

14 August 2024

HIGHLY ACCLAIMED PIANIST JANUSZ PIOTROWICZ DONATES RECITAL TO BRODIE CASTLE AND ESTATE

- Janusz Piotrowicz donates classical piano recital to the National Trust for Scotland.
- The recital takes place on 21st August at 4:30 p.m. at Brodie Castle, with tickets available to book on Eventbrite.
- Piotrowicz will play on the original 1890 Blüthner semi-concert grand piano in Brodie's historical drawing room.

The National Trust for Scotland has welcomed the donation of a classical music recital from esteemed pianist Janusz Piotrowicz, which is set to entertain visitors at Brodie Castle this August.

The conservation charity, which cares for and protects Brodie Castle, and its wider estate in Forres, Moray, has invited visitors to attend the piano recital by the renowned pianist, and enjoy an immersive and atmospheric experience within the castles to the sounds of classical works by Chopin, Scarlatti, Mozart, Liszt, Tchaikovsky, and Rachmaninov.

Piotrowicz will play the original 1890 Blüthner semi-concert grand piano in Brodie's drawing room, with the tones of the instrument adding a historic touch to the recital within the ancestral home of the Brodie clan. The 19th century piano, crafted from walnut, features both ivory and ebony keys and reflects the period and social value the controversial materials held in society throughout history. Ivory keys were phased out of use in the 1950s due to the soaring costs of ivory, but an increasing understanding of the plight of African elephants played a small part in the shift to the use of synthetic ivory. For more details on Brodie's ivory exhibition, see <u>here</u>.

Pamela Hill, National Trust for Scotland Operations Manager at Brodie Castle, said: "We are delighted to host Janusz Piotrowicz for his concert at Brodie Castle. His generous donation to Brodie will provide an unforgettable experience for our visitors. The atmospheric concert will take place in our drawing room, and Janusz will be playing on our 1890 Blüthner semi-concert grand piano.

"We're proud to share the beautiful rooms of the castle with Janusz and our visitors, giving everyone a chance to enjoy the history of Brodie through this immersive musical experience. It's thanks to the incredible generosity of our donors and supporters that we can host events like this, preserving and sharing the cultural heritage of this special place for the benefit of everyone, now and into the future." There are limited tickets available due to capacity, with only 55 tickets on sale for this intimate recital. Tickets are available to purchase on Brodie Castle's <u>Eventbrite</u> <u>page</u>. Over 25s tickets are £17.50 and under 25s are £10, plus booking fees.

After receiving the Nawrocki Prize for being the most poetic interpreter at the 1975 Warsaw International Chopin Piano Competition, Janusz began his international career. He has performed to audiences across the world, playing up to 300 performances a year, and staged three-part epic recital programmes, which have included Chopin's Four Ballades, Four Scherzi, Twenty-four Preludes and Twenty-seven Etudes, as well as several cycles of the complete Beethoven Piano Sonatas and Concertos. The acclaimed pianist is also the founder and conductor of the Orchestra of the World in addition to being the co-founder and artistic director of the Ripon International Festival.

Events like the Janusz Piotrowicz piano recital support the National Trust for Scotland's vision to care for, share and protect Scotland's natural and cultural heritage and contributes to its engagement objectives to provide access and enjoyment for everyone.

Further information about Brodie Castle and Estate is available on the National Trust for Scotland website: <u>https://www.nts.org.uk/visit/places/brodie-castle</u>.

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Notes for Editors

About the National Trust for Scotland

Established in 1931, the National Trust for Scotland is Scotland's largest conservation charity and cares for, shares and speaks up for Scotland's magnificent heritage.

Over the last 90 years the Trust has pioneered public access to and shared ownership of some of the most magnificent buildings, collections and landscapes in Scotland. It cares for more than 100 sites, from ancient houses to battlefields, castles, mills, gardens, coastlines, islands, mountain ranges and the plants and animals which depend upon them.

In March 2022 the National Trust for Scotland launched *Nature, Beauty & Heritage for Everyone*, its ten-year strategy which sets out the ambitions of the charity over the coming decade. From speaking up for Scotland's heritage which doesn't have a voice, to improving the lives and wellbeing of people across the country, and responding to the climate and biodiversity crisis, the Trust will build on its work in recent years to grow its impact and conserve and restore more of Scotland's heritage, as it moves towards its centenary in 2031.

For more information on the National Trust for Scotland visit <u>www.nts.org.uk</u>.

The National Trust for Scotland is a charity registered in Scotland, Charity Number SC 007410.