

## Chopin *for a fiver*

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Christ Church, Spitalfields, Monday October 18th at 6pm & 8.30pm



## Vladimir Ovchinnikov - *Piano*

Chopin - Polonaise Op 26 No 1  
Chopin - Nocturne Op 9 No 1  
Chopin - Grande valse brillante Op 18  
Chopin - Grande valse brillante Op 34  
Chopin - Fantaisie Op 49  
Chopin - Polonaise-Fantaisie Op 61

The only pianist ever to win the top prizes at the International Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow (1982) and Leeds International Piano Competition (1987), Vladimir Ovchinnikov is also a laureate of the Concours International de Montreal (Canada, 1980, 2nd Prize), and the International Chamber Ensembles Competition in Vercelli (Italy, 1984, 1st Prize). It was his success at Leeds, however, which established his international career, and was followed by a triumphant *début* performance in London in the presence of Her Majesty the Queen.

He appears regularly with leading orchestras all over the world, including the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, the Philharmonia Orchestra, BBC Symphony Orchestra, the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra and the English Classical Players in the UK. He has also appeared with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra, Montreal Symphony Orchestra and numerous others from around the world. In Russia he works with the St Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra, Moscow Philharmonic Orchestra, the Great Symphony Orchestra and the State Academic Symphony Orchestra.

Mr Ovchinnikov possesses a wide repertory and appears in all the major cities throughout Europe and the USA. As an internationally renowned pianist he had the honour to perform at the most prestigious Concert Halls such as the Great Hall of Moscow State Conservatory, the Great Hall of St. Petersburg Philharmony, Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Centre in New York, the Albert Hall and Royal Festival Hall in London, the Gewandhaus in Germany, the Vienna Musikverein, Conservatorio Milano Verdi, Champs-Elysees Theatre in Paris, Suntory Hall in Tokyo and has received the highest praises of the audience, music critics and press. His festival appearances include Carnegie Hall and Hollywood Bowl (USA), Edinburgh and Cheltenham (UK), Schleswig Holstein (Germany), Sintra (Portugal), Stresa (Italy), Singapore Festival, the BBC Proms in London and the Van Cliburn in Concert Festival (USA).

He has also recorded for leading companies: EMI released his CDs with "*Transcendental Etudes*" by Liszt, "*Etudes - Tableaux*" by Rachmaninoff, all 9 Sonatas and pieces from the ballet "*Cinderella*" by Prokofiev. For Collins Classics he recorded the First Piano Concerto by Shostakovich with the Philharmonia Orchestra conducted by Maxim Shostakovich and "*Pictures at an Exhibition*". Other recordings include sonatas for violin and piano by Grieg (together with the violinist Vinnitsky) - for the Russian Seasons label and Liszt, Tchaikovsky, Taneev, Rubinstein for Gold Club.

For several years he was the Guest Professor of Piano at the Royal Northern College of Music in England. Currently he is the Resident Professor of piano at the Moscow Conservatory, Moscow State University in Russia and guest professor of piano at Sakuyo University, Japan. He has also been a jury member of many International Competitions.

In 2005 Vladimir Ovchinnikov received Russia's highest award and honour for Musicians - the title *National Artist of Russia* awarded by the president of Russia, Vladimir Putin.

The Steinway concert piano chosen and hired by Classic Concerts Trust for this concert is supplied and maintained by Steinway & Sons, London.

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