

# PIANO MASTERCLASS WITH JOANNA MACGREGOR

TUESDAY 24 SEPTEMBER, 10AM  
DUKE'S HALL



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Piano masterclass with **Professor Joanna MacGregor CBE**, Dame Myra Hess Chair of Piano.

After today's masterclass, at around 12pm Joanna MacGregor will outline the opportunities and events in the Piano Department. For any prospective students, please stay to meet Joanna MacGregor and the students, and to ask any questions, around 12.30pm.

### **Sergei Rachmaninov (1873-1943)**

Etude in E-flat minor, Op 39, No 5  
Etude in C minor, Op 33, No 3  
Etude in D, Op 39, No 9

**Tomos Boyles** piano

### **Tōru Takemitsu (1930-96)**

Litany

**Hayden Miller** piano

### **Franz Liszt (1811-86)**

Dante Sonata

**Milda Daunoraite** piano

### **Nikolai Kapustin (1937-2020)**

Trio for flute, cello and piano, Op 86  
Allegro molto  
Andante  
Allegro giocoso

**Xiaowen Shang** piano

**Lydia Walquist** flute

**Mikolaj Piszczorowicz** cello

## **PERFORMER BIOGRAPHIES**

### **Tomos Boyles**

Welsh pianist Tomos Boyles graduated from Christ Church, Oxford University in 2022 with a first-class degree in music. Having completed his Master's degree at the Royal Academy of Music last summer, he is now taking his Professional Diploma, working with Professor Rustem Hayroudinoff. He has enjoyed success in competitions, having recently been awarded first prizes at both the Urdd Eisteddfod and the Wales International Piano Festival solo categories. Other top prizes include the prestigious Blue Ribband at the National Eisteddfod, and first place in the EPTA competition. His interviews have been published by the Cross-Eyed Pianist's Meet the Artist series and broadcasted by S4C and BBC Wales. Tomos has performed at numerous prestigious venues including St Martin-in-the-Fields, the Holywell Music Room in Oxford, St David's Hall in Cardiff and the Wales Millennium Centre. Upcoming performances include solo recitals at Ludlow Piano Festival and Beaumaris Festival; Tomos will give his debut recital at the Wigmore Hall next March.

### **Hayden Miller**

Hayden Miller is a pianist from Houston, Texas, and he has just started his second undergraduate year at the Royal Academy of Music, studying with Mei-Ting Sun. With repertoire ranging from Couperin to Alexina Louie, he enjoys travelling beyond the canon of classical music, creating interdisciplinary experiences. He received top prizes in the Oberlin Piano Competition and

Houston International Music Competition; his performances have been featured on NPR's Encore Houston, as well as at PianoTexas, the Curtis Institute of Music, and at the International Florence Price Festival. An avid collaborator, Hayden is currently a member of the Ediva Trio. Hayden began his studies with Piper Ward, and later studied with Jennifer Hayghe while studying piano at Kinder High School for the Performing and Visual Arts in Houston.

### **Milda Daunoraite**

Lithuanian pianist Milda Daunoraite began her piano studies at the age of six. She received her formative education at the Purcell School of Music and is currently studying with Tessa Nicholson at the Royal Academy of Music; she is a fourth-year undergraduate. Milda's performances have been featured live in forty countries through Mezzo TV, Radio Classique, TV5 Monde and Lithuanian National Television and radio. She has performed at the Wigmore Hall, Amsterdam Concertgebouw, Musikhuset Aarhus, the United Nations headquarters in Geneva, and at the EMMA World Summit of Nobel Prize Peace Laureates in Warsaw. Milda's recent performances include a recital in the Laeiszhalle Recital Hall in Hamburg, Biarritz Piano Festival and at the Palermo Classica Festival.

### **Xiaowen Shang**

The prize-winning Xiaowen Shang, originally from Beijing, is a doctoral pianist at the Royal Academy of Music; she completed her undergraduate and postgraduate studies at the Academy, under Professor Joanna MacGregor.

Xiaowen released her debut album, Music of Silence, on Linn Records in May, and was nominated as one of the 2024 'Rising Stars' of classical music by BBC Music Magazine. A busy recitalist, recent performances include concerts at the Wigmore Hall as a solo pianist, and with the Nash Ensemble; as a harpsichordist with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment and with Rachel Podger; and solo recitals across UK and Switzerland. Recent awards have included the Harriet Cohen Bach Prize from the Worshipful Company of Musicians, and the Gold Medal from the Beethoven Piano Society of Europe. She is also a Young Artist of the Worshipful Musician's Company.

### **Professor Joanna MacGregor**

Joanna MacGregor CBE is one of the world's most innovative musicians, appearing as a concert pianist, conductor, curator and teacher. As Dame Myra Hess Chair of Piano at the Royal Academy of Music she is Head of an international piano department of young pianists from all over the world, many of whom have gone on to great success in major competitions like the Van Cliburn, Leeds, Busoni and Sydney International Piano Competitions, as well as international careers. She also runs two annual Piano Festivals at the Royal Academy of Music, and curates a year-round recital series at the Wigmore Hall for Academy pianists.

As a solo pianist Joanna appears with many international orchestras, performing in over eighty countries. She has been Artistic Director of Dartington International Summer School, Bath International Festival, and Deloitte Ignite

at the Royal Opera House, as well as a curator for festivals all over the world. In 2020 Joanna performed Beethoven's thirty-piano sonatas as part of Beethoven's 250th celebrations and gave an immersive series of Schubert's piano music in 2023. She has released over forty solo recordings - many of them on her own award-winning record label SoundCircus - ranging from Chopin and Piazzolla to Bach and John Cage. Joanna has commissioned and premiered many landmark works, and is a regular broadcaster on TV and radio, appearing many times at the BBC Proms. Her collaborative and composition projects encompass jazz, film, visual art, contemporary dance and electronica, and in 2024 she is overseeing music for forty-seven silent Sherlock Holmes films with the BFI, involving Academy musicians. A regular conductor, she is Music Director of Brighton Philharmonic, conducting vivid, fresh programming for their centenary, and Patron of Haddo Arts in Scotland. Joanna has five honorary doctorates in music; from 2015-2021 she chaired the Paul Hamlyn Composers Awards and has been a Booker Prize Judge.

## **Royal Academy of Music Piano Department**

Welcome to the Academy! We're the home for pianists who are talented, creative, energetic and committed – this is the place for you. We're a very international department, with around one hundred young solo pianists coming from over thirty countries. We focus on developing artistic and professional potential, through four years of undergraduate study, Master's programmes, Professional and Advanced

Diplomas, right up to doctoral programmes.

We offer a world-class piano training programme to develop the skills necessary for a 21st century career. We'll help you develop a career in performing, through opportunities within the Academy, major London venues and beyond. We'll nurture your ability to curate festivals and concert series, and to create recording opportunities; we'll build your confidence to compose, improvise and conduct, and to explore early keyboards; and we'll help you determine your artistic personality by developing your digital profile and collaborating with artists of all kinds.

There's individuality and excitement involved in being a pianist here at the Academy – by being a deeply creative, ambitious and proactive musician.