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Federico Colli joins London Piano Festival 2019 line-up with solo recital of Scarlatti, Beethoven, Bach-Busoni and Mussorgsky on 2 October



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Katya Apekisheva | Federico Colli | Christian Ihle Hadland | Tim Horton | Sarah Nicolls
Charles Owen | Lucy Parham | Gwilym Simcock | Susan Tomes

2 – 6 October 2019 | Kings Place, London

'The festival came off with brio, brilliance and the brightest of spirits.'
The Sunday Times, October 2018

Italian pianist **Federico Colli** joins the London Piano Festival line-up with a solo recital, replacing **Ingrid Fliter** who is unable to travel to the UK for health reasons.

Colli, winner of the Salzburg Mozart Competition 2011 and the Leeds International Piano Competition 2012, will open the Festival on 2 October at 19:30, with a recital entitled 'Keyboard Icons', comprising Scarlatti *Sonatas in F minor, C minor and C major*, Beethoven's iconic '*Moonlight Sonata*', Busoni's transcriptions of Bach's *Chaconne*, and Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*.

Christian Ihle Hadland will take Fliter's place in the Two-Piano Marathon, closing the Festival with a performance of Arensky *Suite No.1* with duo partner Katya Apekisheva.

Charles Owen and Katya Apekisheva, London Piano Festival Founders and co-Artistic Directors said:
"We are delighted that Federico Colli is joining us for what is sure to be another fantastic year of the London Piano Festival. He opens the Festival with two of the most iconic and original keyboard works ever composed – Beethoven's compelling Moonlight Sonata and Mussorgsky's towering depiction of visual art Pictures from an Exhibition. We look forward to welcoming him on 2 October."

The fourth edition of the **London Piano Festival** takes place from 2-6 October at Kings Place, London. The Festival is devised by Founding Artistic Directors **Charles Owen** and **Katya Apekisheva**. Nine pianists come together for five days of recitals, jazz, a lecture-recital, family concert and the much-anticipated annual Two-Piano Marathon.

The Festival is offering a limited number of discounted tickets to under 30's, in order to broaden the reach of the Festival. The London Piano Festival is delighted to be working with **International Piano magazine** as media partner for the fourth year running.

The London Piano Festival each year brings together leading pianists to present a variety of performances catering for all generations of piano lovers. In addition to Colli's opening recital, BBC New Generation artist **Christian Ihle Hadland** performs a programme of 'Romantic Visions', bringing together Schubert's Sonata in E minor, D566, Schumann's Waldszenen and Rachmaninov's Piano Sonata No. 2 in B flat minor (5 Oct).

Katya Apekisheva and **Charles Owen**, the Festival's co-Artistic Directors, are working closely with composer **Jonathan Dove** who is the **Composer-in-Residence** for this year's Festival. The Festival commissioned Jonathan Dove, who is celebrating his 60th birthday this year, to write a new work entitled 'Between Friends' for two pianos which will be premiered as part of the Two-Piano Marathon (5 Oct). Additionally, three further pieces by Dove will be performed in the duo's recital (3 Oct) which sees them present both solo and duo repertoire. Katya will perform *Bindweed & Hop*, *Skip, Jump*, and *Charles Catching Fire*. The concert also includes works by Mozart, Grieg, Liszt, Poulenc and Ravel.

The Festival prides itself in programming contemporary works within the programme, having previously commissioned Nico Muhly and Elena Langer to compose pieces (2016 and 2017). In addition works by this year's composer-in-residence Jonathan Dove, the 2019 Festival also includes works by **Mark-Anthony Turnage** (*Two Portraits*, 2001).

Each year the Festival invites leading jazz musicians to perform, having previously had performances by Julian Joseph, Jason Rebello and Leszek Możdżer. This year presenting a Friday night jazz concert is British pianist **Gwilym Simcock** (4 Oct). Referred to by The Observer as "a stupendous improviser and remarkable musician all round", Simcock performs music from his recently released album, *Near and Now*, as well as other original pieces. The following day, pianist and writer **Susan Tomes** gives a lecture-recital on Schubert's penultimate Sonata in A, D959, sharing her analysis of the work alongside a complete performance (5 Oct).

The climax of the Festival is its highly-anticipated **Two-Piano Marathon** which sees five pianists perform in a variety of unique pairings on two interlocking Steinways. This year's performance is crowned by the world premiere of Jonathan Dove's new work, 'Between Friends', commissioned by the Festival and performed by Katya Apekisheva and Charles Owen. Also performing are **Christian Ihle Hadland**, **Tim Horton** and **Susan Tomes**, with works ranging from Mozart to Mark-Anthony Turnage.

Lucy Parham returns to the Festival for the second time, this year staging the London premiere of her new show **I, Clara**, alongside **Dame Harriet Walter**. The show, created by Lucy, is a composer portrait of Clara Schumann and celebrates the bicentenary of her birth. The narrative of the show is drawn from letters and diaries which are narrated alongside performances of works by Clara Schumann and her contemporaries. *I, Clara* is also part of *Venus Unwrapped*, Kings Place's year-long celebration of female creativity.

Concluding the Festival is this year's family event with pianist **Sarah Nicolls** who brings two performances of her show, **The Inside-Out Piano**. The Inside-Out Piano was invented by Sarah, allowing audiences to see into the instrument and its moving parts whilst she plays. Children will have the chance to see and hear the piano like never before and explore the instrument close up.

Full Programme

Wednesday 2 October, 19:30 | Hall One

'Keyboard Icons' - Federico Colli

Scarlatti *Sonata in F minor, K 19*

Scarlatti *Sonata in C minor, K 30*

Scarlatti *Sonata in c major, K 95*

Beethoven *'Moonlight Sonata', Op. 27, No.2*

Bach-Busoni *Chaconne*

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Mussorgsky *Pictures at an Exhibition*

Thursday 3 October, 19:30 | Hall One

'God, Mankind & Nature' - Charles Owen & Katya Apekisheva

Mozart *Sonata in F, K280* (KA)

Jonathan Dove *Bindweed & Hop, Skip, Jump* (KA)

Grieg *Lyric Pieces - The Brook Op.62, No. 4 & Lonely*

wanderer Op.43, No. 2 (KA)
Grieg *Carnival Scene op.19* (KA)
Liszt *Legende - 'St Francis of Assisi Preaching to the Birds'* (CO)
Liszt *'Les jeux d'eaux à la Villa d'Este'* (CO)
Jonathan Dove *Catching Fire* (CO)
Poulenc *Sonata for two pianos* (KA + CO)
Ravel *La Valse* (KA + CO)

Friday 4 October, 19:30 | Hall One
Gwilym Simcock - Near and Now

Saturday 5 October, 14:00 | Hall Two
'Finding a Way Through' - Susan Tomes explores the landscape of Schubert's late A major Sonata, D959.

Saturday 5 October, 16:00 | Hall One
'Romantic Visions' - Christian Ihle Hadland recital
Schubert *Sonata in E-minor, D566*
Schumann *Waldszenen, Op. 82*
Rachmaninov *Sonata No. 2 in B flat minor, Op. 36*

Saturday 5 October, 19:00 | Hall One
Two-Piano Marathon
Katya Apekisheva, Christian Ihle Hadland, Tim Horton, Charles Owen, Susan Tomes
Mozart *Adagio and Fugue in C minor, K546* (ST + TH)
Mozart *Larghetto and Allegro* (ST + TH)
Ravel *Introduction and Allegro* (ST + CO)
Debussy *Jeux* (TH + CO)
Mark-Anthony Turnage *Two Portraits* (TH + CO)
Stravinsky *Madrid* (KA + CO)
Chabrier *España* (KA + CO)
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Brahms *Haydn Variations* (CIH + KA)
Jonathan Dove *Between Friends* *world premiere* (KA + CO)
Arensky *Suite No. 1* (KA + CIH)

Sunday 6 October, 10:30 + 12:00 | Hall Two
'The Inside-Out Piano' with Sarah Nicolls

Sunday 6 October, 11:30 | Hall One
I, Clara *London premiere*
Lucy Parham – piano, Dame Harriet Walter – narrator

www.londonpianofestival.com

www.kingsplace.co.uk

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For further information or to arrange interviews/press tickets please contact

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Notes to editors

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[Tickets](#)

Kings Place Box Office: 020 7520 1490

Save 20% when you book 2+ London Piano Festival concerts (subject to terms and conditions)

£8.50 student tickets (limited capacity)

[Biographies](#)

Katya Apekisheva - [full biography here](#)

Katya Apekisheva, described as being a “profoundly gifted artist” by Gramophone magazine, is one of Europe’s most renowned pianists, in demand

internationally as both a soloist and as a chamber musician. She has been marked out as a pianist of exceptional gifts, performing with many of the world’s leading orchestras, and has received widespread

critical acclaim for her interpretations. Katya is a Professor of Piano at The Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

Federico Colli – [full biography here](#)

Known for the highly imaginative and philosophical approaches to his interpretations, Federico Colli came to prominence after winning the Salzburg Mozart Competition in 2011 and the Gold Medal at The Leeds International Piano Competition in 2012. Since then, he has been performing in prestigious concerts in different parts of the world. His solo CD produced by Champs Hill Records, featuring works by Beethoven, Scriabin and Mussorgsky, was released with great critical acclaim. He is now recording for Chandos Records, with whom he has released a much appreciated first album entirely dedicated to Scarlatti.

Christian Ihle Hadland – [full biography here](#)

In the last decade Christian Ihle Hadland has established himself as a true craftsman of the piano, a musician whose delicate, refined playing and individual touch have led him to the most prestigious stages in the world. Christian came to international attention in 2011 when he began a two-year stint as a BBC New Generation Artist.

Tim Horton – [full biography here](#)

Tim Horton is one of the leading chamber pianists of his generation. He is a founder member of both the Leonore Piano Trio and Ensemble 360 and has been a regular guest pianist with the Nash Ensemble.

Sarah Nicolls – [full biography here](#)

Sarah Nicolls is a UK-based experimental pianist, at the forefront of innovations in piano performance. She invented the 'Inside-out Piano', a sculptural feast of an instrument played, pushed and swung in her touring show *Moments of Weightlessness*.

Charles Owen – [full biography here](#)

Described by Gramophone magazine as “one of the

finest British pianists of his generation”, Charles Owen has enjoyed an extensive international career performing a wide ranging repertoire to outstanding critical acclaim. Charles Owen is a Professor of Piano at the Guildhall School in London and was appointed Steinway & Sons UK Ambassador in 2016.

Lucy Parham – [full biography here](#)

One of Britain’s finest pianists, Lucy Parham applies her sensitivity and imagination not only to concertos and recitals, but also to portraits in words and music of such composers as Schumann, Rachmaninoff, Chopin, Liszt and Debussy. In recent years, Lucy Parham has established herself as a leading interpreter of the works of Robert Schumann and of his wife, Clara.

Gwilym Simcock – [full biography here](#)

Gwilym Simcock has carved out a career as one of the most gifted pianists and imaginative composers on the European scene. He moves effortlessly between jazz and classical music, with a ‘harmonic sophistication and subtle dovetailing of musical traditions’.

Susan Tomes – [full biography here](#)

Susan Tomes has won numerous international awards as a pianist, both on the concert platform and in the recording studio, including the 2013 Cobbett Medal for distinguished service to chamber music. She has made over fifty CDs, many of which have become benchmark recordings. In addition to her performing career, Susan gives masterclasses and serves on competition juries across Europe.

Dame Harriet Walter – [full biography here](#)

Dame Harriet Walter is an Olivier-Award-winning British stage and screen actress. Since training at LAMDA, Harriet has worked extensively in theatre, television, film. Notable recent appearances include 'Rocketman', 'My Dinner with Hervé', 'The Sense of an Ending', starring Jim Broadbent and Charlotte Rampling, as well as Oscar-winning 'Atonement', 'Mindhorn' and 'Sense and Sensibility'.