



James Kirby | Piano

James appears as recitalist and concerto soloist throughout the UK and Europe. Highlights include performances at London's Wigmore Hall, Edinburgh and Aldeburgh Festivals, St George's, Bristol, and Dora Stoutzker Hall, Cardiff. He is increasingly in demand in the Far East, where recent appearances include concerts in China, Singapore and Malaysia.

James studied at the Royal Academy of Music in London with Hamish Milne and the Moscow Conservatoire with Tatiana Nikolaeva and Eliso Virsaladze. Following his student years in Moscow he undertook regular solo and chamber music tours of the former Soviet Union, making notable appearances at the *Sakharov Festival* in Nizhny

Novgorod, the *Omsk Festival* and the *Viktor Merzhanov Festival* in Tambov. He was a semi-finalist in the *International Tchaikovsky Competition* in Moscow and won First Prize in the *Citta di Marsala Piano Competition* in Sicily.

He has appeared as concerto soloist with the English, Scottish and Belarusian Chamber Orchestras, the Moscow, Kazakh, Astana and Penang Symphony Orchestras, the Arad and Oradea Philharmonic Orchestras (Romania), in venues including the Royal Albert Hall and Royal Opera House, Covent Garden in London, Symphony Hall, Birmingham, the Great Hall of the Moscow Conservatoire and Astana Opera House. He has performed both Brahms Concertos in Russia and Romania.

James is a member of the Barbican Piano Trio, performing at Wigmore Hall, in major UK festivals and concert series, and throughout Europe and the USA. Highlights include Carnegie Recital Hall and many cycles of Beethoven's complete Piano Trios including the Master Concert Series at Wigmore Hall. The Trio's repertoire consists of over seventy works.

He enjoyed a long collaboration with the celebrated Russian violinist Lydia Mordkovich and has worked with Martyn Brabbins, the Vanbrugh Quartet, BBC Singers, Dame Sarah Connolly and the pianist David Willison.

James is a dedicated teacher and holds posts at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, Royal Holloway, University of London, and Eton College. He is a regular jury member of international piano competitions and much in demand for masterclasses and as an adjudicator.