

Wensleydale Concert Series



Alicja Fiderkiewicz

piano

*This concert is dedicated to the memory of my beloved
Uncle Roman who passed away a few days ago in Warsaw.*

Friday, 25th September 2015 at 7.30pm

St. Andrews Church, Aysgarth, North Yorkshire

www.wensleydaleconcertseries.co.uk

Programme

Schubert – Piano Sonata No. 21 in B flat Major D960

- I. Molto moderato
- II. Andante sostenuto
- III. [Scherzo] Allegro vivace con delicatezza - Trio
- IV. Allegro ma non troppo – Presto

Schubert's final sonata was written in 1828 in the final year of his tragically short life of only 35 years. The sonata is considered his masterwork in this form.

Claudio Arrau once remarked: "this is a work written in the proximity of death...one feels it from the very first theme...the breaking off, and the silence after a long, mysterious trill in the bass."

Interval (20 minutes)

Chopin - Three Nocturnes Op.9

- I. Larghetto in B \flat minor
- II. Andante in E \flat major
- III. Allegretto in B major

Written between 1830 and 1832, they were dedicated to Madame Camille Pleyel. The second nocturne of the work is widely regarded as Chopin's most famous piece.

Chopin - Concerto in E Minor Op. 11 - II. Romanza

(solo piano version)

Chopin was attracted to the singing student Konstancja Gładkowska. In letters he indicated which of his works were influenced by his fascination with her and in particular this slow movement was secretly dedicated to her – "It should be like dreaming in beautiful springtime – by moonlight."

This is performed in Chopin's own one piano version. Alicja recently performed the whole concerto in the solo piano version in Manchester.

Chopin - Polonaise-fantasia, Op.61

Written in 1845-1846 the Polonaise-fantasia was Chopin's last extended work and completed 3 years before his death. This is a unique work combining in parts the distinctive polonaise rhythm and in other parts almost a rhapsodic improvisational style. Chopin's genius is exhibited in the way he builds structure using thematic recall and keeping a tight control on pace and proportion.

Alicja Fiderkiewicz

Alicja Fiderkiewicz was born in Warsaw, Poland. She began piano lessons at the age of 6 and at the age of 7 she entered a specialist School of Music in Warsaw. Two years later Alicja was accepted at the world famous Central School of Music attached to Moscow Conservatoire, Russia.

She returned to Warsaw when she was 15 and having won numerous awards especially for her interpretation of Chopin & Bach, she left her native country to continue her studies at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester. Her teachers included Prof. Kestner, Prof. Drzewiecki and Prof. Bakst.

Alicja has participated very successfully in a number of National and International Piano Competitions and is also a recipient of the Calouste-Gulbenkian Fellowship.

She has performed with Hallé Orchestra, Warsaw National Philharmonic Orchestra, Camerata , La Scala Milan and many other orchestras. Her performances include major venues in the UK and abroad including Cyprus, Poland, Russia, Ukraine, Spain, Italy, Switzerland, Israel and Japan. In the autumn this year Alicja will be performing in the USA and Finland.

In addition to her performing career Alicja has been giving masterclasses in the UK and abroad. She is a frequent faculty member at the International Piano Summer School at Chethams, Manchester.

She appeared on BBC Radio 3 and BBC TV.

Alicja Fiderkiewicz records for Divine Arts label with whom she recorded 4 acclaimed CDs which have also been very highly reviewed in Europe, overseas and most recently in the USA and Canada.

CDs are on sale during the interval and after the concert tonight.

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This is the first concert in Wensleydale Concert Series which has been started by Carol Haynes to encourage more regular classical music concerts throughout the year in Wensleydale – initially bimonthly.

In May we tentatively held a concert in St Andrew's Church with the cellist Corinne Morris and pianist Nico de Villiers to see if a series would be feasible. The concert was very successful.

If you would like to keep informed of future concerts please complete the enclosed slip with your name and email address to receive a monthly email newsletter, or visit the website and sign up for the newsletter there. Do please help to make the series a success by encouraging friends to sign up for a newsletter and come along to future concerts.

Here is what is planned over the next few months:

Friday, November 27th 2015 – The Melicus Duo.

An evening of songs in two halves – one half inspired by Spain and in the other the words of Shakespeare.

Marie Vassiliou, soprano, will introduce us to works by De Falla, Granados, Viardot, Pierné, Korngold, Argento, Quilter and Klatzow, accompanied by Nico de Villiers on piano.

Marie is a distinguished performer having sung all over the world, including at the BBC Proms and at the Royal Festival Hall and in many Operas.

Saturday, January 30th 2016 – Jonathan Bloxham, cello

A concert of solo cello works including the first 3 Bach cello suites.

Jonathan performs and travels widely around the world as a highly regarded solo cellist. He also loves playing chamber music and has recently performed at the Wigmore Hall and at the Sage Gateshead. He is also becoming a sought after conductor. This will be a very special, intimate evening's music.

March 2016: Daniel Grimwood (piano) and Fenella Humphreys (violin) in recital. Two exceptionally talented musicians. See the website for more details as they become available.