

9th October 2026

GERARD FLOTATS, cello with pianist Julian Chan

Programme:

Scriabin – Poème, Op. 32 No. 1 (arr. for cello and piano by Piatigorsky)

Prokofiev – Ballade for Cello and Piano, Op. 15

Stravinsky – Suite Italienne for Cello and Piano

Rachmaninov – Sonata for Cello and Piano in G minor, Op. 19

The programme explores different aspects of Russian music from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, bringing together works by Scriabin, Prokofiev, Stravinsky and Rachmaninov, each with their own distinctive voice and unique styles.

Profile:

Prize-winning Catalan cellist Gerard Flotats is a versatile young musician performing a wide spectrum of music, from Baroque on historical instruments to contemporary compositions with electronics. Winner of the Royal Over-Seas League Strings Competition, he has also been selected for the Philip and Dorothy Green Young Artist, Tillett Debut, and Munster Trust Recital schemes, giving him ample performance experience from a young age. His recent engagements included concerts at venues such as Wigmore Hall, Manchester Bridgewater Hall, Kings Place, and Pierre Boulez Saal.

Flotats has been invited to perform at international music festivals including Yellow Barn, IMS Prussia Cove, Mendelssohn on Mull, SHMF, and Santander Encuentro. An avid chamber musician, Gerard has collaborated with renowned artists including Daniel Hope, Anthony Marwood, Gilbert Kalish, Dale Barltrop, Roger Vignoles, Jens Peter Maintz, Linus Roth, and the Doric Quartet. He is an active member of various orchestras, having been the principal cellist of the European Union Youth Orchestra (EUYO) and has also led the RAM and JONDE orchestras. He is often invited to play with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment (OAE), Hope Orchestra, and the Spanish National Orchestra (ONE), and has worked with conductors such as Iván Fischer, Masaaki Suzuki, and Daniel Barenboim.

Gerard recently graduated with an Artist Diploma from the Barenboim-Said Akademie in Berlin, where he studied under Professor Frans Helmerson, with whom he continues to work privately. He previously graduated with honours in both his bachelor's and master's degrees, studying with Hannah Roberts at the Royal Academy of Music. There, he won various prizes in solo and chamber settings, including the Regency Award, Homi Kanga for the best strings final recital, Duo, and Craxton Prizes. At the Academy, he also studied Baroque cello with Andrew Skidmore and chamber music with John Myerscough. He is indebted to many esteemed cellists for their guidance, especially his previous mentors Richard May, Peter Thiemann, and Xavier Roig. Gerard has participated in masterclasses with cellists such as Steven Isserlis, Mischa Maisky, Miklos Perenyi, Jens Peter Maintz, Steven Doane, Gary Hoffman, Natasha Brofsky, Colin Carr and Sung Won Yang.

Recently, Gerard gave the premiere of his project in collaboration with composer Alexander Papp called Re-imagining Bach. Together as a cello and electronics duo, they performed with light and sound effects a new composition inspired by Bach's 3rd cello suite. A short movie of the project will be released later this year.

Through innovative performances, Gerard aims to make classical music more relevant and resonant for today's audiences. He is passionate about showcasing lesser-known pieces and collaborates with composers to introduce contemporary music to new listeners.

Gerard plays an Amati cello from the 1680

Gerard is supported by the Countess of Munster Musical Trust