Lunchtime Concert:
Composition Special

Monday 23rd November 1:10pm, Firth Hall

PERFORMANCE
VENUES
CONCERTS

Lingran Zheng - Piano

Franticity - Eddie Laycock

Jin Jiarui - Piano

Permanence by Chris Gbeckor-Delgado

Yian Huang - Piano

The Underworld by Hermione Frith

Jiayu She - Piano

Holiday by Evie Jones

Xinyun Kong - Piano

Élégie d'Automne by Joseph Harrison

Zhao Yitong - Piano

Unfolding by Beth Rowley

Li Jixing and Liu Yixue - Piano

Escapologist, by Jasmine Hockin

Siqi Fang - Piano

Lake of Glass by Daniel Bridge

Mengchen Su - Piano

The Duke Of The Danube by Benedict Joyce

Siying Jia - Piano

Falling Leaves by Jonathan Gale

Weiyao Yan - Piano

All Change by Deanne Sherriff

Lingzi Chen - Piano

Sometimes by Sarah Adam

Xiaofei Deng - Piano

Sentiments by Chloe Bennett

Mintong He - Piano

Electronic Mail by Tyler Eckersall

Qiongyi Wang and Zixuan Wang - Piano

A Smell of Petroleum Prevails Throughout by John Shaw

Xinyan He - Piano

Jagged Edge, by Rohan Ellis

Xinning Zhang and Xinyi Zhao - Piano

Pete pt.2 by Abigail Kulemeka

Jiayi Zhang - Piano

Sun Glitter by Nicole Szymanska

Enhao Yang - Piano

Halloween Waltz by Hui Xin Ho

Franticity by Eddie Laycock
Franticity refers to the state of being overwhelmed, hurried and energetic. Depicted by changing time signatures, repetitive rhythms and stark dynamic contrast, Franticity highlights a need for playfulness and humour, during times of intense emotion.

Permanence by Chris Gbeckor-Delgado
Permanence imagines a limbo between heaven and hell, a suspended space where nothing resolves and time loses its meaning. Intentionally open-ended, the piece invites listeners to find their own meaning in what lingers, what endures, or what refuses to end.

The Underworld by Hermione Frith
The dark and mysterious idea of the Underworld from Greek mythology became the image which inspired this piece, combined with aspects of Beethoven to capture the dark and powerful image.

Holiday by Evie Jones
This piece is inspired by traditional sonata form but with a fun modern twist. This piece explores the childlike playfulness of holiday, as we see in the title, with the A section being a slower duet between the hands which picks up the pace as it moves into the more energetic B section.

Élégie d'Automne by Joseph Harrison
Élégie d'Automne traces a journey from delicate nostalgia into a stormy, chordal peak before fading into a quiet, heartbreaking stillness. Through fragile recollections of its opening melody, the piece captures the bittersweet ache of lingering memories slipping into silence.

Unfolding by Beth Rowley
This piece explores the use of harmony and flowing melodies to create a sense of progression and fluidity. I wanted to create a piece that gradually develops, revealing new layers as it progresses, hence the title “Unfolding”.

Escapologist, by Jasmine Hockin
This piece is one that is full of character - it is very circus-like, and its fast-paced movement can be attributed to the use of the 8/8 time signature in parts. As this was my first time writing a duet, I hoped to learn how to establish a cohesive and playful relationship between the two players.

Lake of Glass by Daniel Bridge
Inspired by Claude Debussy as well as the thematic work of Mahito Yokota, I aimed to explore the scenery of water. Utilising instances of conventional voice leading as well as impressionistic harmony, bridging the gap between impressionistic atmosphere and romantic expressionism.

The Duke Of The Danube by Benedict Joyce
Inspired by big band jazz and bebop, the piece aims to evoke the grandeur of the river Danube.

Falling Leaves by Jonathan Gale
I wanted to explore the feeling of late autumn where the leaves turn brown and start dropping off trees. I also wanted to contrast that feeling with the weather of that time which can be very stormy and wet, which is what I based my contrasting section of the piece off of.

All Change by Deanne Sherriff
This piece was written in response to events which occurred over the course of the last summer and which have changed my life irrevocably.

Sometimes by Sarah Adam
Sometimes refers to a time we often think back to, flitting between fond and unhappy memories before reverting to the present. Sometimes explores the journey between these two places.

Sentiments by Chloe Bennett
Sentiments is inspired by the imagery of church bells and the celebration of love, following the journey of a couple falling in love and getting married. Through contrasting joyful sections and more delicate, intimate melodies, the piece explores the different emotions of love, eventually settling into a sense of warmth and peace.

Electronic Mail by Tyler Eckersall
'Electronic Mail' is built around the modern cycle of sending and receiving emails. It began as melodic fragments taken from digital jingles, and exists to capture the sometimes mundane, sometimes thrilling world of interactions that were slightly too important for a text, but not quite worthy of a phone call.

A Smell of Petroleum Prevails Throughout by John Shaw
In Bertrand Russell's History of Western Philosophy, he discusses an observation that challenges the reliability of the subjective human experience: William James describes a man who got the experience from laughing-gas; whenever he was under its influence, he knew the secret of the universe, but when he came to, he had forgotten it. At last, with immense effort, he wrote down the secret before the vision had faded. When completely recovered, he rushed to see what he had written. It was: "A smell of petroleum prevails throughout." This piano four-hands duet, written for pianists Qionyi Wang and Zixuan Wang, aims to offer a glimpse into the world of James's study. Knowing all the secrets of the Universe, the man realises at last that he was labouring under the delusions of chemically induced madness.

Jagged Edge, by Rohan Ellis
This piece is written using 12-tone serialist techniques inspired by Schoenberg and Webern. It's a short piece that is entirely atonal and focuses on this dissonance, hence the 'jagged edge'.

Pete pt.2 by Abigail Kulemeka
This is a follow-on from a previous composition , Pete, that simply reflects the character of an imaginary man in his imaginary tavern. Be sure to leave him a tip!

Sun Glitter by Nicole Szymanska
This piece is inspired by the twinkling shimmer of the sun across the surface of the sea, otherwise known as "sun glitter". As the piece progresses, we dive beneath the rolling of the waves as I wanted to encapsulate the grandeur of the sea, to then return back to the observer, gazing at its glittering tranquility.

Halloween Waltz by Hui Xin Ho
I wrote this song a few days before Halloween and I wanted to combine a slightly creepy feeling with the elegance of a ballroom dance. I was interested in exploring its rhythmic style and creating a gradual change in atmosphere, beginning with a slow, mysterious introduction before transitioning into a more lively and dramatic waltz, as if entering a Halloween ballroom.

Coming up next

We've got loads of great events coming up, you can visit our website for full details - www.performancevenues.group.shef.ac.uk

Engegård Quartet

Sunday 29th November, 2026 - 2pm
£5-23
Firth Hall

Formed under the midnight sun in the Lofoten Islands, Norway's leading string quartet brings the rugged soul of the country to the stage.

From the vast plains of Finnmark to the fjords of Kvæfjord, this programme features the Quartet's own arrangements of traditional joiks – one of the oldest song traditions in Europe – alongside haunting psalms and spirited bridal marches.

A fresh take on repertoire that is 400 years in the making, this concert explores the roots of much of the weekend's music in an evocative, moving and joyful finale.

Jasdeep Singh Degun

Thursday 3rd December, 2026 - 7:30pm
£11-19
Firth Hall

Virtuoso sitar-player and critically acclaimed composer, Jasdeep will be joined for a concert of Indian classical music with Shahbaz Hussain on tabla.

Free Concerts on campus

Throughout term time we run free informal recitals and events in Firth Hall, including visiting guests and the performances from the talented students from the Department of Music.

These events are free to attend and are performed at lunch time and rush hour, which we believe make the events accessible for everyone to enjoy. To find out more about these events and to reserve your ticket, head to our website.

Wednesday 25th November, 2026	Rush Hour Concert – New Music Ensemble	Firth Hall	5:45pm
Monday 30th November, 2026	Lunchtime Concert – Historically informed performances	Firth Hall	1:10pm
Monday 7th December, 2026	Lunchtime Concert – Historically informed performances	Firth Hall	1:10pm
Monday 14th December, 2026	Lunchtime Concert – Historically informed performances	Firth Hall	1:10pm