

Edward Tait

Composer, Pianist & Educator, based in London.

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Composition Performance Highlights

Frühlingslied – Ansel Chaloner-Hughes, Christ Church Worthing (2026)

Dovetail – workshop with Ewan Campbell & Marsyas Trio, Murray Edwards College, Cambridge (2026)

Ashes Beneath the Ice – Pavel Kushnir Scholarship *Music of War* Concert, Leighton House, Holland Park (2026)

Engineer's Paradise – workshop with Simon Callaghan, Clódna Shanahan & Richard Sisson, Conway Hall Clements Prize (2026)

Fleeting Manhattan – Rotherham Symphony Orchestra (2025); Orion Orchestra, conducted by Nicholas Daniel, Smith Square Hall (2024)

In the Bleak Midwinter – masterclass with Phillip Cooke, London Festival of Contemporary Church Music; subsequently performed at Holy Sepulchre Church (2025)

Prelude – Arquia Duo, St John's Church Fulham (2025)

Rhapsody – London Sinfonietta, *Sound Out Schools*, Royal Festival Hall (2025) and Dugdale Arts Centre (2024)

HexRAMeron – Students Create Festival, Royal Academy of Music (2025)

In the Bleak Midwinter – Lloyd's Choir, Katharine Cree Church (2024)

Ballade – commissioned and performed by Trio Amabile, York Late Music (2024)

Fantasy – workshop with Robert Saxton & Peter Sheppard-Skærved, who gave premiere, Purcell School (2024)

Passage of Time – Carducci Quartet, Chiltern Arts Festival (2023)

Waltzing Matilda – Westminster Abbey, Commonwealth Day Pre-Service (2023)

Mo Li Hua – Purcell Sinfonietta, Hatfield House Music Festival (2022)

Additional performances in Royal Academy of Music composition concerts (2024–26) and Purcell School composition concerts (2018–26).

Projects & Research

Vectis (2025–)

Song cycle collaboration setting 17 original texts by Mollie Mardel, exploring the history, landscape and stories of the Isle of Wight. In process of being recorded by Tiffany Qiu (voice) & Lisa Archontidi-Tsaldaraki (violin).

After the Crossing (2026)

Six site-specific organ improvisations responding to the distinctive qualities of each organ, church and surrounding landscape, presented within solo organ recitals across the Isle of Wight alongside Purcell, Elgar and original music.

Highbury (2025)

Adaption of original, reality-based tales and sketches into a full-length narrative novella; self-published through Amazon Kindle Direct Publishing.

***ImprovForty* (2024–25)**

Recorded and released solo improvisations for 40 consecutive days to develop pianistic fluency; followed by *Scriabivisations*, exploring improvisation in the styles of Scriabin's compositional periods.

***Amersham Summer* (2024)**

Debut film production of **Eskonfilm**, featuring an entirely improvised cello-and-piano soundtrack, followed by *Caledonian Voyage* and *Commuting Phases*. Recorded with cellist Nicola Tait-Baxter.

***Composers Parallels* (2024)**

Two chamber works by Edward Tait & Antonia Zadrag responding to Shostakovich, performed alongside two of his works at the **Purcell Pulse Festival** (2024). Followed by a 2026 Bach-inspired collaboration with Jacques Cohen and Purcell School composers, workshopped/performed by Shirley Turner (violin), Peter Mallinson (viola) & Richard Pearce (piano).

***The Planets: Reimagined* (2023)**

Writing and publishing the first complete piano transcription of Holst's *The Planets*; premiered at the Purcell School with five student pianists.

Employment & Work Experience

Artistic Director, MetroLand Music Festival (2026–)

Programming and organising weekly concerts; curating, stage management, publicity, programme design, social media, fundraising and bookkeeping. **Canva, Microsoft Excel**.

Co-founder, Charlton St Luke's Sunday Series (2026–)

Programming and organising monthly concerts; commissioning, organ registration, stage management, page turning, curation, design, social media and concert administration. **Canva, Microsoft Excel**.

Sub-Team Representative, Royal Academy of Music Student Union (2026–)

Student representation, RAM football club recruitment, freshers' assembly welcome events, social events and student networking; facilitating connections for collaborative projects and opportunities.

Social Media Manager, Octagon Music Society (2026–)

Accompanist, Heatherton Singers (2025–)

Choral accompanying, tuning, sight-reading and keyboard arranging.

Freelance Music Teacher (2024–)

GCSE composition and music theory; private piano tuition (1-to-1 and classes); practice examinations, 3 years of teaching experience.

Freelance Composer (2023–)

Commissions and arrangements for chamber, orchestra, vocal, film, media and theatre; orchestration, part-making, typesetting and digital copyist work for performance and recording across the UK and Ireland. **100+ original works**; selected music and arrangements published by NoteWelder Music since 2023.

Freelance Timpanist & Percussionist (2023–)

Regular professional work with Rose Opera, Bridgewater Sinfonia, Chorleywood Orchestra, Trinity Orchestra, Mysticus Sinfonia, Chorus of Dissent, London Doctors Orchestra and Hillingdon Philharmonic Orchestra; additional dep work with Corinthian Orchestra, Opera Greenwich, Ealing Symphony Orchestra, Holland Park Sinfonia, Hertfordshire Philharmonia, Essex Chamber Orchestra, City Wind Orchestra, Sinfonia Tamesa, Wycombe Festival Orchestra and Chalfont Wind Band

Repertoire includes Beethoven Symphony No. 9 (timpani), Puccini *Manon Lescaut* (glockenspiel), Mussorgsky *Pictures at an Exhibition* (bells), Dani Howard Trombone Concerto (mixed percussion), Holst *The Planets* (celeste).

Web Developer, EPT Websites (2023–)

Web design, programming, biography/CV writing, digital catalogues, online marketing and video editing, specialising in professional musician websites. **Visual Studio Code, CapCut.**

Resident Composer, Royal Academy of Music Widening Participation Composers Club (2026)

Composition workshops and supervision; interactive assemblies and GCSE composition mentoring.

Visual Technician, Royal Academy of Music Students Create Festival – *The Daoshi Ballads* (2026)

Project Manager, Classical Futures Music Promotion (2025)

Concert organisation, stage management, design, social media, stewarding and bookkeeping.

Co-founder, Expericademy (2024–25)

Conducting, piano improvisation, chamber performance, concert curation, video editing and social media marketing; debuted at the Royal Academy of Music Students Create Festival (2025).

Resident Composer, London Sinfonietta Sound Out Schools (2024)

Composition workshops and supervision, notation software assistance, chamber orchestration and outreach mentoring.

Concert Steward, Bechstein Hall (2024)

Clerical Assistant, Charles Tait Accounting (2023–)

Accounts processing and preparation, tax-balance analysis and payroll assistance. **Microsoft Office/Excel, PAYE software.**

Co-director, IMPULSE Outreach Project (2023)

Conducting, interactive assemblies and sheet-music management; hosted by the York Trust and venues across North Norfolk.

Recording Assistant, Oliver Davis Music (2023)

Concert Steward, Belmont Ensemble of London (2023)

Co-director, Purcell Creative Ensemble (2022–24)

Rehearsal leadership, conducting, chamber piano performance and concert marketing.

Piano Performance

Extensive solo and chamber performance, typically **8–10 recitals annually** across UK church venues, regularly including original compositions. Additional accompanying and orchestral piano experience at the Royal Academy of Music, Harrow Arts Centre, Sophia Haglia Choir, Jaques Samuel Pianos and St Andrew's Chorleywood.

Selected Performances

Solo recital: Ravel, Liszt & Scriabin — St Michael's Church, Highgate (2026)

MetroLand Music Festival — with violinist Luca Weed (2026)

Satie *Vexations* — 40-hour performance marathon with eight pianists; fundraising for **Help Musicians** (2025)

CFMM Shrewsbury Showcase — St Alkmund's Church, Shrewsbury (2025)

Shostakovich Piano Trio No. 1 — Purcell Pulse Festival, Vigneron Piano Trio (2024)

Selected Repertoire

Chopin *Barcarolle* & Ballade No. 1; Ravel *Jeux d'eau* & *Sonatine*; Scriabin Sonata No. 4; Liszt *Années de pèlerinage* (selected movements); Elgar Violin Sonata; Tchaikovsky *Dumka*

Education & Training

Royal Academy of Music, London

BMus in Composition (2024–28) — Professors: Gareth Moorcraft, Louise Drewett

Electives: Keyboard Skills (Nicholas Walker)

Academic study: Analytical Skills (Emily Kilpatrick, Alex Hills); Aural Skills (Jennifer Sheppard, Christopher Atkinson); Multimedia & Creative Technology (Phil Dawson); Notation (Ash Mistry, Gareth Lockrane); Orchestration & Repertoire (Louise Drewett); Techniques of Composition (Gareth Moorcraft).

Additional composition lessons: Eleanor Alberga, Rubens Askenar, Morgan Hayes, Philip Cashian, Edmund Finnis.

Seminars: Huw Watkins, Augusta Read Thomas, Hans Abrahamsen, Christian Mason, Anna Meredith, Ryan Latimer.

Annual large-ensemble workshops with Aaron Holloway-Nahum & Philip Cashian.

Leadership in performer coordination publicity for the B2/3 Composers Concert (2025).

Purcell School for Young Musicians

Composition (2017–24): Jacques Cohen, Brian Elias, Deborah Pritchard — **UK Music & Dance Scheme scholarship**

Piano (2017–24), Lidia Amorelli; **ABRSM Grade 8 — Distinction** (2022)

Cello (2017–19), Julian Metzger; **ABRSM Grade 5 — Merit** (2018)

Seminars with Judith Weir, Robert Saxton, Zoe Martlew, Julian Anderson, Errollyn Wallen, Grace-Evangeline Mason, Daniel Fardon, Dru Masters, Simon Speare, Tonia Ko, Sylvia Lim & Michael Small.

Conductor, Philomel Orchestra (2023–24). Organiser of student-led composer concerts premiering 20+ new works.

3 A-Levels: History, Literature & Music (2022–24)

Additional Training

Guildhall School of Music & Drama — Composition (2026), Paul Whitmarsh & Matthew King

National Film & Television School — Composing for Film & TV (2025), Mathias Nielsen

Independent Study — Composition & Theory (2014–17), Andrew Melvin; Piano (2012–17), James Kellas

Competitions, Awards & Residences

Winner, National Centre for Early Music Young Composer Award (2026) — *my troubled sense doth move*; workshop/performance with Christopher Fox & Gonzaga Band

Shortlist, York Early Music Christmas Festival Commission (2026)

Winner, London Festival of Contemporary Church Music Call-for-Scores (2025)

Winner, New Jersey Garden State Singers Call for Scores (2025) — *It was a lover and his lass*, performed in Ridgefield Park, New Jersey, USA

Shortlist, Conway Hall Clements Prize for Composers (2025)

Winner, Tiziano Rossetti Competition (2025)

Winner, Berlioz International Music Competition (2024)

Recipient, Purcell School Tim Stevenson Prize for Outstanding Composition (2024)

Shortlist, European Recording Orchestra Call for Scores (2024) — resulting in masterclasses with Arthur Brouns, Francisco Rios & Christopher Young, at the **Film Scoring Academy of Europe**

Best Composer, North London Festival (2019)

Winner, Chesham Arts Festival Composition Category (2019)

Winner, Beacon Young Musician of the Year (2017)

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