

THEO AND PETRA LIEVEN PIANO FOUNDATION

The “Lieven International Piano Foundation” was established in 1993 on the shores of Lake Como in Italy. Its main priority is to nourish, support and develop the careers of highly talented young pianists through intense guidance from world renowned masters.

Over the years a host of extraordinary musicians have been a part of the distinguished faculty in the foundation, including Karl Ulrich Schnabel, Rosalyn Tureck, Alicia de Larrocha, Leon Fleisher, Fou Ts'ong, Dmitri Bashkirov, Charles Rosen and Andreas Staier to name just a few. The foundation selected five young pianists every year to house and give its support. Some of the noteworthy young artists include Kirill Gerstein, Ingrid Fliter, Francois Frédéric Guy, Piotr Anderszewski and Konstantin Lifschitz among others.

Today the foundation is located in the center of Vienna. Under the direction of its artistic director Alon Goldstein, the foundation invites highly distinguished young pianists to Vienna, to receive free lessons as well as performing opportunities throughout the city. The faculty includes such piano masters as Elisso Virsaladze, Imogen Cooper, Jonathan Biss, Tatiana Zelikman, Robert Levin, Ya-Fei Chuang, Andreas Staier, Arie Vardi, Kostantin Lifschitz, Yulianna Avdeeva, Paul Lewis, Dang Thai Song, Rena Shereshevskaya, Eldar Nebolsin, Davide Cabassi, and Alon Goldstein.

Its young artists went on to win major piano competitions including the Cliburn, the Chopin, Geza Anda and many others. They perform all around the world on the major concert halls throughout.

UPCOMING CONCERTS


STEINWAY & SONS
VIENNA

6 Opernring
1010 Wien Austria

July 2	August 6
July 9	August 13
July 16	August 20
July 23	August 27
July 30	


Bösendorfer
SALON

Bösendorferstraße 12 | Canovagasse 4
1010 Wien, Austria

July 3
July 17
August 7
August 21



EHRBAR SAAL

July 8, 19:00
August 5, 19:00
August 19, 19:00



THEO AND PETRA LIEVEN PIANO FOUNDATION
PRESENTS

Summer 2026 Concert I

PIANISTS

Elisabeth Tsai
Simon Haje
Hao Rao
Miyu Shindo

Works by Mozart,
Beethoven, Chopin,
and Liszt

July 2
18:00

FREE ADMISSION



STEINWAY & SONS
VIENNA

For more details visit: www.lievenpiano.com



PROGRAM

Piano Sonata No. 15 in F major, KV 533/494 (1788)	W. A. Mozart (1756 – 1791)
- Allegro - Andante - Rondo: Allegretto	

Elisabeth Tsai

Piano Sonata No. 26 in E ♭ major, Op. 81a (1810)	L. van Beethoven (1750 – 1827)
- Das Lebewohl: Adagio – Allegro - Abwesenheit: Andante espressivo (In gehender Bewegung, doch mit viel Ausdruck) - Das Wiedersehen: Vivacissimamente (Im lebhaftesten Zeitmaße)	

Simon Haje

Polonaise-Fantaisie in A ♭ major, Op. 61 (1846)	F. Chopin (1810 – 1849)
Hao Rao	

Après une lecture du Dante: Fantasia quasi Sonata (1849)	F. Liszt (1811 – 1886)
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Miyu Shindo

THE PIANISTS

Pianist **Elisabeth Tsai** is gaining recognition for her interpretations of the German Classical and Romantic repertoire. As an adolescent, she received top awards in various competitions and performed throughout the United States, but in recent years, her endeavours have been more repertoire-focused, with recitals such as featuring the last three Beethoven sonatas and the Brahms last four opuses for solo piano. She has been awarded the first prize ex aequo at the 2024 Brahms International Piano Competition Detmold and third prize at the 2026 Takamatsu International Piano Competition, in addition to winning the 2026 Cambridge International Piano Competition, the 2026 BPSE Beethoven Intercollegiate Competition and the 2025 PianoTexas Concerto Competition. Recent seasons have included solo, chamber, and concerto performances around the UK, US, the Netherlands, Germany, Italy, and Japan. As an avid chamber musician, she frequently performs in duo and trio settings in the UK and abroad; she was a Fellow at the 2024 Norfolk/Yale Chamber Music Festival and was invited to the Smithsonian Chamber Society in 2023 to perform Beethoven piano trios on historical instruments. Elisabeth currently receives mentorship from Ronan O’Hora and Richard Goode and is completing her Artist Diploma studies at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, having received a Master’s degree from the Yale School of Music under Boris Berman. She has played to artists such as Peter Serkin, Robert Levin, Imogen Cooper, Paul Lewis, and Till Fellner and is currently engaged in a long-term project of completing and performing the thirty-two Beethoven piano sonatas and the five Beethoven cello sonatas.

Simon Haje (*2005) gained his first stage experience at the age of five as a member of the children’s choir of the Deutsche Oper Berlin and at the Salzburg Festival. After beginning piano lessons at six, he was admitted as a junior student to the Berlin University of the Arts at the age of nine. Since 2023, he has continued his studies at the University of Music and Dance Cologne. Simon has won numerous prizes at international competitions, including first prizes at the Schumann Competition Düsseldorf, the Steinway Piano Competition, and the Piano Competition Enschede. In 2023, he won four consecutive international competitions in Neuchâtel, Aarhus, Kronberg, and Orbetello. Most recently, he was awarded the Orchestra Prize at the Concours International Clara Haskil in Switzerland and reached the semi-finals of the Rubinstein Piano Competition in Tel Aviv/Kronberg. As a soloist and chamber musician, he presents recital programmes with spoken introductions in both German and English. He has appeared at renowned festivals in Germany, Denmark, and Switzerland and made a highly acclaimed last-minute recital debut at the Vienna Konzerthaus. In August 2026, he will give a solo recital in Kiel as part of the Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival. Simon made his orchestral debut at the age of twelve and has since performed major concerto repertoire by Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Chopin, and Rachmaninov with leading orchestras in prestigious venues. In March 2025, he appeared with the Konzerthaus Orchestra Berlin under Christoph Eschenbach, performing Beethoven’s Piano Concerto No. 4. Highlights of the 2027 season include appearances at the Vienna Musikverein with Mozart’s Piano Concerto No. 23, chamber music performances with Piano Trio Pantaleon featuring works by Shostakovich and others, and a “Music & Literature” project at the Vienna Konzerthaus inspired by Toni Morrison. He is also scheduled to perform Gershwin’s Rhapsody in Blue at the Cologne Philharmonie

Chinese pianist **Hao Rao** is recognized as one of the most distinctive artistic voices of his generation, admired for performances that combine poetic sensitivity, technical brilliance, and a deeply personal musical imagination. Critics have praised the “aristocratic, timeless beauty” of his playing, while Gramophone highlighted the “ravishing songfulness, sparkle and élan” of his Chopin interpretations. He first gained international recognition at seventeen as a finalist and Honorable Mention recipient at the 18th International Chopin Piano Competition in Warsaw, becoming the youngest Chinese pianist to achieve this distinction. Most recently, he was awarded the Prix Cortot and the inaugural Prix Spécial du Jury at the École Normale de Musique de Paris – Alfred Cortot, recognizing the individuality and artistic maturity of his musicianship. His other distinctions include top prizes at the Gina Bachauer International Young Artists Piano Competition, the Aarhus International Piano Competition, and the e-Piano International Competition. Hao has performed in more than fifty cities across Europe, North America, Asia, and Latin America, appearing at venues and festivals including Jordan Hall in Boston, Salle Cortot in Paris, Sala Verdi in Milan, the Duszynski International Chopin Festival, and Chopin’s Birthplace in Żelazowa Wola. As a concerto soloist, he has collaborated with orchestras including the Warsaw Philharmonic Orchestra, Camerata Salzburg, and the Yucatán Symphony Orchestra. An exclusive recording artist with NCPA Classics, Hao has released three albums: Chopin Recital (2022), Trio Cantabile – NCPA Live (2023), and Chopin: Complete Études (2025). Born in 2004 in Jishou, a mountain town in China’s Tujia region, Hao began studying with his longtime teacher, Professor Vivian Li, at the age of eight. His artistic journey and long-standing collaboration with Li were later documented in the Emmy® Award-winning film Pianoforte (2023).

Born on 26 April 2002 in Japan, **Miyu Shindo** is one of the leading young pianists of her generation. At the age of 16, she moved to Moscow to study with Valery Piassetsky at the Central Music School of the Moscow Conservatory. Since 2022, she has continued her studies with Prof. Arie Vardi at the Hanover University of Music, Drama and Media in Germany. She gained international recognition as a finalist of the 19th International Chopin Piano Competition and a semifinalist of the Concours de Genève. Her achievements also include First Prize at the International Piano Competition “City of Vigo,” the Chopin International Piano Competition in Asia, and the All-Japan Music Competition. She is furthermore a laureate of the Kissinger KlavierOlymp, the Beijing International Chopin Piano Competition, the Gina Bachauer International Junior Piano Competition, and the PTNA Piano Competition. Other distinctions include the Kirishima International Music Festival Prize, the Grand Prix at the Osaka International Music Competition, and First Prize and a Special Prize at the Hamamatsu International Piano Academy Competition. She has appeared in recital and with orchestra in Japan, the United States, Austria, Italy, Germany, Switzerland, Russia, China, Spain, and France, including performances at the Festival de Musique de Menton. As a soloist, she has collaborated with the National Philharmonic in Warsaw, New Japan Philharmonic, Yomiuri Nippon Symphony Orchestra, Kanagawa Philharmonic Orchestra, Nagoya Philharmonic Orchestra, Central Aichi Symphony Orchestra, and the Central Conservatory of Music Orchestra in Beijing. She is a scholarship recipient of the Yamaha Music Foundation, Rohm Music Foundation, and Ezoe Memorial Foundation.