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## Civic gala concert at Christ Church

IT was the first time we had a Steinway Grand piano in Christ Church and we hope it's not the last.

It was a wonderful summer's evening. The Church looked magical candle lit.

The Steinway took centre stage. The audience of one 150 eagerly awaited the playing of international concert pianist Daniel Blumenthal, a professor from Brussels's Conservatoire.

They were not disappointed. The sound was amazing as all the well-loved pieces of Chopin filled the air, his fingers moving breathtakingly fast, truly outstanding.

Cecilia Jorgensen narrated the *Dream of Chopin*, revealing her story of the romance between Chopin and Jenny Lind, who was much associated with Malvern. Worcestershire's very own "nightingale".

The delightful and very talented Jennifer Simpson gave renderings of *The Maiden's Wish* and the *Mazurka in A flat major*.

The concert culminated in the sublime *Nocturne*.

Thunderous applause and a standing ovation followed. The audience



FIRST, AND HOPEFULLY NOT THE LAST Jennifer Simpson at piano with Daniel Blumenthal.

outstanding the performance had been. It was definitely world class, with one or two saying they had been "blown away".

A very memorable evening and we look forward to many more.

Do join us this evening Friday 19th July, 7pm. for 7.30pm.

We are hosting the Civic Concert - *A Celebration of*

This will include music by Handel, Schumann, Elgar and Kreisler.

There will be instrumental items, performances from the Civic Voices and readings by Dr John Harcup.

Tickets, £7, which includes refreshments, on the door.

Tomorrow (Saturday) is Christ Church Gift Day

Canon Harold Goddard.

We welcome donations from the people of Malvern for the upkeep and enhancement of our beautiful building especially for the new roof.

Refreshments with home-made cakes available throughout the day and come along and browse our well stocked book stall as well.