**Olga Stezhko, piano**

**Biography (240 words)**

Olga Stezhko is an award-winning concert pianist and one of the leading interpreters of the early and mid-20th century repertoire. Acclaimed by Classical Source in a Wigmore Hall review as ‘a supremely delicate master of her instrument’ who possesses ‘an extraordinary presence’, she has performed worldwide from Barbican Hall in London to Salle Cortot in Paris to Carnegie Hall in New York City.

Olga is the winner of many international competitions and awards including the Grand Prix at the ‘Halina Czerny-Stefanska In Memoriam’ International Piano Competition in Poland and the First Prize at the Nikolai Rubinstein International Piano Competition in France. Born in Minsk, she was educated in Belarus, Italy and the UK where she completed her Bachelor's and Master’s degrees with distinction at the Royal Academy of Music. Her studies were supported by some of the most prestigious scholarships including the Myra Hess Scholarship and the Philharmonia Orchestra/Martin Musical Scholarship Fund Award.

Olga’s debut album ‘Eta Carinae’ (2014, Luminum Records) combined her passion for astrophysics with music by Scriabin and Busoni and was praised by the Gramophone Magazine as ‘an outstanding debut’ and ‘not a record for the faint-hearted but rather for those who enjoy dark and menacing regions of the mind’. Her second all-Debussy album ‘Et la lune descend’ (2018, Palermo Classica) marked the centenary of the composer’s death and received unanimous critical acclaim in the publications including the BBC Music Magazine, the Arts Desk and International Piano.