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Dame Imogen Cooper, Vijay Iyer and Tamara Stefanovich amongst line up for the London Piano Festival this October



**Katya Apekisheva | Dame Imogen Cooper | Dominic Degavino | Vijay Iyer
Noriko Ogawa | Charles Owen | Paul Roberts | Tamara Stefanovich
6-9 October 2022 | Kings Place, London
#LondonPianoFestival**

- **Tamara Stefanovich** performs Messiaen and Bach
- **Dame Imogen Cooper** in a 'Schubertiade' evening
- Solo jazz with **Vijay Iyer**
- Preludes with **Noriko Ogawa** and **Katya Apekisheva**
- Liszt lecture-recital with **Paul Roberts** and **Charles Owen**

Pianists and co-Artistic Directors **Katya Apekisheva** and **Charles Owen** reveal another exquisite line-up for the seventh **London Piano Festival (LPF)** which returns to **Kings Place** from **6-9 October 2022**. Four days of classical and jazz piano performances will see Festival debuts from star soloist **Tamara Stefanovich**, jazz sensation **Vijay Iyer** and rising star **Dominic Degavino**, in addition to **Dame Imogen Cooper** who has been a Patron of the London Piano Festival since its launch in 2016. Returning artists include **Noriko Ogawa** and **Paul Roberts**, as well as the Festival's Artistic Directors **Katya Apekisheva** and **Charles Owen**. Under 30s tickets are available for all concerts at a reduced price of £8.50. The Festival is delighted to be working with **International Piano** magazine as media partner for the seventh year running.

Co-Artistic Directors **Katya Apekisheva** and **Charles Owen** commented, *"We are delighted to present the seventh edition of exciting piano-themed concerts featuring an exceptional line-up of pianists in the welcoming setting of Kings Place. The recent return to unrestricted live music-making, complete with extra appreciative audiences has been energising for performers around the world. This year there will be a particular focus on the joys of musical collaboration between pianist friends, a sharing and exchange of ideas. Nothing can ever quite reproduce the visceral impact of a live event, the sheer thrill of experiencing music in real time."*

Visionary pianist **Tamara Stefanovich** opens this year's Festival with a programme exploring form and freedom,

beginning with Bach's *Aria variata* (BWV 989) interweaving the birdsong-inspired pieces of Messiaen and Rameau, and ending with Messiaen's mesmerising *Cantéyodjayâ* [6 Oct].

Piano duets have been performed at the London Piano Festival every year since it launched in 2016, helping to introduce audiences to new works whilst also celebrating rarely-performed masterpieces. This year **Dame Imogen Cooper** is joined by **Katya Apekisheva**, **Charles Owen** and **Dominic Degavino**, pianists who have all benefitted from her skill and unique insights through masterclasses and teaching sessions over the years, for an evening of piano duets. The four pianists will take to the stage in different pairings to perform Schubert's piano duets whilst recreating the atmosphere of an intimate social gathering [7 Oct].

Katya Apekisheva and **Noriko Ogawa** explore contrasting 20th-century preludes in their afternoon recital [8 Oct]. Apekisheva will perform Shostakovich's 24 Preludes, a collection of short pieces in all twenty-four keys, taking the audience through a diverse assortment of moods across the complete set. By contrast, Ogawa will play Debussy's 12 *Préludes*, Book I, an imaginative collection which doesn't follow any strict harmonic template.

Later that evening award-winning jazz pianist and composer **Vijay Iyer** will perform a solo improvised set [8 Oct]. Known for performing internationally with ensembles and his own trio, this special evening of solo jazz improvisation will be a rare treat for London audiences.

To celebrate the launch of his new book, concert pianist and lecturer **Paul Roberts** returns to the Festival to present a lecture-recital with **Charles Owen** celebrating Liszt's passionate response to the poetry of Francesco Petrarca [9 Oct]. Roberts' new book – *Reading Franz Liszt* – explores the inspiration Liszt drew from the poetry of Francesco Petrarca (1304-74), revealing the link between two major artists born 500 years apart.

The London Piano Festival was founded by pianists Katya Apekisheva and Charles Owen in 2016 and takes place every October at Kings Place, London. Previous visiting artists have included Alfred Brendel, Alexandra Dariescu, Julian Joseph, Gabriela Montero, Stephen Kovacevich, Jason Rebello and Kathryn Stott, amongst many others. The Festival has also commissioned a number of new works for two piano, working with composers including Sally Beamish, Jonathan Dove, Elena Langer and Nico Muhly.

Full Programme

Thursday 6 October, 7:30pm | Hall 1

Tamara Stefanovich: Messiaen, Rameau and Bach

Tamara Stefanovich *piano*

JS Bach *Aria variata alla maniera italiana*, BWV 989

Two selections from *Three-part Inventions*

Rameau From *Pièces de clavecin avec une méthode*:

XV. 'L'entretien des Muses'

XVII. 'Les cyclopes'

Rameau 'La poule' from *Nouvelles suites de pièces de clavecin*

Messiaen *Prélude* No. 2: 'Chant d'extase dans un paysage triste'

Messiaen From *Catalogue d'oiseaux*:

VIII. 'L'alouette calandrelle'

XIII. 'Le courlis cendré'

Messiaen From *Vingt Regards sur l'enfant Jésus*:

XI. 'Première communion de la Vierge'

XII. 'La parole toute puissante'

XIII. 'Noël'

XIV. 'Regard des Anges'

Messiaen *Cantéyodjayâ*

Tickets | £16.50 - £39.50 + under 30s £8.50

Friday 7 October, 7:30pm | Hall 1

Schubertiade

Dame Imogen Cooper, Katya Apekisheva, Charles Owen and Dominic Degavino *piano*

Programme to include:

Schubert *Marche militaire* No. 1 in D, D733 (DD & KA)

Allegro in A minor, D947 *Lebensstürme* (CO & IC)

Rondo in A, D951 (DD & CO)

Fantasia in F minor, D940 (IC & DD)

'Andantino varié' from *Divertissement sur des motifs originaux français*, D823 (KA & CO)

Variations on an original theme in A flat, D813 (IC & KA)

Tickets | £19.50 - £44.50 + under 30s £8.50

Saturday 8 October, 2pm | Hall 1

20th-century Preludes

Noriko Ogawa and Katya Apekisheva *piano*

Shostakovich 24 Preludes, Op. 34 [KA]

Debussy 12 *Préludes*, Book I [NO]

Tickets | £20 + under 30s £8.50

Saturday 8 October, 8pm | Hall 1

Vijay Iyer *piano*

Improvised set

Tickets | £20 - £30 + under 30s £8.50

Sunday 9 October, 11:30am | Hall 1

Franz Liszt: An Exploration

Paul Roberts *piano and speaker*

Charles Owen *piano*

Liszt 'Tre Sonetti di Petrarca' [PR]

Deux légendes S175 [CO]

No. 1: *St. François d'Assise: La prédication aux*

oiseaux [CO]

No. 2: *St. François de Paule marchant sur les flots* [CO]
'Troisième année' from *Années de pèlerinage*, S163:
[CO]

Aux cyprès de la Villa d'Este I: Thrénodie [CO]

Aux cyprès de la Villa d'Este II: Thrénodie [CO]

Les jeux d'eaux à la Villa d'Este [CO]

Variations on 'Weinen, Klagen, Sorgen, Zagen', S180

[CO]

Tickets | £20 + under 30s £8.50

www.londonpianofestival.com

www.kingsplace.co.uk

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

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Notes to editors

Photos

[Dropbox of photos here](#)

Tickets

Under 30s tickets are available for all concerts (£8.50)

Kings Place Box Office: 020 7520 1490

Biographies

Tamara Stefanovich – [full biography here](#)

Tamara Stefanovich, described as “fearless, dazzling, exceptional” by The Guardian, has become renowned worldwide. Performing a range of repertoire, from early music to contemporary, she has performed with major orchestras including Cleveland, Chicago Symphony, London Symphony, and Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen, in high-profile venues such as the Albert and Wigmore Hall. She has also received an Edison Award, a Grammy Award nomination and critical acclaim for her recording discography.

Imogen Cooper – [full biography here](#)

Regarded as one of the finest interpreters of Classical and Romantic repertoire, Imogen Cooper is internationally renowned for her virtuosity and lyricism. She has a widespread international career, in addition to performances at the BBC Proms and with the major British orchestras. Imogen received a DBE in the Queen’s Birthday Honours in 2021. Other awards and accolades include the Queen’s Medal for Music (2019), Royal Philharmonic Society Performers Award (2008), Commander of the Order of the British Empire (2007) and Honorary Membership of the Royal Academy of Music (1997). She founded the Imogen Cooper Music Trust in 2015.

Dominic Degavino – [full biography here](#)

Described by The Times as “a pianist worth watching”, Dominic Degavino has performed in major venues from the UK and beyond, including solo performances at Wigmore Hall and Southbank Centre, and concerto appearances alongside the Manchester Camerata. His competition successes include 3rd Prize at the Concours International de Piano d’Epinal, and keyboard section prizes at Tunbridge Wells International Young Concert Artists Competition and Royal Over-Seas League Arts Competition. He studied with Charles Owen and Noriko Ogawa at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

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.

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.

Noriko Ogawa – [full biography here](#)

Noriko Ogawa has achieved considerable renown throughout the world since her success at the Leeds International Piano Competition. Noriko’s “ravishingly poetic playing” (Telegraph) sets her apart from her contemporaries and acclaim for her complete Debussy series with BIS Records, confirms her as a fine Debussy specialist. Her Images Book I and II were chosen as the top recommendation ‘exquisite delicacy’, BBC Radio 3’s CD Review, January 2014. Noriko’s latest recording for BIS records is of solo piano music by Eric Satie. Noriko is Chairperson of the Jury for Japan’s prestigious 10th Hamamatsu International Piano Competition since 2018 and is a professor at Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

Vijay Iyer – [full biography here](#)

Described by the New York Times as “a social conscience, multimedia collaborator, system builder, rhapsodist, historical thinker and multicultural gateway,” Vijay Iyer has carved out a unique path as an influential, prolific, shape-shifting presence in twenty-first-century music. A composer and pianist active across multiple musical communities, Iyer has established himself as a leading music-maker of his generation. He has received a MacArthur Fellowship, a Doris Duke Performing Artist Award, a United States Artist Fellowship, a Grammy nomination, the Alpert Award in the Arts, and two German “Echo” awards, and was voted Downbeat Magazine’s Jazz Artist of the Year four times in the last decade.

Paul Roberts – [full biography here](#)

Pianist, writer, lecturer, inspiring teacher – and a leading authority on the music of Debussy and Ravel – Paul Roberts has earned the admiration of audiences, critics and fellow professionals worldwide. Richard Goode wrote: “Paul Roberts’ excellence as a writer on music is matched by his superb talents as a pianist. I know of no other figure in the musical world who combines so impressively the roles of scholar and performer.” Invited every year to the summer festival of Portland Piano International since its inception in 1999, Paul Roberts has established a unique profile in Portland, where he regularly performs, gives master classes and private tuition.