

## Bicentenary of the birth of composer Franz Liszt

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To mark the bicentenary this month of the birth of composer Franz Liszt, Kenneth Hamilton has been involved in a series of concerts and broadcasts worldwide. His bicentenary article on the composer-- described as a "fine and unsentimental appreciation" by US music critic Alex Ross-- was **published in the New York Times** ([http://www.nytimes.com/2011/10/23/arts/music/looking-at-franz-liszt-on-his-bicentenary.html?\\_r=3&ref=franzliszt](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/10/23/arts/music/looking-at-franz-liszt-on-his-bicentenary.html?_r=3&ref=franzliszt)) on 23 October.

The previous week he had organised an International Liszt Forum in London's Purcell Room, during which he performed a selection of pieces by Liszt on the University of Birmingham's historic Erard grand piano, **enthusiastically reviewed by Tom Service in the Guardian** (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/music/tomserviceblog/2011/oct/21/happy-birthday-franz-liszt-fan>).

Kenneth was interviewed, and performed excerpts from Liszt's music, on the BBC World Service's "Newshour" on 11 October and on Radio 3's Music Matters on 22 October, and also presented a special "Liszt sonata" edition of Radio 3's CD Review on the same day. The Radio 3 broadcasts are available on Iplayer: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b0167rzx> (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b0167rzx>)

In November he will be performing in Liszt Festivals in the US and South Korea.