

SUMMER PIANO FESTIVAL: KASPARAS MIKUŽIS

MONDAY 15 JUNE, 1PM
DUKE'S HALL



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The first of two Summer Piano Festival Advanced Diploma recitals - the highest Academy performance award - features the young Lithuanian pianist **Kasparas Mikušis**.

Named as one of Classic FM's 'Rising Stars' for 2025, Kasparas has taken the stages of international venues including the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam and the Lithuanian National Philharmonic. He was one of the winners of the 2025 Young Classical Artists Trust, and recent highlights include recitals at the Bridgewater Hall in Manchester, the Krzysztof Penderecki Centre in Poland and his debut at Wigmore Hall in London. Kasparas has also performed at the United Nations Headquarters in Geneva on multiple occasions. Other notable appearances include the opening season concert of the Kharkiv Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra with conductor Yuri Yanko, and a performance of Rachmaninov's Concerto No 2 with John Wilson and Royal Academy of Music Symphony Orchestra. Kasparas completed his undergraduate studies with Diana Ketler and his postgraduate studies with Christopher Elton. Since 2022 he has worked with Gabriela Montero through the OAcademy, and has taken part in masterclasses with Andrés Schiff, Imogen Cooper and Denis Pascal.

Kasparas' recital includes Ravel's masterful 1905 suite *Miroirs*. Each movement was dedicated to one of his friends from the artistic circles of Paris: the symbolist poet Léon-Paul Fargue, the Spanish pianist Ricardo Viñes (his mentor), painter Paul Sordes, the musicologist Michel Calvocoressi and finally Maurice Delage, Ravel's only composition student.

Godowsky's intoxicating, 12-movement *Java Suite* was published in 1925 after immersing himself in the culture of the island: '*a musical portrayal of some of the things I had been privileged to see, and a tonal description of the emotions they had awakened.*'

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)

Sonata No 28 in A, Op 101

Allegretto, ma non troppo

Vivace alla marcia

Adagio, ma non troppo, con affetto

Allegro

Maurice Ravel (1875-1937)

Miroirs

Noctuelles (Night flight of Moths)

Oiseaux tristes (Sorrowful Birds)

Une barque sur l'océan (A ship on the Ocean)

Alborada del gracioso (Morning song of the Jester)

La vallée des cloches (The Valley of Bells)

Leopold Godowsky (1870-1938)

Java Suite

Gamelan

Puppet Shadow Plays

Hari Besaar

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PIANO FESTIVAL SOLO RECITALS

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Steppe Wind a-blowin': Music from the
East
Duke's Hall

Tuesday 16 June 10.30am

Titanic Piano: Sorabji and Alkan
David Josefowitz Recital Hall

Tuesday 16 June 1pm

Tomos Boyles
Chopin, Debussy, Ligeti, Prokofiev
Duke's Hall

Wednesday 17 June 1pm

Royal Academy Wigmore Hall Piano
Series
Khrystyna Mykhailichenko
Bach/Busoni, Brahms