

Material Matters Series 2016/2017

8 November 2016



Material Matters: *Historical stringing and all it entails*

Venue: Museum Piano Gallery

Tickets: Free tickets available from the Academy's Box Office, telephone 020 7873 7300. These free tickets will not be available online.

The first in a new series of enlightening talks by experts on the nature and history of the many materials used for making musical instruments.

In this event, instrument maker **George Stoppani** will investigate gut strings. Interpreting historical evidence from surviving instruments and parts, written sources and the visual arts, he will then delve into the physics of string construction. Throwing in a little biology, sheep farming and the sausage industry this talk will shed light on making strings that are suitable for use on historic instruments.

22 November 2016



Material Matters: Tropical Wood and Bow Hair

Venue: Museum Piano Gallery

Tickets: Free tickets available from the Academy's Box Office, telephone 020 7873 7300, from [date]. These free tickets will not be available online.

The second in a new series of enlightening talks by experts on the nature and history of the many materials used for making musical instruments.

In this event, bow-maker **Luis Emilio Rodriguez** will delve into the history and use of tropical woods. Under the title 'Adopting the Exotic' he reflects on musical-practices avid incorporation of far-away goods: From Mongolian horse-hair to coffee!

2017

14 February 2017

Material Matters: Pigments and varnish materials

Senior research conservator at the National Portrait Gallery **Sophie Plender** will compare the techniques and materials used by artists in the 16th and 17th centuries in order to explore the violin varnish used by the great masters from the same period.

28 March 2017

Material Matters: Paper

Book, manuscript and paper conservator Veronica Zoppi will examine the use of this versatile material for musical manuscripts and instrument labels in her talk entitled, 'Paper, a long-lasting love through centuries.'