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Russian star launches Clitheroe Concert Society season



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By Ken Geddes

A PIANO recital by highly-talented young Russian-born pianist Sophia Lisovskaya was Clitheroe Concerts Society's first event of the new season.

Although Sophia was born in Moscow and achieved national status as a teenager, guided by her musician parents, she was determined to continue her education in London at the Royal College of Music.

Her programme was intriguing, starting with familiar Beethoven and Chopin, but after the interval she surveyed Alexander Scriabin's development as a composer, with works from each stage of his career. Many of the audience were unfamiliar with this innovative and controversial (some say eccentric) Russian composer, who developed his own musical language, influencing later composers such as Messiaen, Prokofiev and Stravinsky.

Her performance was enthusiastically applauded and she gave an encore of Bach's Partita No. 6.

The society's next concert will be on November 19th, when the Martinu String Quartet, from Prague, with clarinettist Angus Meryon, will play string quartets by Benjamin Britten and Anton Dvorak. The second half will be the popular clarinet quintet by Johannes Brahms.

Concerts are held at Clitheroe Royal Grammar School, in York Street, at 7-30 p.m. There is parking within yards of the entrance. Tickets can be obtained at Clitheroe Music, in Moor Lane, Clitheroe Tourist Information Office, at the Ribble Valley Council offices in Church Walk, and at the door on the night.

A significant saving on the series can be made by joining the society. For membership information, contact Dr Richard Neville on 01200 424129, or for inquiries chairman Tony Cooper on 01200 424577 or secretary Ken Geddes on 01200 423474.