



FIONA & CHIARA ALAIMO

Sisters. Twins. Pianists.

INTRODUCTION

Fiona & Chiara Alaimo are a duo both on stage and in life. While classical music, and more specifically the piano, is their common language, their horizons extend far beyond it. Chess, singing, Pilates, running, hip-hop, but also rock and metal fuel their curiosity and help shape the musicians they are today. After all, an interpretation is born not only from the hours spent at the piano, but also from everything one experiences beyond it.

This is what you won't find in their official biography.

What you will discover there, however, is the journey, the encounters and the artistic choices that have shaped their identity over the years.

BIOGRAPHY

Twin sisters Fiona & Chiara Alaimo approach the recital as a genuine artistic exploration, from the construction of their programmes to the finest details of their performance. Their work focuses on the repertoire for solo piano, piano four hands and two pianos. These three complementary disciplines nourish their artistic identity and allow them to create distinctive programmes. On stage, they place connection, generosity and commitment above all else.

Trained in the Franco-Belgian tradition, they strive for precision and authenticity in every aspect of their playing: style, sound, phrasing and intention. They approach each score with an almost surgical attention to its musical language. Convinced that an interpreter's work is never truly complete, they continue to refine their pianistic skills, drawing on the foundations of the Russian school.

Born in Brussels in 1998 into a French-Italian family, the Alaimo sisters studied at the Royal Conservatory of Brussels with Aleksandar Madžar before continuing their education at the École Normale de Musique de Paris. There, they each earned an Artist Diploma in piano with Marian Rybicki, as well as a diploma in piano duo with Nina Patarcec. They subsequently joined the prestigious *Élite* programme, which they completed under the guidance of the duo Ludmila

Berlinskaïa & Arthur Ancelle. They are currently continuing their artistic development with Ukrainian piano pedagogue Cristina Pliousnina.

In January 2026, they released their debut album, *Écho(s)*, on the DaVinci Classics label. Dedicated to solo piano works by French composers Sharad Goulam and Gabriel Field, the album features performances shared between the two sisters. This first recording reflects their commitment to contemporary music and their desire to champion the voices of their generation.

In 2022, they were invited to an artistic residency at the Château de Lourmarin under the auspices of the Académie des Beaux-Arts. Following a month dedicated to developing their concert format combining solo piano and piano four hands, they presented the results in two closing concerts. The residency marked a major turning point in their artistic journey: it helped shape a significant part of their artistic identity, which they have continued to develop through their programmes, and marked the beginning of a collaboration with composer Damien Chauvin. This encounter gave rise to *Lourmarin on Fire*, an original work written for the Alaimo sisters, recorded in 2026 and accompanied by a video recording.

In 2021, they also contributed to the soundtrack of *The Chapel*, a feature film by Dominique Deruddere. The film follows the decisive week in the lives of young pianists competing as finalists in the Queen Elisabeth Competition at the Queen Elisabeth Music Chapel. The sisters performed the piano doubles for the film.

They have collaborated with the Royal Symphonic Band of the Belgian Guides under the direction of Yves Seghers. In September 2026, they performed Francis Poulenc's *Concerto for Two Pianos* at the Rungis Piano-Piano Festival with the Orchestre Victor Hugo Franche-Comté, conducted by Jean-François Verdier.

Prizewinners at several international competitions, including Supernova (2024), Les Musicales du Centre (2023) and the International Competition of Rome (2021), they have also benefited from the guidance and advice of Rena Shereshevskaya, Lilya Zilberstein, Claire Désert, Markus Groh, Leonid Margarius, Sergei Edelmann, Louis Lortie and Hélène Mercier.

Invited to perform at numerous European concert halls and festivals, they have appeared at the Salle Cortot and the Théâtre de la Ville in Paris, the Kraków Philharmonic, the Royal Palace in Warsaw, Musicatreize in Marseille and deSingel in Antwerp. Their performances have also taken them to Musicorum, Zomer van Sint-Pieter in Belgium, Au Fil du Thouet, Festival de la Place, the Rungis Piano-Piano Festival, the Festival des Musiques d'Été de Lourmarin, Les Pianissimes, the Music Gardens Festival and Duettissimo in Poland, among others.

HIGHLIGHTS

- 2026 Artists in residence SWUK Vlaanderen
- 2026 Debut album *Écho(s)* – DaVinci Classics
- 2025 Élite program at the École Normale de Musique de Paris, Alfred Cortot
- 2023 Prize of the Maurice Lefrancq Foundation
- 2023 Artist Diploma at the École Normale de Musique de Paris, Alfred Cortot (piano solo)
- 2022 Artist residence at the Château de Lourmarin, under the guidance of l'Académie des Beaux-Arts
- 2022 Artist Diploma at the École Normale de Musique de Paris, Alfred Cortot (piano duo)
- 2022 Master in pedagogy at the Koninklijk Conservatorium Brussel
- 2021 First prize at the Concours International in Rome
- 2021 Prize of the Horlait Dapsens Foundation
- 2021 *The Chapel* (film by Dominique Deruddere) – Original soundtrack & hand doubles
- 2020 Master at the Koninklijk Conservatorium Brussel
- 2019 Prize of the Fonds Thirionet