

Alexandra Tchernakova

Biography 2026/27

BIOGRAPHY · 2026/27 SEASON · PLEASE DO NOT USE EARLIER VERSIONS

SHORT · C. 75 WORDS

Alexandra Tchernakova is a pianist who moves freely between the classical canon and the music of today, with a particular love for living composers. Principal pianist of the Gavin Bryars Ensemble since 2020, she has performed at La Biennale di Venezia, the Barbican, Superspectives (Lyon), Torino Jazz Festival, Piano City Milano and Ravenna Festival. Her debut solo album, *Ramble on Piano*, is released by GB Records on 5 February 2027.

MEDIUM · C. 190 WORDS

Alexandra Tchernakova is a pianist whose work centres on solo recitals and chamber music. She moves freely between the classical canon and the music of today, with a particular commitment to living composers, new works and imaginative programming.

Her debut solo album, *Ramble on Piano* (GB Records, 5 February 2027), is devoted entirely to living composers: Gavin Bryars, Yuri Bryars, Fazil Say, David Ridley and Lee Bradshaw. Since 2020 she has been principal pianist of the Gavin Bryars Ensemble, with projects including *Nothing Like the Sun* with Opera North and *Ramble on Cortona* at the Barbican. With the saxophonist Manuel Teles she recorded the album *STEPDANCE* (GB Records, 2025).

She has performed at La Biennale di Venezia, Superspectives (Lyon), Torino Jazz Festival, Piano City Milano, Ravenna Festival, Pianofestival Twente, Café Oto and St George's Bristol. An experienced maestro collaboratore, she was selected for Riccardo Muti's Italian Opera Academy in 2022.

She trained at the Gnesin Academy in Moscow, the Conservatorio Verdi in Milan and the Accademia Internazionale di Imola, and holds a degree in French and Italian from the University of Bristol.

Alexandra Tchernakova is a pianist whose work centres on solo recitals and chamber music. She moves freely between the classical canon and the music of today, with a particular commitment to living composers, new works and imaginative programming. Her concerts have taken her to La Biennale di Venezia, the Barbican, Superspectives in Lyon, Torino Jazz Festival, Piano City Milano, Ravenna Festival, Pianofestival Twente, Fragments: The Wasteland Festival, Café Oto in London and St George's Bristol.

Her debut solo album, *Ramble on Piano*, is released by GB Records on 5 February 2027. Devoted entirely to living composers, it brings together works by Gavin Bryars, Yuri Bryars, Fazıl Say, David Ridley and Lee Bradshaw; the first single, David Ridley's *Shimmers*, follows in January 2027. In recital she pairs the album with twentieth-century works including Ginastera's *Piano Sonata No. 1* and Falla's *Allegro de concierto*.

Chamber music is the other pillar of her work. Since 2020 she has been principal pianist of the Gavin Bryars Ensemble, working closely with the composer on projects including *Nothing Like the Sun* with Opera North and *Ramble on Cortona* at the Barbican. With the Portuguese saxophonist Manuel Teles she forms a duo devoted to cross-genre contemporary repertoire. Their album *STEPDANCE* (GB Records, 2025), recorded at the Steingraeber piano house in Bayreuth, features music by Gavin Bryars, Fazıl Say, Mário Laginha, Chick Corea and António Victorino D'Almeida.

Working with singers grows naturally out of her chamber music. An experienced maestro collaboratore, she works at the Civica Scuola di Musica Claudio Abbado in Milan. She was selected for Riccardo Muti's Italian Opera Academy in 2022 (*Verdi's Requiem*, Teatro Alighieri, Ravenna), and in 2023 worked on *Così fan tutte* at the Royal Opera House Muscat at the invitation of Ravenna Festival. She has collaborated with singers including Riccardo Zanellato, Juliana Grigoryan, Sarah Gabriel, John Potter, Leonardo Cremona and Omar Mancini.

Alexandra graduated with high honours from the Gnesin Academy in Moscow, where she studied with Vladimir Ovchinnikov, Tamara Rusanova, Irina Silivanova and Valeria Petrova. She went on to a Master's in Contemporary Chamber Music with Daniela Uccello at the Conservatorio Verdi in Milan, and postgraduate chamber music studies with Nazzareno Carusi and Marco Zuccarini at the Accademia Internazionale di Imola. She has taken masterclasses with Natalia Trull, Natalia Gutman, Andrea Turini and Giampaolo Nuti, and continues to work with Vsevolod Dvorkin. A former student of the Junior Royal Academy of Music in London and winner of Nottingham Young Pianist of the Year, she also holds a degree in French and Italian from the University of Bristol, where she was a Vice-Chancellor's Music Scholar.

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