchtime concert. I

remember his smile when he congratulated me on my performances and his kind offer of free sponsored accommodation in his house in High Street Kensington for my then upcoming undergraduate studies at the Royal Academy of Music. It was for me an unbelievably precious gift as it would have been extremely difficult for me to afford such a high rent in central London as a foreign student.

Life at the house then began in September 2013 when I moved in (I stayed with Robert briefly on a few occasions before during my short holiday weekends at Harrow School), I then started to have more time to get to know Robert better and we often found ourselves having long conversations about music in the kitchen over coffee. It was always inspiring to hear his insights on various works, in particular those by Elgar, whose works he was particularly fond of. At times, Robert even gave me a conducting lesson when I conducted before him in the kitchen. He said to me the best teacher for conducting is the mirror, and I still take his advice to this very day.

Robert said he had never gone out at night since he was 80 years old, but he made an exception for me to come and hear me perform with my then newly formed Hornton Chamber Orchestra. After the concert, he gave me a smile, just as he had when we first met at the Harrow church, saying to me “Well done, young man.”

We had many more conversations in the house after that but regrettably Robert passed away during the beginning of the second year of my studies. It was sad to see him leave, but in a way I also respected his choice to depart this world. He had done everything he wanted to do and he was ready to go. Robert said to me, “You will live to a hundred.” His legacy will live on.



Time flies. I have been living in the house for nearly 6 years when I will have to leave this coming July. Robert and his Trust has helped me tremendously with my accommodation. It will be sad to leave the house as there have been so many good memories. I believe the Trust will continue to help other students in the future and they will benefit from the support in developing their own careers. I was one of the lucky ones to receive such support, I hope that Robert would be proud of what I have achieved so far in my life, and that my musical career will take off soon.

Jack Wong  
Robert Anderson Trust Resident Music Scholar 2013-19

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## *Annual Summer Concert 2019*

Wednesday 5 June 2019. 54 Hornton Street, London W8 4NT

### *Programme*

J. S. BACH

Chaconne from Violin Partita in D minor, BWV 1004

*Performed by* Jack Wong (solo)

Edvard GRIEG

String Quartet No.1 in G minor, Op.27

*Performed by*

Jack Wong - first violin  
Christopher McClain - viola

Mei Fujisato - second violin  
Laura Williamson - cello

*--- Interval ---*

Edward ELGAR

Piano Quintet in A minor, Op.84

*Performed by*

Jack Wong – piano

Mei Fujisato - first violin  
Christopher McClain - viola

Birgit Born - second violin  
Laura Williamson - cello