**Jack Ledger-Dowse**

**Performance Information**

**Jack Ledger-Dowse *Innisfree***

High voice and piano Duration 4’ 45”

**Tom Law** tenor, **Jane Law** piano

**Text**

*The Lake Isle of Innisfree (1890)*

I will arise and go now, and go to Innisfree, And a small cabin build there, of clay and wattles made; Nine bean-rows will I have there, a hive for the honey-bee, And live alone in the bee-loud glade.

And I shall have some peace there, for peace comes dropping slow, Dropping from the veils of the morning to where the cricket sings; There midnight’s all a glimmer, and noon a purple glow, And evening full of the linnet’s wings.

I will arise and go now, for always night and day I hear lake water lapping with low sounds by the shore; While I stand on the roadway, or on the pavements grey, I hear it in the deep heart’s core.

*William Butler Yeats*

**Programme Note**

An uninhabited island called Innisfree stands in the middle of Lough Gill, Ireland. As a child, Yeats spent much of his holidays near there, but after many years in London, he longed to escape the ugliness and noise of the city and escape to the tranquillity and beauty of his childhood’s safe place. 126 years on, Yeats’ nostalgia and appreciation for the magnificence of it remains deeply impactful and relatable to many. It is for that reason that it deserves an additional dimension of expression through the art of music.

**Biography**

Jack F. Ledger-Dowse DipABRSM is a composer based in London, UK. He is a Humphrey Searle Scholar at the Royal College of Music and was previously a composer at the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain. Jack’s work has been performed in renowned locations such as the Barbican Centre, the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire and Royal College of Music. His musical life has involved many disciplines, from performance as a Trumpeter in the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra Youth Orchestra, education with the Birmingham Music Service and on online-based services and composing for many ensembles, including for Film, TV and Theatre, with performances in multiple concert halls throughout the UK. At the Royal College of Music, Jack is studying with acclaimed composer Errollyn Wallen CBE and looks forward to further exciting projects to come both inside and outside of the institution.