

COURSE DETAILS – WEEKEND WE0123

TITLE: AN INTRODUCTION TO THE LIFE AND MUSIC OF DIMITRI SHOSTAKOVICH

TUTOR: ROY STRATFORD

LEVEL: SUITABLE FOR ALL

GENERAL CONTENT OF COURSE:

Since he died in 1975, Shostakovich has been acknowledged as one of the greatest composers of the twentieth century. He is now amongst the most widely performed of all the significant musicians from that time and his fifteen string quartets and symphonies are central to the repertoire. His music is an amazing mixture of powerful emotion, ironic humour, ear-catching melodic beauty and sometimes downright weirdness. What is never missing is the desire to communicate with the audience. We will explore this amazing output and try to understand his often ambivalent relationship to communism and the totalitarianism which cast a huge shadow over his life.

The course will be extensively illustrated using CDs and live piano examples performed by the tutor.

There will be a concert of music relative to the weekend on the Saturday evening. Non-resident students who would like to stay to dinner should book this in advance with the Admissions Office. The cost will be £9.

**Health and Safety:** The tutor will instruct students in health and safety issues relevant to this course. There are no health and safety restrictions on access to this studio/teaching space in the absence of the tutor.

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Included in the non-residential fee for this course is: an additional charge towards the cost of the Saturday evening Concert.

ROY STRATFORD *is a musician of wide ranging sympathies and interests from Baroque to Jazz and as a performer from conducting to accompanying. He studied music originally at Reading University where in his final year, as musical director of the Opera Society, he conducted Rimsky-Korsakov's "The Snow Maiden". He went on to study conducting at the Royal College of Music with Norman Del Mar.*

*Since leaving college he has worked with many of this country's finest orchestras including the London Philharmonic and the BBC Philharmonic and has worked as conductor, répétiteur and orchestral musician with English National Opera on several productions. He has also conducted a considerable amount of contemporary music and several series on the South Bank including music by composers such as Charles Ives, Gerald Barry and John Cage. He has also had several volumes of arrangements published by Faber Music and composes occasionally, entirely for pleasure.*

**COURSE TIMETABLE** (unless otherwise stated above or agreed with the tutor during the course)

Course timetable for 2–9 day courses – each course starts with a welcome session on the first evening of the start date of the course and is followed by 2–9 days depending on the length of the course.

<b>Arrival Day</b>	From 4.00pm	Arrival for residential students. Non-residential students please arrive by 6.45pm for welcome chat and dinner.
	7.00	Dinner.
	8.15–9.15	First teaching session.
<b>Daily Timetable</b>	<b>9.15am</b>	<b>Course starts.</b>
	10.30	Coffee.
	12.45pm	Lunch.
	3.30	Tea.
	7.00	Dinner. Followed by Evening Concert
<b>Departure – last day</b>	10.00am	Residential students are asked to vacate rooms.
	3.00pm	Classes finish.
	3.30	Tea then departure.