



THE YEAR OF THE VILNA GAON  
& OF THE HISTORY OF THE JEWS OF LITHUANIA

2020 | 5780

9<sup>th</sup> Litvak Days in London

27 May 2020, 5:00 p.m. (BST)



Composer Anatolijus Šenderovas, © D. Matvejevas

**OPENING CONCERT** (online)

## IN MEMORY OF ANATOLIJUS ŠENDEROVAS AND ALL LUMINARIES OF THE JEWISH LITHUANIA

**Venue:** broadcast live from the White Hall at the Ministry of Culture of Lithuania via Lithuanian Embassy's in the UK Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/ambasadaJK/>

To celebrate the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of the Vilna Gaon and the Year of the History of Lithuanian Jews, the Embassy of Lithuania in the United Kingdom is opening the 9<sup>th</sup> Litvak Days in London with a concert "In memory of Anatolijus Šenderovas and all luminaries of the Jewish Lithuania", organised in partnership with the Ministry of Culture of Lithuania.

Opera soloist Rafailas Karpis, pianist Darius Mažintas, violinist Dalia Dėdinskaitė and cellist Gleb Pyšniak will pay tribute to Anatolijus Šenderovas, one of the most renowned contemporary Lithuanian–Jewish composers, and to all the luminaries of the Jewish Lithuania, whose legacy remains with us today. Šenderovas is the winner of the Lithuanian National Culture and Art Prize; his unique artistic style fuses the archaic traditions of Lithuanian culture and the ancient Jewish musical heritage. This year we commemorate the one-year anniversary of his death.

The event will commence with opening remarks from the Lithuanian Ambassador in the United Kingdom Renatas Norkus and greetings from other dignitaries, following which a short film "A Glimpse into The Jewish Vilnius" will be presented. The film depicts Vilnius as a Jewish city with a special focus to the former Pohulianka street (currently Basanavičius st.), which was a centre of the Jewish community and cultural life in the beginning of the XX century. Once it was home to YIVO founders Max Weinreich and Zalman Reisen, modernist photographer Moï Ver (Moshé Raviv-Vorobeichic), poet Abraham Sutzkever, award-winning writer and French diplomat Romain Gary, philanthropist Israel Bunimowicz, to name a few.



Moï Ver's 'The Getto Lane in Wilna', 1931, reprinted 2019 & "Homage à Moï Ver", 2019 ©Sigutė Chlebinskaitė

From "The Old Synagogue in Vilnius", 1929 © Moï Ver (Moshé Raviv-Vorobeichic)



EMBASSY OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA  
IN THE UNITED KINGDOM



MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
OF THE REPUBLIC  
OF LITHUANIA



MINISTRY  
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA



LITVAK  
DAYS in  
LONDON

## PROGRAMME

### “Unter dayne vayne shtern/Under Your White Stars”

(Music: Avrom Brudno, lyrics: Abraham Sutzkever)

**Rafailas Karpis, Darius Mažintas**

### “Two Songs of Sulamith” (Music: Anatolijus Šenderovas)

**Gleb Pyšniak, Darius Mažintas**

### “Dialogues” for violin and cello (Music: Anatolijus Šenderovas)

**Dalia Dėdinskaitė, Gleb Pyšniak**

### “Pages from the Forgotten Book” (Music: Anatolijus Šenderovas)

**Rafailas Karpis, Darius Mažintas**

## ABOUT THE PERFORMERS



**Rafailas Karpis** is a soloist at the Lithuanian National Theatre since 2003. In 2008 Karpis was awarded the Opera Hope of the Year prize and in 2010 was recognized as the Best Supporting Performer. In 2019, he was named the Soloist of the year by the Lithuanian National Opera and Ballet Theatre. Most recently, in 2020, Karpis was nominated for the Lithuanian Golden Cross of the Stage for his roles in *Turandot* (by G. Puccini) and *Candide* (by L. Bernstein). Having grown up in a Jewish family, he has always had a special interest in Jewish music, especially Yiddish songs, and has a wide repertoire of Yiddish songs composed by Litvak and other Jewish composers.



**Dalia Dėdinskaitė** is one of Lithuania’s most prominent young violinists. She won the main prize at the international competition “Violine in Dresden” in Germany in 2010, after which she was invited to perform L. van Beethoven’s Violin Concerto at the prestigious festival “Dresdner Musikfestspiele 2012”. She has also performed as a soloist together with the Lithuanian State Symphony Orchestra, the Lithuanian National Symphony Orchestra, “Dresdner Kappelsolisten” and the symphonic orchestra “Carl Maria von Weber” of Dresden.



**Gleb Pyšniak**, a cellist, debuted as a soloist with the Lithuanian Chamber Orchestra when he was just 14 years old. The student of the legendary cellist Natalia Gutman performs in the most famous concert halls all over the world, including the Wiener Musikverein, Royal Concertgebouw of Amsterdam, and the Great Hall of the Moscow Conservatory. Pyšniak has received the highest evaluations in significant national and international competitions.

**Darius Mažintas** has won a number of international piano competitions and participated in many prestigious music festivals. As a concert pianist, he has taken part in the Arthur Rubinstein competition in France (2003), the International Stasys Vainiūnas competition in Lithuania (2000), and the Konzerthaus in Greece (1998), and represented Lithuania with cellist Gleb Pyšniak at the International Holland Music Sessions for young musicians in the Netherlands in 2009. In addition to his solo career, he collaborates with orchestras, singers and violinists, as well as taking part in various outreach programmes aimed at promoting classical music to the young.