

Martin James Bartlett

SHORT BIOGRAPHY

British pianist Martin James Bartlett rose to prominence as winner of BBC Young Musician of the Year in 2014, making his BBC Proms debut the following season. An exclusive Warner Classics recording artist with four acclaimed albums, and the inaugural recipient of the Prix Serdang in 2022, he now serves on the faculty of the Royal College of Music as Professor of Piano in addition to performing around the world.

MEDIUM BIOGRAPHY

British pianist Martin James Bartlett rose to prominence as winner of BBC Young Musician of the Year in 2014, making his BBC Proms debut the following season with Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue. In 2022 he became the inaugural recipient of the Prix Serdang, the Swiss award curated by Rudolf Buchbinder. An exclusive Warner Classics artist, he has released four acclaimed albums — Concerto (2026), La Danse (2024), Rhapsody (2022) and Love and Death (2019). He has appeared as soloist and recitalist across the UK, Europe and the United States, at venues including Wigmore Hall, the Alte Oper Frankfurt and the Vienna Musikverein. He studied at the Royal College of Music with Vanessa Latache, where he now serves as Professor of Piano.

FULL BIOGRAPHY

Martin James Bartlett possesses a fearless technique and plays with a maturity and elegance far beyond his years. In 2022, he became the inaugural recipient of the Prix Serdang, a Swiss award curated by Rudolf Buchbinder to recognise a young pianist forging an international solo career. An exclusive recording artist with Warner Classics, Bartlett has earned consistent critical acclaim, with his albums receiving five-star reviews and top accolades. Praised by *The Arts Desk* for his performance as “frankly like watching another, superior, species,” Bartlett continues to affirm his place as one of the most compelling pianists of his generation.

The 2026/27 season sees Bartlett perform across the UK and Europe. He opens the season with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra in Tchaikovsky’s Piano Concerto No. 1, later on returning to the London Mozart Players for Mendelssohn’s Double Concerto. Highlights include performances of Beethoven’s *Emperor* Concerto with the Estonian National Symphony Orchestra in Tallinn as part of the orchestra’s Piano Festival, and with the Mozarteumorchester Salzburg. Following the release of his acclaimed recording of Mozart’s Piano Concerto No. 24, Bartlett gives further performances of the work in Switzerland and Romania. His recital schedule includes appearances in London, Norwich, Beverley, Canterbury and Stuttgart, alongside return engagements in Vienna and at Villa Serdang.

Recent highlights include debuts at the Lucerne and Moritzburg Festivals, a return to the Concertgebouw, and a two-week U.S. tour with solo engagements in Cincinnati and San Francisco. As a concerto soloist, Bartlett has toured the UK with Sinfonia of London under John Wilson, and across Europe with the LGT Young Soloists, performing Philip Glass’s *Tirol* Piano Concerto at major venues including the Berlin Konzerthaus and Vienna Musikverein. The tour culminated in a gala performance for the Prince and Princess of Liechtenstein in London.

He has given recitals at leading venues including the Alte Oper Frankfurt, Salle Cortot in Paris, and appeared at festivals including La Roque d'Anthéron, Grafenegg, Rheingau, Dresden, and the International Chopin Piano Festival. His US recital debut in 2022, presented by the Young Concert Artists Series, included performances in New York and at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC.

An exclusive artist with Warner Classics, Bartlett has released a series of acclaimed albums on the label. His most recent release featuring concertos by Bach, Mozart and Britten, follows *La Danse* (2024), featuring French baroque and impressionist repertoire, which received five stars in *The Times* and was named Editor's Choice in *Gramophone*. *Rhapsody* (2022), recorded with the London Philharmonic Orchestra and Joshua Weilerstein, pairs Rachmaninoff and Gershwin and received similar accolades from *Gramophone* and *BBC Music Magazine*. His debut, *Love and Death* (2019), was praised in *The Times*, *The Guardian*, and *The Sunday Times*.

Bartlett rose to prominence in 2014 as winner of BBC Young Musician of the Year, making his BBC Proms debut the following season with Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*. He has since performed with all the BBC orchestras and at major national events including the National Service of Thanksgiving for HM Queen Elizabeth II's 90th birthday, broadcast live from St Paul's Cathedral.

He studied at the Royal College of Music with Professor Vanessa Latache, graduating with top honours and later receiving the Queen Mother Rosebowl from HRH The Prince of Wales. From 2020-2022 he held the RCM Benjamin Britten Piano Fellowship, during which time he made his play/direct conducting debut with the London Mozart Players. He now serves on the RCM faculty as Professor of Piano.

Other accolades include First Prize at the 2019 Young Concert Artists International Auditions in New York, Second Prize and the Audience Award at the Kissingen Piano Olympiad (2018) and victory at the 2020 global Virtu(al)oso competition hosted by Piano Cleveland.