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## PRESS RELEASE

### **Behzod Abduraimov On His Journey To The Worldwide Stage**

**Music at Oxford** is proud to present the Winner of the 2009 London International Piano Competition, **Behzod Abduraimov**, in concert at the **Holywell Music Room** in **Oxford**, **Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2010, 8pm**. This is a chance to discover an extraordinary emerging talent performing a wide-ranging programme featuring pieces for piano by **Chopin, Saint-Saëns/Liszt/Howrowitz, Bach** and **Prokofiev**.

Behzod (b. 1990 in Uzbekistan) achieved a sensational victory at the **2009 London International Piano Competition** after competing against 100 young pianists from 16 different countries. At the end of his electrifying performance of Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No. 3 with the London Philharmonic Orchestra, the audience rose to their feet for a standing ovation and Behzod was unanimously awarded the **Grand Prize**.

Winners of the competition from previous years include artists such as Simon Trpceski, Paul Lewis, Leon McCawley, Ashley Wass and Herbert Schuch who have all emerged to careers of international stature. Behzod is now on his path to stardom and at just 19 years of age, already oozes **musical confidence** and **charisma**. Behzod has been described as a pianist who is **armed with nerves of steel** and who tears into music with **extraordinary prowess**.

As a result of his success in the 2009 Competition, Behzod has received great critical acclaim and has since been invited to tour Asia with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra conducted by Vladimir Ashkenazy. 2010 will also see Behzod give his Wigmore Hall debut recital, an appearance with the London Philharmonic Orchestra at the Royal Festival Hall and of course not forgetting his performance here in Oxford at the distinctive Holywell Music Room.

Music at Oxford is delighted to offer this chance to witness a **remarkable young pianist** in Oxford, on his way to charming audiences from far and wide. Full price tickets are £20 and are available from the Box Office (01865 242865) or online at [www.musicatoxford.com](http://www.musicatoxford.com) or in person from the Oxford Playhouse (Beaumont Street, Oxford, OX1 2LW).

Another highlight in Music at Oxford's 2009/10 International Concert Season includes a Chapel Series concert featuring guitarist Xuefei Yang (Merton College Chapel, Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2010). The Season is set to end on a high note with soprano Anne Schwanewilms's performance alongside the Halle Orchestra (Sheldonian, Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2010).

**ENDS**

**Notes To Editors:**

**Music at Oxford** is Oxford's premier classical concert promoter, bringing a prestigious selection of world-class artists to the city. Our season of concerts runs October to June.

For more information visit our website [www.musicatoxford.com](http://www.musicatoxford.com) or email Joy Castleton, Sales & Marketing Administrator [joy@musicatoxford.com](mailto:joy@musicatoxford.com).

To arrange press tickets for reviewers please email [joy@musicatoxford.com](mailto:joy@musicatoxford.com) or call 01865 242865.