



## ***The Olympianist* will cycle 1200 miles in 21 days with piano 'in tow' giving recitals across Britain to raise funds for UK music & children's charities**

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May - Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2012**

**'A remarkably gifted artist'**  
*Gramophone*

To raise money for music and children's charities, concert pianist Anthony Hewitt - the *Olympianist* - will cycle with piano 'in tow' from Land's End to John O'Groats to complete 1,200 miles in 21 days. With a piano trailing in the BeethoVAN, the avid cyclist will cover up to **100 miles a day**, giving **27 concerts en route**. The Herculean journey across Britain's hilly countryside will see Anthony ascend more than 20,000 metres - the equivalent of more than twice the elevation of Mt. Everest. He will perform in established venues and remote locations with his piano on a pop-up stage on the back of the BeethoVAN.



His piano odyssey encompasses concert venues, market squares, cliff-tops, quarries and fields. Highlights of the tour include a concert with the **Manchester Camerata**, a recital in the Market Square at **Newbury Spring Festival**, a cliff-top performance in **Portland** and a concert on the shores of **Lake Windermere**.

The repertoire for the tour has been chosen to convey a sense of journey, energy, movement, dynamism and excitement reflecting Anthony's challenge. The concerts will include masterworks of the piano repertoire by Beethoven, Janáček, Schubert, Chopin, Rachmaninov and Franck. A new commission by **Stephen Goss**, aptly named **Piano Cycle**, will be premiered at the **Swaledale Festival** on May 19<sup>th</sup>

For the first time in piano history, the *Olympianist's* followers will be able to watch part of each recital from the performer's viewpoint. Each day he will perform one of the 21 movements from Schumann's *Carnaval* Op. 9 in chronological order and film himself with a Go Pro Hero 2 Sports Camera attached to his head.





Each movement will be uploaded to his website for viewing. This will be the first time that a professional musician will film himself in concert. The *Olympianist's* progress on tour is also traceable on Twitter, via a *Fleetsmart* tracker and on his website.



Anthony Hewitt's communicative and virtuosic pianism has won him many plaudits worldwide as a recitalist, chamber musician, and soloist with orchestras. He was a prize-winner of the William Kapell International Piano Competition and has

performed with the National Symphony Orchestra, USA and the Royal Philharmonic in London. He is also the founding Artistic Director of the Ulverston International Music Festival.

His epic journey will raise money for charities including *Mayor of London's Fund For Musicians*, *Musequality*, *CLIC Sargent*, *Get Kids Going!* and *Classic FM Foundation*.

Anthony is currently in training for his Olympian journey, both musically and physically. He cycles with Twickenham cycling club every week and will perform at various venues across London in the coming months. He will be performing at the **Wigmore Hall** on **5th February 2012 at 11:30am** in a preview of the programme for the *Olympianist* tour, and again on **2<sup>nd</sup> May** with his piano trio, *Dimension Trio*. On **26<sup>th</sup> February at 6:30pm** he will perform with Sarah-Jane Bradley at Kings Place for the London Chamber Music Society, and on **26<sup>th</sup> April** he will perform Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 1 with Orpheus Sinfonia at St George's, Hanover Square.



## Repertoire Highlights

Beethoven Moonlight Sonata; Sonata Op.109 Schubert Impromptu in E flat Op. 90 No. 2 Chopin Fantasy-Impromptu, Nocturnes, Barcarolle Rachmaninov Prelude in G minor Op. 23 No. 5 Liszt Hungarian Rhapsody No. 2 Franck Piano Quintet (with Manchester Camerata) Janáček Sonata I:X:1905 'From the Street'



*'I am very excited about this herculean task. It embodies the spirit of the ancient games, which incorporated musical competitions into sporting events for normal citizens'*

**Anthony Hewitt**

## Follow the Olympianist

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[www.theolympianist.com](http://www.theolympianist.com)

## Recital Venues

<b>May 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Lands End</b>	Start
<b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Truro</b>	Penair School: An afternoon for children. Formal concert in evening indoors
<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Calstock</b>	The Old Chapel
<b>11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Exeter</b>	BeethoVAN concert: Cathedral West Front
<b>11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Poltimore</b>	BeethoVAN concert: Poltimore House estate grounds
<b>11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Exeter</b>	Chapter House, Exeter Cathedral
<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Portland</b>	BeethoVAN concert: Tout Quarry
<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Portland</b>	Cliff top concert overlooking Chesil Bay
<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Portland</b>	Portland Sculpture and Quarry Trust - Drill Hall,
<b>13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Newbury</b>	BeethoVAN concert: Market Square for Newbury Spring Festival
<b>14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Lechlade</b>	St. Lawrence Church (lunchtime)
<b>14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Gloucester</b>	St. Mary de Lode Church
<b>15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Stafford</b>	Staffordshire Performing Arts
<b>16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Manchester</b>	Manchester Camerata concert: Anthony Burgess Foundation
<b>17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Manchester</b>	Chetham's School of Music
<b>18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Clitheroe</b>	The Grand, Clitheroe





<b>19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Swaledale</b>	BeethoVAN concert: The Green, Reeth, Swaledale Festival
<b>20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Bowness</b>	BeethoVAN concert: The Glebe, Bowness-on-Windermere
<b>20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Keswick</b>	Crosthwaite Church, Keswick
<b>21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Dumfries</b>	St John's Church, Lovers Walk, Dumfries
<b>22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Kelso</b>	Kelso Old Parish Church
<b>23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Edinburgh</b>	BeethoVAN concert - Holyrood Park/ Dynamic Earth Evening Concert - Queen's Hall
<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Dundee</b>	Marryat Hall, City Square
<b>25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Pitlochry</b>	Foyer, Pitlochry Festival Theatre
<b>26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Boat of Garten</b>	Boat of Garten Community Hall.
<b>27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Nairn</b>	Nairn Community Centre
<b>28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Dornoch</b>	Dornoch Cathedral
<b>29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>John O'Groats</b>	Lyth Arts Centre

RECYCLING TOUR (Anthony is not cycling back!)

<b>30<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Torridon</b>	Torridon Community Hall
<b>31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Stirling</b>	Sistema Scotland with School children
<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Acton Burnell</b>	Concord College, Acton Burnell
<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Much Wenlock</b>	Much Wenlock Festival on BeethoVAN
<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Lampeter Velfrey (Wales)</b>	Lampeter House
<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Guildford</b>	Diamond Jubilee Party





**Classic FM** will be launching the fundraising campaign through their website in February to raise funds for Anthony's nominated charities which include:

**Classic FM Foundation** raises money to fund music education and therapy projects which work with some of the most disadvantaged children and adults across the UK.



**Mayor of London's Fund for Young Musicians** a registered charity established to support and benefit young musicians across the capital, especially those from socially disadvantaged backgrounds, through access to sustained, progressive instrumental tuition and the experience of working with professional musicians.

**Musequality** aims to support communal music-making for disadvantaged children in developing countries, giving skills, confidence and the necessary experience to turn their lives around.

**CLIC Sargent**, a charity committed to helping children and young people with cancer and their families. Services offered to families include Homes from Home, where families can stay next to a hospital, outreach nurses, social workers holiday homes and care grants.

**Get Kids Going!**, a National charity which gives disabled children and young people - up to the age of 26 yrs - the wonderful opportunity of participating in sport. Get Kids Going! inspires youngsters to compete in sporting events, from start to paralympic level, by giving them 'sports grants' to help with their; training, physiotherapy, travel, competition fees, design and development of sports' wheelchairs etc.

**National Autistic Society**, a leading UK charity for people with autism (including Asperger syndrome) and their families. They provide information, support, pioneering services and campaign for a better world for people with autism.

**Anthony is eager to raise funds beyond his goal of £20k. If you would like to support Anthony with a donation, please visit the website:**

<http://www.classicfm.co.uk/charity/olympianist/>



## Anthony Hewitt

***'A young pianist of outstanding talent'***  
-Alfred Brendel

Award-winning pianist Anthony Hewitt has performed as recitalist, concerto soloist and chamber musician to much critical acclaim. His diverse repertoire encompasses all styles and he champions contemporary composers with frequent new commissions. His enterprising projects include the founding of the Ulverston International Music Festival, now in its eighth year, which brings artists of international repute to a small Cumbrian market town.

Career highlights to date include orchestral engagements with the National Symphony and Princeton Symphony Orchestras in the USA, and the Royal

Philharmonic Orchestra and Northern Sinfonia in the UK. He has given four recitals at Wigmore Hall, and appeared across the USA including at Carnegie Weill Recital Hall.

His discography includes 'Protégé' (*Divine Art Records*), the first coupling on CD of the Liszt and Reubke Sonatas. This unique recording was described in *International Record Review* as "magisterial", and received a *Gramophone* recommendation.

An avid chamber musician, he recently joined Dimension Trio, winner of the prestigious Parkhouse award who are a frequent visitor to festivals and orchestras across Europe.

Highlights of upcoming concerts include a solo recital in Wigmore Hall's series on Sunday February 5<sup>th</sup> 2012 and an appearance with the English Chamber Orchestra at the Royal Festival Hall on Friday September 28 2012.

**Anthony has been generously supported on his adventure by the kind people at *Thorn Hill Pianos*, who have provided him with pianos: a *Feuerich* model 161, 178 and upright pianos and *Wheelbase*, who have provided him with a *Canondale Synapse* bike**





*'Recordings of the Liszt Sonata are not exactly thin on the ground, but this account can hold its own with some of the finest'*

*Gramophone*

*'a magisterial performance'*  
*International Record Review*

*'Anthony Hewitt's performance is exemplary in all respects'*  
*Classical Music Net*

*'A compelling authority'*  
*Classical Web*

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