

Mario Bobotsov Young Artist Recital

Sunday May 25th

2.00 pm

Palmers Hall, Ludlow College

Beethoven	Piano Sonata No. 8 in C minor, Op. 1, “Pathetique”
César Franck	Prelude, choral et Fugue
Rachmaninov	Sonata No. 2 in B-flat minor, Op. 36 (1931)

Programme shown may be changed without notice



Mario Bobotsov was born in 2002 in Sofia, Bulgaria where he started his piano education, at the age of six, at the National School of Music.

He is currently studying for a bachelor's degree in piano at Royal Conservatoire in Birmingham.

Mario has been a prize winner at many piano competitions, throughout Europe and in the USA.

In 2024 he was invited to take part in Charles Owen's Masterclass at Ludlow Piano Festival where he so impressed that he became the first choice for our “Young Artist Recital” in 2025.

Programme notes

Piano Sonata No. 8 in C minor, Op. 1 "Pathétique" Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)

Beethoven composed the "Pathétique" Sonata when he was just 27. This period of his life was a time of great productivity and personal turmoil. He was beginning to struggle with his hearing, which added a layer of urgency and emotion to his work. The "Pathétique" quickly became one of his most popular pieces, its dramatic and emotional depth setting it apart from many other compositions of the time.

Prélude, Choral et Fugue César Franck (1822-1890)

Franck, a Belgian composer who spent much of his life in France, was a key figure in the development of French romantic music.

"Prélude, Choral et Fugue" is part of a larger trend in Franck's later years, where he focused on creating deeply personal and spiritual music.

Sonata No. 2 in B-flat minor, Op. 36 Sergei Rachmaninov (1873-1943)

A powerful and intricate Sonata (originally composed in 1913) which was well received when he performed the piece at its premiere in Moscow. Rachmaninoff himself, however, was not satisfied with the work and in 1931, he began a revision to make it more concise and approachable while still retaining its intensity and beauty.