

Concert Diary

at **Westminster Cathedral Hall**

MARTIN JAMES BARTLETT recital

Sunday 27th September at 4:30pm

Bach, Handel, Mozart, Chopin, Fauré & Granados

Members of the Chopin Society: FREE

Friends of the Chopin Society: £10 (standard),
£8 (seniors over 60)

Non-Members: £16 (standard), £14 (seniors over 60),
£8 (students with ID, school children)



DMITRI ALEXEEV recital

Sunday 25th October at 4:30pm

Liszt, Schubert, Wagner, Chopin & Schumann

Members of the Chopin Society: FREE

Friends of the Chopin Society: £10 (standard),
£8 (seniors over 60)

Non-Members: £16 (standard), £14 (seniors over 60),
£8 (students with ID, school children)



YURIE LEE (cello) & ADAM REPA (piano) recital

Sunday 29th November at 4:30pm

Chopin & Franchomme

Members of the Chopin Society: FREE

Friends of the Chopin Society: FREE

Non-Members: £16 (standard), £14 (seniors over 60),
£8 (students with ID, school children)



TO BOOK

Tickets go on sale approximately one month before the performance date.

Members & Friends: contact the Chopin Society on info@chopin-society.org.uk

Non-Members: visit www.chopin-society.org.uk, recitals

or

visit Wegottickets.com and search for the Chopin Society UK

ARTIST NOTES & PROGRAMMES

MARTIN JAMES BARTLETT

Sunday 27th September at 4:30pm

Bach

“Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme” - Schübler Choräle, BWV 645

Bach-Kempff

Siciliano in G minor from Flute Sonata No.2 in E-flat major, BWV 1031

Handel

Chaconne in G major, HWV 435

Mozart

Piano Sonata No.11 in A major, K331

Chopin

Nocturne in C-sharp minor, Op. 27 No.1

Nocturne in D-flat major, Op.27 No.2

Fauré

Romance without words, Op.17 No.3

Granados

Los requiebros

Martin James Bartlett possesses a fearless technique and plays with a maturity and elegance far beyond his years. In 2022, he became the inaugural recipient of the Prix Serdang, a Swiss award curated by Rudolf Buchbinder to recognise a young pianist forging an international solo career. An exclusive recording artist with Warner Classics, Bartlett has earned consistent critical acclaim, with his albums receiving five-star reviews and top accolades. Praised by *The Arts Desk* for his performance as “frankly like watching another, superior, species,” Bartlett continues to affirm his place as one of the most compelling pianists of his generation.

The 2026/27 season sees Bartlett perform across the UK and Europe. He opens the season with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra in Tchaikovsky’s Piano Concerto No. 1, later on returning to the London Mozart Players for Mendelssohn’s Double Concerto. Highlights include performances of Beethoven’s Emperor Concerto with the Estonian National Symphony Orchestra in Tallinn as part of the orchestra’s Piano Festival, and with the Mozarteum orchester Salzburg. Following the release of his acclaimed recording of Mozart’s Piano Concerto No. 24, Bartlett gives further performances of the work in Switzerland and Romania. His recital schedule includes appearances in London, Norwich, Beverley, Canterbury and Stuttgart, alongside return engagements in Vienna and at Villa Serdang.

Recent highlights include debuts at the Lucerne and Moritzburg Festivals, a return to the Concertgebouw, and a two-week U.S. tour with solo engagements in Cincinnati and San Francisco. As a concerto soloist, Bartlett has toured the UK with Sinfonia of London under John Wilson, and across Europe with the LGT Young Soloists, performing Philip Glass' *Tirol* Piano Concerto at major venues including the Berlin Konzerthaus and Vienna Musikverein. The tour culminated in a gala performance for the Prince and Princess of Liechtenstein in London.

He has given recitals at leading venues including the Alte Oper Frankfurt, Salle Cortot in Paris, and appeared at festivals including La Roque d'Anthéron, Grafenegg, Rheingau, Dresden, and the International Chopin Piano Festival. His US recital debut in 2022, presented by the Young Concert Artists Series, included performances in New York and at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC.

An exclusive artist with Warner Classics, Bartlett has released a series of acclaimed albums on the label. His most recent release featuring concertos by Bach, Mozart and Britten, follows *La Danse* (2024), featuring French baroque and impressionist repertoire, which received five stars in *The Times* and was named Editor's Choice in *Gramophone*. *Rhapsody* (2022), recorded with the London Philharmonic Orchestra and Joshua Weilerstein, pairs Rachmaninoff and Gershwin and received similar accolades from *Gramophone* and *BBC Music Magazine*. His debut, *Love and Death* (2019), was praised in *The Times*, *The Guardian*, and *The Sunday Times*.

He studied at the Royal College of Music with Professor Vanessa Latche, graduating with top honours and later receiving the Queen Mother Rosebowl from HRH The Prince of Wales. From 2020-2022 he held the RCM Benjamin Britten Piano Fellowship, during which time he made his play/direct conducting debut with the London Mozart Players. He now serves on the RCM faculty as Professor of Piano.

Support the Future of the Chopin Society

For over 55 years, the Chopin Society UK has brought together world-class artists and celebrated the legacy of Fryderyk Chopin.

If you enjoy our concerts and events, please help us continue our work by introducing a friend, encouraging new Members to join, or simply spreading the word.

If you are able to make a donation, your support would also be greatly appreciated. Every contribution helps secure the Society's future.

Thank you for supporting the Chopin Society UK.

DMITRI ALEXEEV recital

Sunday 25th October at 4:30pm

Liszt

Variations on a Theme of Bach "Weinen, Klagen, Sorgen, Zagen", S.180

Schubert (arr. Liszt)

Selection of songs

1. Sei mir begrüßt, S.558 No.1
2. Aufenthalt, S.560 No.3
3. Der Wanderer, S.558 No.11
4. Litanei, S.562 No.1

Wagner (arr. Liszt)

Isoldens Liebestod from "Tristan und Isolde", S.447

Chopin

Nocturne, Op.32 No.2

Schumann

Symphonic Etudes, Op.13 & posth.

Russian pianist **Dmitri Alexeev** is one of the world's most highly regarded artists. His critically acclaimed recitals on the world's leading concert stages, and concerto appearances with the most prestigious orchestras have secured his position as one of "the most remarkable pianists of the day" (Daily Telegraph).

He has performed in all major concert halls around the world and with all leading orchestras such as the Berlin Philharmonic, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Philadelphia Orchestra, Royal Concertgebouw of Amsterdam, the five London orchestras, Orchestre de Paris and the Munich Bavarian Radio Orchestra amongst others. He has worked with conductors such as Ashkenazy, Boulez, Dorati, Gergiev, Giulini, Jansons, Muti, Pappano, Rozhdestvensky, Salonen, Svetlanov, Temirkanov, Tilson Thomas and Klaus Tennstedt amongst many others.

During previous seasons he was the Artistic Director of the Leeds International Recital Series, and Artistic Director and Artist in Residence of the concert series "Muis Sacrum" in Arnhem and Nijmegen, in the Netherlands. In 2021, he curated a series of concerts entitled 'Beyond Boundaries' at St John's Smith Square and the Royal College of Music, London, in memory of his former teacher, Dmitri Bashkirov; "... a lavish feast ... spectacular ... His manner is ruthlessly focused, always high, lucid and bright ... the biggest tour de force ..." (The Arts Desk). Alexeev has been a juror for many of the world's most prestigious International Piano Competitions, including the Leeds, Chopin (Warsaw), Van Cliburn, Santander, Beethoven (Vienna) and Tchaikovsky (Moscow) International Piano Competition. He regularly gives masterclasses around the world. Alexeev became Professor of Piano at the Royal College of Music in 2005. Many of his past and current students are top prize winners at major international piano competitions such as the Leeds, Tchaikovsky, Liszt (Utrecht), Viotti, Sydney, Santander, Scottish, Dublin and Maria Canals International Piano Competition to name a few.

Alexeev has made many fine recordings for Brilliant Classics, EMI, BMG, Virgin Classics, Hyperion and Russian labels. His discs include piano concertos by Schumann, Grieg, Rachmaninov, Prokofiev, Shostakovich, Scriabin, Medtner and solo works by Bach, Brahms, Schumann, Chopin, Liszt, Scriabin, Rachmaninov and Prokofiev. Following his Virgin Classics recording of the complete Rachmaninov Preludes, which won the Edison Award in the Netherlands, BBC Music Magazine described him as “a pianist at once aristocratic, grand and confessionally poetic. This is an inspiring disc.” In December 2012, his recording of Scriabin’s complete Piano Sonatas was released on Brilliant Classics. This was followed by recordings of Scriabin’s complete Etudes, Preludes, Poèmes, Waltzes and Mazurkas. A box set of Scriabin Complete Piano Music followed in 2021 (Brilliant Classics). His recording of the complete Chopin Mazurkas was released in 2014 –a recording that Gramophone Magazine referred to as one of the best recordings of the Chopin Mazurkas that have appeared in the past three-quarters of a century, alongside those of Rubinstein and Yakov Flier.

YURIE LEE & ADAM REPA recital

Sunday 29th November at 4:30pm

Chopin (arr. Glazunov)

Etude, Op.25 No.7

Franchomme

Nocturne in E minor, Op.14 No.1

Chopin

Introduction and Polonaise Brillante in C major, Op.3 (First edition)

Franchomme

Nocturne in C minor, Op.15 No.1

Chopin-Repa

Waltz in A minor

Franchomme

Duo concertant sur un motif d’Anna Bolena, Op.23

Chopin

Fantasy in F minor, Op.49

Chopin

Sonata in G minor for Cello and Piano, Op.65

I. Allegro moderato

II. Scherzo

III. Largo

IV. Finale. Allegro

British cellist **Yurie Lee**, of Japanese and Hong Kong-British heritage, is based in London. A versatile musician, Yurie enjoys a varied career as a chamber musician, soloist, orchestral performer, and teacher, appearing regularly in some of the world's leading concert halls across Europe, Canada, and the UK.

Past highlights include a collaboration with the Nash Ensemble at Wigmore Hall, where she performed Julian Anderson's *Sky Piece* for solo cello alongside other works. She has made several appearances at the Britten Pears Arts Summer Festival with Trio Mazzolini and the Knussen Chamber Orchestra. Together with pianist Harry Rylance, she performed on a SAGA Cruises tour of Germany and the Netherlands, culminating in a recital at Amsterdam's Concertgebouw.

Yurie has appeared at prestigious venues worldwide, including the Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts and Glenn Gould Studio in Toronto, Konzerthaus Berlin, the Salzburg Mozarteum, Casa da Música in Porto, Wigmore Hall, the Royal Festival Hall, the Royal Albert Hall, and the Barbican Centre.

From 2019 to 2024, Yurie was a founding member of Trio Mazzolini alongside violinist Jack Greed and pianist Harry Rylance. Within three weeks of forming, the trio travelled to Toronto to give a series of performances, including a live broadcast of Weinberg's *Piano Trio, Op. 24* for CBC Radio at Glenn Gould Studio. They went on to perform at festivals including North York Moors Chamber Music Festival, Petworth Festival, Lichfield Festival, and Folkestone New Music, and were appointed Chamber Music Fellows at the Royal Academy of Music as well as Britten Pears Young Artists.

An experienced orchestral musician, Yurie performs regularly with Fantasia Orchestra, with whom she recently appeared at the BBC Proms 2026. She also performs with the BBC Concert Orchestra and the Knussen Chamber Orchestra, and has served as Principal Cello under conductors including Sir Mark Elder, Jac van Steen, Edward Gardner, and Marin Alsop. She performed in the original production of *My Neighbour Totoro* at the Barbican Centre and has recorded with the London Symphony Orchestra for British Airways and with the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra for the BBC's *Ten Pieces* education programme.

Yurie began playing the piano at the age of four before taking up the cello a year later. Awarded a scholarship to the Primary and Junior Departments of the Royal Academy of Music, she studied with Lara Moore, Bozidar Vukotic, and Heather Harrison. She graduated with First-Class Honours from the Royal Academy of Music in 2019, studying with Jo Cole, before completing a Master of Arts with Distinction under Nadège Rochat. She was also awarded the DipRAM for an outstanding final recital.

Alongside her performing career, Yurie is passionate about inspiring the next generation of musicians through education. She teaches cello and coaches chamber music in the Primary and Junior Departments at the Royal Academy of Music. She is also the cello teacher at Wetherby Senior School, where she co-founded and directs the Year 7 and 8 Strings Programme and leads several ensembles.

British pianist **Adam Repa** enjoys a varied career as a soloist, chamber musician, teacher, composer, and arranger. His recent performances have taken him to venues including Steinway Hall, St Mary's Frinton, Proms at St Jude's, the National Liberal Club, the National Physical Laboratory in London, and, most recently, his American recital debut in Baltimore, which included Chopin's Piano Sonata No. 3.

A sought-after concerto soloist, Adam performed Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 2 with the Derby Concert Orchestra at Derby Cathedral under the baton of Jack Capstaff in March 2024, returning the following season to perform Addinsell's *Warsaw Concerto*. In January 2027, he will appear alongside distinguished artists at the POSK Music Festival, celebrating the centenary of the International Chopin Piano Competition in Warsaw.

An enthusiastic chamber musician, Adam regularly collaborates with cellist Yurie Lee, pianist Julia Klimek, and baritone Lars Fischer. His work as a composer has also attracted increasing recognition: his *Prelude in C minor* was transcribed and recorded by Royal Academy of Music pianist Vladislav Mikhalchuk for Oclassica, while his *March in E-flat* was recorded by Mikhalchuk together with Grammy Award-winning trumpeter David Longoria.

Adam began playing the piano at the age of seven and gave his first recital at Fryderyk Chopin's birthplace in Żelazowa Wola, Poland, aged just ten. He is a laureate of the Cambridge Competitive Music Festival, an achievement that led to a performance of the first movement of Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 3 at West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge. He also won first prize in every category he entered at the Mrs Sunderland Music Festival in Huddersfield.

Alongside his performing career, Adam serves as Assistant Artistic Director and Joint Administrator of The Chopin Society UK, Head of Keyboard at Wetherby Senior School, and works as a freelance composer and organist.

Adam studied at the University of York with Joan Dixon before completing a Master of Arts degree at the Royal Academy of Music under the guidance of the late Professor Sulamita Aronovsky. He has also received artistic guidance from Martin Roscoe, Professor Andrzej Jasiński, and Martino Tirimo.

A Gentle Reminder to Our Audience

To help create the best possible atmosphere for our performers and audience alike, we kindly ask that **all mobile phones and electronic devices are switched off or set to silent mode** before the recital begins.

We also ask that **no photographs or video recordings are taken during the recital**. The Chopin Society has an official photographer who will be capturing the event. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

VENUE & TRAVEL INFORMATION

for our main venue

Westminster Cathedral Hall
Ambrosden Avenue
London
SW1P 1QW



Getting there

By train or tube: **Victoria** (train & tube) and **St James's Park** (tube) are both less than 5 minutes walk.

By bus: **Nos 11, 24, 211 and 507** buses stop immediately in front of the Cathedral piazza on Victoria Street.

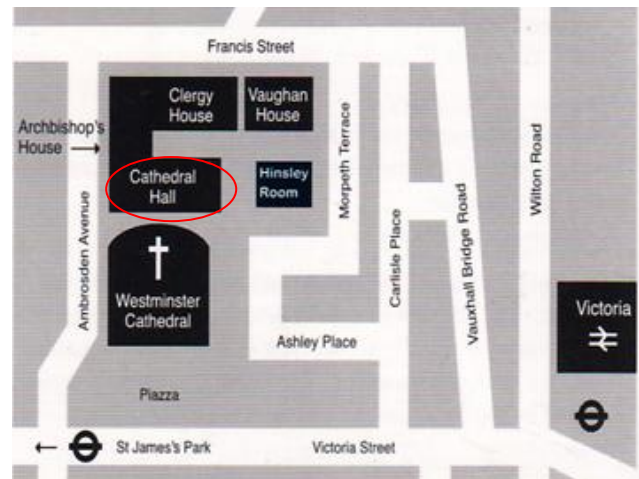
By car: Not recommended due to the new ULEZ charge and the Congestion charge which now operates on Sundays. However to avoid both of these, you can park on the far side of Vauxhall Bridge Road and walk to the Hall down Francis Street, turning left into Ambrosden Avenue (about 5 minutes).

A POLITE NOTICE

The doors officially open **45 minutes** before our concerts start.

We would really appreciate it if audience members did not arrive any earlier than this.

Thank you for your understanding.



STAY FOR TEA and meet the artist!

We offer 'Tea' after every concert. This is a generous buffet consisting of a variety of freshly made sandwiches, savouries, cakes and biscuits. There is a choice of tea, coffee, juice, mineral water or a glass of wine.

If you have a specific dietary requirement, please email us in advance.

The artist(s) usually attend the tea and are happy to meet the audience. We can serve up to 70 people.

Tea tickets are £10, £5 (students), £4 (Youth Members)

Book in advance: info@chopin-society.org.uk, or purchase on the door (cash/cheque only)

Notice

Many of you will notice that there is no President's Letter in this edition of the newsletter.

Our President, **Lady Rose Cholmondeley**, recently underwent major surgery and, following a three-week stay in hospital, is now recovering at home. We are pleased to report that she is making good progress and continues to regain her strength.

On behalf of everyone at the Chopin Society UK, we send Lady Rose our warmest wishes for a smooth and full recovery, and we look forward to welcoming her back soon.

Membership Renewal Reminder

If you have not yet renewed your Chopin Society UK membership, we would be delighted to have you back for another year.

Please check the expiry date on your membership card. If your membership has expired, please remember that you will no longer be able to enjoy the many benefits of the membership, including access to our regular concerts, priority booking for special events, and invitations to exclusive Society activities.

To renew, please email our Membership Secretary, **Chizuko Winter** at **chizwinter@icloud.com**, for a renewal form, or pick one up at any of our concerts.

The price list and more details can be found on the next page.

Renewals should be made by bank transfer:

Account Name: The Chopin Society

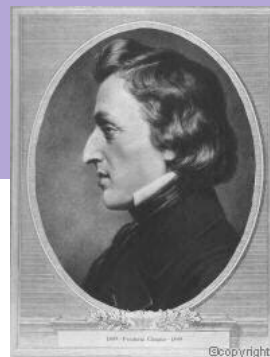
Account No.: 00257937

Sort Code: 30-94-81

Please include **your name** and **"RENEWAL"** as the payment reference.

We look forward to welcoming you back as a member of the Chopin Society.

MEMBERSHIPS



JOIN THE CHOPIN SOCIETY!

Become a member of the Chopin Society UK and enjoy a range of exclusive benefits throughout the season.

Membership Benefits:

- ❖ Free admission to all regular concerts at Westminster Cathedral Hall
- ❖ Priority booking for Gala Concerts and other special events*
- ❖ The opportunity to perform alongside fellow amateur and professional pianists at our Members' Matinées, held in private homes across Greater London
- ❖ Invitations to exclusive members' events and organised tours, such as our recent visit to Warsaw, where members enjoyed VIP concert tickets to the XIX International Chopin Piano Competition and private tours not available to the general public
- ❖ Regular newsletters and updates by email and post

*Please note that Gala Concerts and certain special events are ticketed separately.

SPECIAL HALF-PRICE MEMBERSHIP OFFER

Offer valid from September to December*

Join the Chopin Society at **half the normal annual subscription**, with your membership running until **31st March 2027**.

Membership application forms are available at all our concerts or can be downloaded from our website:

www.chopin-society.org.uk

Alternatively, please contact our Membership Secretary, **Chizuko Winter**, at **chizwinter@icloud.com**, and she will send you an application form.

Completed forms should be returned to:

Special Offer
The Chopin Society
209a Princess Park Manor
Royal Drive
London
N11 3FS

*This offer is available only to those who have **not** been a member of the Chopin Society within the last **three years**.

Membership categories

The Membership Year runs from 1st April to 31st March.

Single Membership (31-59)	£75 → £37.50
Joint Membership (2 people aged 31-59 at same address)	£130 → £65
Senior Membership (60 and over)	£65 → £32.50
Senior Joint Membership (two people 60 and over at same address)	£110 → £55
Youth Membership (30 and under)	£35 → £17.50
Life Membership	£750
Senior Life Membership (aged 60 and over)	£500
Friends of the Chopin Society*	£25 per annum

*Friends pay £10 (£8 for seniors) for each concert they attend. This price will be higher for special events.

Friends receive:

- ❖ free entry to three nominated recitals a year
- ❖ priority booking for in-house Galas and special events
- ❖ regular newsletters and mailings (email or postal)

***A VERY WARM WELCOME
to the latest
CHOPIN SOCIETY
MEMBERS & FRIENDS***

Miss Yvonne Behar
Lady Colin Campbell
Ms. Geliya Chukmarova
Ms. Margaret Finch
Ms. Mei Sim Lai
Mr. Evgeni Minchev
Mr. Agustin Reiter
Ms. Tomoko Stacey

POLISH JAZZ FESTIVAL

What remains of Fryderyk Chopin's music when the piano is removed? Chopin Residue, a project by Polish composer and producer Mariusz Szypura, takes this question literally. Across an entirely instrumental double album, Szypura rebuilds nine works (preludes, an etude, a nocturne and a berceuse) without the instrument that defined them. The result is a harmonic shadow, a residue that becomes the score: not a tribute, but a study in transformation.

The first part, Deconstructions, arranges these pieces for an international ensemble including Adrian Utley (Portishead), Lee Ranaldo (Sonic Youth), John Stanier (Battles), Joey Waronker (Beck), Gail Ann Dorsey (David Bowie) and John McEntire (Tortoise), on guitars, basses, drums, harp, theremin and trautonium. The second, Reworks, entrusts each piece to a single artist, including Jim O'Rourke, Fennesz, Matthew Herbert and Christine Ott.



The project's visual core is the Nonaptych, nine large-format paintings made from thread, the waste produced when vinyl records are cut by hand on a lathe. Photographs of these paintings form the album artwork, and footage filmed on their surfaces under dynamic lighting becomes the projected visual layer of the live performances. Installations combining the paintings, sound and projection have been shown at the Palace in Wilanów in Warsaw, Fridman Gallery in New York and BALC Gallery in Osaka.

The cover design concept has received a Red Dot Design Award 2026 and a Bronze A'Design Award in Como, with both finalist and shortlist selections at the European Design Awards (Sofia), Pentawards (London) and the London International Creative Competition.

On the 26th September 2026, Chopin Residue will have its UK premiere at Cadogan Hall as part of the Polish Jazz Festival London 2026, supported by the Adam Mickiewicz Institute, performed by Adrian Utley, John Stanier, Sean O'Hagan, Charlie Draper, Pat Stawiński, Miłosz Pękala and Szypura, with special guest Leszek Możdżer.



Complimentary Tickets for Chopin Society Members

The Festival Director, **Łukasz Drożdziel**, is delighted to offer **25 complimentary tickets** for Chopin Society Members to attend the Chopin Residue concert on **26th September**.

Places are limited and tickets are expected to go quickly, so Members are encouraged to reserve their tickets as soon as possible.

To attend, please contact:

Łukasz Drożdziel

Festival Director

Email: impostermuse@gmail.com

Website: impostermuse.com

For further information about the event, please visit:

chopinresidue.com

RESCUING CHOPIN

Rescuing Chopin in London – A Story That Found Its Way Home

A Cultural Soirée at the National Liberal Club

This autumn, Chopin enthusiasts are invited to experience a truly remarkable evening celebrating an extraordinary chapter of London's musical history.

Rescuing Chopin in London – A Story That Found Its Way Home tells the fascinating true story of Fryderyk Chopin's long-forgotten London monument, its remarkable rediscovery after decades of obscurity, and the journey that led to its return to public view. Blending history, music and theatre, this unique production brings to life an important piece of Chopin's legacy that has remained largely unknown.

Presented in the elegant surroundings of the **National Liberal Club**, overlooking the River Thames, the evening combines outstanding live performance with compelling storytelling. The programme features internationally acclaimed concert pianist **Artur Haftman**, together with live violin, theatrical narration, vocals and specially curated musical performances, creating an immersive celebration of Chopin's life, music and enduring influence.

Following the performance, guests are invited to a reception where they can meet the artists, speakers and fellow audience members in one of London's most distinguished private clubs.

Event Details

Date: Wednesday 28th October 2026

Venue: National Liberal Club, Whitehall Place, London SW1A 2HE

Doors & Welcome Drink: 6:45pm

Performance: 7:30pm

Tickets: £35 - £65

For tickets and further information, visit:

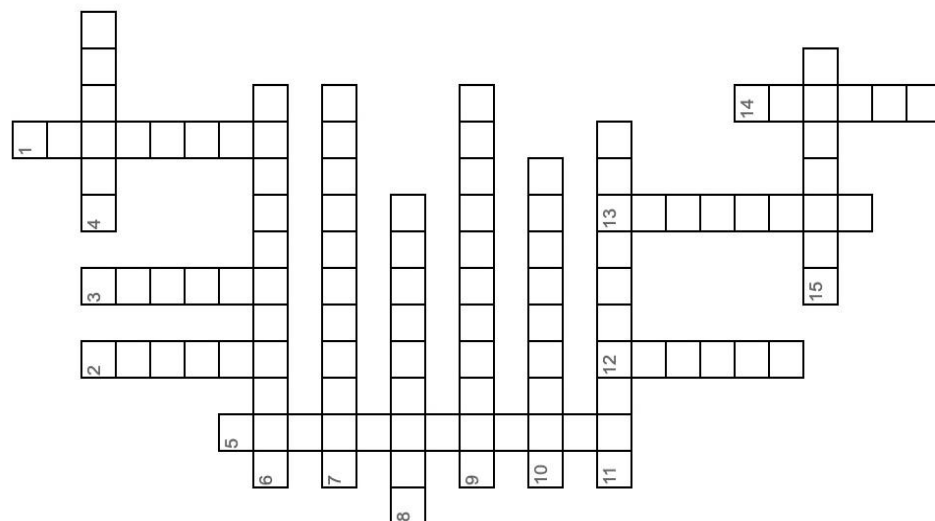
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or scan the QR code:



Chopin Society Crossword

Answers on page 22



Across

- 4 Home of the world's most prestigious Chopin piano competition
- 6 London district where the Chopin Society's regular concerts are held
- 7 Virtuoso pianist in Paris who offered to train Chopin but was declined
- 8 English piano maker whose instrument accompanied Chopin in Britain
- 9 Majorcan monastery where Chopin and George Sand spent the winter of 1838–39
- 10 Dance symbolising Polish nobility and patriotism
- 11 Polish pianist and statesman who helped popularise Chopin worldwide
- 15 Chopin's close friend who published several posthumous works

Down

- 1 Chopin's delicate 'lullaby' in D-flat major
- 2 George Sand's country estate where Chopin composed many masterpieces
- 3 Polish pianist and pupil of Chopin whose teaching preserved aspects of his interpretation
- 5 Birthplace of Chopin
- 12 Chopin's composition teacher in Warsaw
- 13 Scottish admirer who arranged Chopin's final visit to Britain
- 14 Chopin completed three for solo piano

MEMBERS' MATINÉE

Christmas Members' Matinée

Sunday 6th December 2026

The Christmas Members' Matinée is always one of the highlights of the Chopin Society calendar, bringing together members for an afternoon of wonderful music.

Once again, we are delighted that our Legal Advisor, **Leslie MacLeod-Miller**, will be hosting this much-loved event in his beautiful home. Seating will be up to **70 guests** and a generous array of refreshments and drinks will be provided.

Please note that this event is only eligible to paid-up Members and their guests.

Event Details

Date: Sunday 6th December 2026

Doors open at: 3:30pm

Concert begins: 4:00pm

Venue: Carlisle Place, London (*full address will be sent with tickets*)

Tickets: £20 per Member

Each Member may bring **one guest only** (£20)

Calling All Musicians!

Members who play to **Grade 6 standard or above** are warmly invited to perform.

- Maximum performance time: **10 minutes** (including pauses between pieces)
- Please submit your chosen programme together with alternative works, in case another performer has selected the same repertoire.
- You do not have to perform Chopin—music by any composer is welcome.
- There is **no charge for performers**. Guest tickets remain £20.



Booking Information – New Trial Booking System

This year, we will be **trialling a new booking system** for the Christmas Members' Matinée, to simplify the application process.

To reserve audience tickets or apply to perform, please email **Adam Repa** at **adamqrepa94@yahoo.co.uk** or phone **07545023493** (if you do not have an email) with the following information:

Audience Tickets

Please state **how many tickets** you require (Members may bring one guest only).

Pianist Applications

Please include:

- your proposed programme (and any alternative works)
- whether or not you will be bringing a guest

Application deadline: Sunday 4th October 2026

Following the deadline, Adam Repa will contact everyone to confirm whether:

- your performance application has been successful
- or
- you have secured audience tickets

As places are limited, **all ticket allocations will continue to be made strictly on a first-come, first-served basis**. We appreciate your understanding if demand exceeds availability.

Successful applicants will then have **two weeks** to pay by bank transfer* to the Chopin Society account (bank details will be provided in the email). If payment is not received by the deadline, the reservation will be cancelled and the place will be offered to the next person on the waiting list.

As we introduce this new system, we kindly ask for your patience and understanding. We hope it will make the booking process simpler for everyone, and we thank you for your continued support.

***We will still accept cheques; however, as they need to be sent by post, please be aware that they may take longer to reach us and be processed.**

THE CHOPIN FESTIVAL

Celebrating 100 Years of the International Fryderyk Chopin Piano Competition

Saturday 23rd January 2027

Polish Social & Cultural Centre (POSK)
238–246 King Street, London W6 0RF



**Polski Ośrodek
Społeczno - Kulturalny**

On the exact centenary of the first International Fryderyk Chopin Piano Competition, founded in Warsaw on 23 January 1927, the Chopin Festival celebrates one of the world's most prestigious piano competitions with a unique programme of concerts, talks, exhibitions and jazz.

From internationally acclaimed artists and distinguished scholars to a fascinating exhibition created in collaboration with the Fryderyk Chopin Institute, this promises to be one of the highlights of the Chopin centenary year.

GALA CONCERT featuring

Konrad Skolarski

Professor at the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music in Warsaw and one of Poland's most distinguished concert pianists.

Zuzanna Sejbuk

Prizewinner of piano competitions in Poland and abroad. Third Prize winner in the 53rd National Fryderyk Chopin Piano Competition and the only Polish woman selected to represent Poland at the 19th International Chopin Piano Competition (2025).

Adam Kałduński

A two-time participant in the International Chopin Piano Competition in Warsaw. He reached Stage II in the 18th Competition and, in 2025, appeared in the final stages and Prize-Winners' Concert of the 19th Competition after receiving the Special Prize for the Best Performance of a Ballade.

Lucas Krupiński & Kacper Nowak

An exciting recital partnership bringing together two outstanding young Polish musicians.

Lucas Krupiński has won major international piano competitions including the San Marino International Piano Competition, competitions of the Chopin-Gesellschaft, and the Yamaha Music Foundation of Europe. His debut album *Espressione* received a nomination for the International Classical Music Awards.

Kacper Nowak, cello, is a prizewinner of major international competitions including the Johannes Brahms Competition, Rotary International Competition Madrid Velázquez, the International Music Competition Vienna, and the Edmond Baert International Cello Competition. In 2022 he made his debut at the Wiener Konzerthaus performing Beethoven's *Triple Concerto* with the Wiener Kammerorchester.

Adam Repa

Pianist, chamber musician, teacher, composer and arranger. Following concerto appearances with the Derby Concert Orchestra, he recently made his American recital debut in Baltimore performing Chopin's Piano Sonata No. 3. He is a laureate of the Cambridge Competitive Music Festival and serves as Assistant Artistic Director and Joint Administrator of The Chopin Society UK.

MORE TO DISCOVER

Special Exhibition

Curated by **Dobrosława Platt** (Polish Library) in collaboration with **Aleksander Laskowski** of the Fryderyk Chopin Institute, Warsaw.

Talks given by

Two internationally renowned Chopin scholars - **Professor Alan Walker & Professor John Rink**

Chopin Jazz

The acclaimed **John Donegan Septet**, presenting Chopin in a fresh and vibrant jazz setting.

Tickets

Tickets go on sale via Eventbrite on the 1st October 2026.

Save the date now!

THE WALLACE COLLECTION

by Marek Ostas (Co-Chairman)

A stone's throw from the hustle and bustle of Oxford Street, tucked away in the deserted Manchester Square, you can admire one of London's exceptional array of 18th century objets d'art.

The Wallace Collection, spread over three floors of elegant Hertford House - built in 1776, was once a town residence of the Marquesses of Hertford and Sir Richard Wallace - that was gifted to the nation in the late 19th century. Amongst its nearly five thousand exhibits are paintings by Rembrandt, Titian, Boucher, Fragonard and Poussin.

The Chopin aficionados, however, will head for the work of the French artist Paul Delaroche (1797-1856) and his pieta inspired composition *The Virgin and Child*. According to various sources - not just the Polish ones - the sitter for this painting was Delfina Potocka, Chopin's devoted friend and alleged lover; he dedicated to her the Waltz D-flat major "The Minute Waltz" as well as the F-minor Concerto. The doyenne of Parisian Salons, separated from her husband Count Potocki, the beautiful Delfina was an accomplished pianist and singer. Her promiscuity was equally renowned; Delaroche was the last of her numerous lovers.

Her reputation as "Don Juan in Skirts" is one of the arguments used by those questioning Potocka as a sitter: "Delaroche would not have asked her to pose for a religious themed painting"- maintain the opponents. There is no doubt, however, that he portrayed her more than once in a different setting. Furthermore, since her two children died at a very early age and she miscarried three times, she would be reluctant to be painted with a small child.



The Virgin and Child



Paul Delaroche used Delfina Potocka as a model. (*The Wallace Collection, London*)

Delaroche painted *The Virgin and Child* in 1844 - a year before the death of his wife, Louise Vernet, whom he was very much in love with and immortalised in several of his works, such as *Saint Cecilia and the Angels* (1836) and *Louise on Her Deathbed* (1846). The couple had a son, Philippe, born in 1841. Delaroche's two portraits of Potocka are dated 1849 and 1851.

In 2011, I asked Mr Stephen Duffy, at that time the Curator of 19th Century Paintings at the Wallace Collection about his stand in the conundrum.

He replied as follows: *"The suggested identification of the sitter in Delaroche's Virgin and Child as Comtesse Potocka was noted in my book on the Wallace Collection's Delaroches'. It may be right, but seems to me unlikely given that the picture was painted in 1844, when Delaroche's wife Louise Vernet (to whom he was devoted) was still alive, and it is perfectly possible that the couple's son posed for the figure of the Christ Child. It is notoriously difficult to identify models in religious paintings, and unless definite proof emerges, the issue will probably always remain uncertain".*



Saint Cecilia and the Angels



Louise on Her Deathbed



Louise by her father
Horace Vernet



Delfina Potocka by Delaroche



Delfina by Daffinger
Moritz Michael



Would you like to contribute to future newsletters?

We would love to hear from Members who would like to be involved in future editions of the Chopin Society UK newsletter.

Articles can cover any subject relating to Chopin or the Society. We would also welcome pieces about Society events, personal reflections, or any other topics that may be of interest to fellow Members.

If you have an article or idea you would like to share, please send it to our Newsletter Editor, Yurie Lee at y.leecello@gmail.com

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NOTES

The Chopin Society

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