

## 22 Prepositions of time (2)



### London **FILMFESTIVAL**

Classic films of the 1920s:

The Hunchback of Notre Dame

Wednesday 10 March at 7 p.m.

- Drinks before the film
- Neil Brand plays the piano during the film
- Talk after the show by the Director of the National Film Theatre

### 1 before, after

We use *before* and *after* with

- times:

*Let's meet **before** 7.00. The film starts then.*

*Train tickets are cheaper **after** 9.30 in the morning.*

- events/situations:

*There will be drinks **before** the film. Let's watch TV **after** dinner.*

*My grandmother was born **before** the war. I can meet you **after** work.*

*before and after + -ing form* ► Unit 95.1

### 2 by, for, during

We use *by* to mean 'not later than':

*Please give me your homework **by** Friday.* (on or before Friday)

*The holiday will be cheaper if we book it **by** 30 April.* (on or before 30 April)

*The meeting is on Wednesday so I'll finish the report **by** then.*

We use *for* + a period of time:

*for an hour, two days, three weeks*

It means 'the whole time':

*We waited for the bus **for an hour**.*



We use *during* + an event or situation:

*during the flight, the winter, the war*

*Neil Brand plays the piano **during** the film.*

*Uncle Andy called us **during** supper with some bad news.*

Compare *during* and *for*:

*I only slept for half an hour **during** the flight.*

*It rained for two days **during** our holiday.*



~~*X I go to classes during three hours in the afternoon.*~~

*✓ I go to classes for three hours in the afternoon.*

*for* with present perfect ► Unit 53.1