

Clarion³



Sample Programme

Beethoven Trio, Op.38 (composer's arrangement of Septet Op.20)
1st movement: Adagio-Allegro con brio

Britten Three Character Pieces (solo piano)
Sarah Beth Briggs gave the world premiere of these pieces

Hurlstone Trio

Interval

Elgar Romance, Op.62

Vaughan-Williams Four Studies in English Folksong
(both above for bassoon and piano)

Schumann Fantasiestucke Op. 73 for Clarinet and Piano

Glinka Trio Pathetique

Clarion³ celebrated its tenth birthday in 2012. This highly original Clarinet, Bassoon and Piano trio has won much national acclaim.

The trio showcases the talents of Janet Hilton 'rare lightness and grace' (**Financial Times**), Perkins 'a most alluring sound' (**BBC Music Magazine**) and Briggs 'exceptional elegance and taste' (**Daily Telegraph**) who also perform solo items in a superbly varied evening of music making. Ensemble repertoire includes neglected masterpieces by Hurlstone, Glinka and others, alongside timeless gems such as Beethoven's own arrangement of his delightful Septet.

'The music (William Hurlstone's Trio) was never played during the composer's lifetime and if there is a heaven he's there, and surely grateful for Clarion 3's convincing advocacy.'

"Here there was a beautiful sense of instrumental colour, production of lovely woodwind tone and blend, pianistic technical dexterity, sophisticated, flexible phrasing and much evidence of all-round careful preparation."

"This concert by Clarion³ was just about as good as they get! Live music-making at its very best!... In addition to their consummate skills as artists, they were each able to talk to their very appreciative audience with gentle wit and illuminating insight."

Further information

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Sarah is sponsored by Semaphores Multimedia Limited

JANET HILTON CLARINET

Janet is recognised as one of the leading clarinetists in the UK. She has performed with many of Britain's finest orchestras, and has also become renowned for her superb chamber music interpretations with such well known ensembles as the Lindsay, Endellion and Chillingirian String Quartets. Her many overseas engagements have included concerts in Holland, Canada and the USA, (where she has regularly worked with the Michigan based chamber group, Fontana) a recital tour of the major European Opera houses with Margaret Price, concerts in Italy (at the Incontri in Terra di Siena festival and with the Alessandro Scarlatti Orchestra in Naples) and work for the Gstaad Festival in Switzerland. In Britain, she has appeared at many festivals, including Aldeburgh, Bath, Cheltenham, City of London, Edinburgh, Harrogate, and the BBC Proms.



photograph by clive barda

Her extensive list of recordings for the Chandos label includes the chamber music of Brahms and Weber, trios by Mozart, Bruch and Schumann, and Concertos by Weber, Stanford, Nielsen and Copland. She has recorded Malcolm Arnold's first Clarinet Concerto for EMI, and the Mozart Clarinet Quintet for ASV. Her most recent recording, of four concertos written for her by Alun Hoddinott, John McCabe, Edward Harper and Dame Elizabeth Maconchy, was released on the Clarinet Classics label.

Alongside her solo career, Janet has been Principal Clarinet of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, the Welsh National Opera and Kent Opera Orchestras and the Manchester Camerata. She is a Professor of Clarinet at the Royal College of Music, where she was Head of Woodwind from 1998-2010.

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SARAH BETH BRIGGS PIANO

Sarah Beth Briggs rose to international attention when she became the joint winner of the International Mozart Competition in Salzburg, following her success in the BBC Young Musician of the Year at 11, in which she was the then youngest ever finalist. She has performed with many of Britain's major orchestras and at most of its most prestigious venues, as well as giving numerous concerts in Europe and the U.S.A. and making international radio and television recordings. A popular soloist at music clubs and festivals, her musical interpretations have been highly acclaimed by promoters and critics alike. Her warmly reviewed recordings for Semaphore showcase her talents across a wide range of repertoire, including Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Chopin, Brahms, Bartok, Britten and Rawsthorne.

Sarah enjoys balancing a successful solo career with numerous chamber music engagements and has worked with many acclaimed soloists. In addition to her longstanding duo with clarinetist Janet Hilton and this trio, she and Janet also join forces in the *Anton Stadler Trio*, a clarinet, viola and piano trio, featuring Robin Ireland (perhaps best known as violist of the Lindsay String Quartet).

She has also been the pianist in *Trio Melzi* (which now sees her joined by former Manchester Camerata leader Richard Howarth and cellist Hannah Roberts) since its formation in 2000. Her most recent venture is a piano duet partnership with James Lisney. As a chamber musician, Sarah has featured on BBC2 and Radio 3.

A much sought-after teacher, Sarah has given masterclasses throughout the UK and in the USA. She also spent many years coaching piano and chamber music at York University.

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LAURENCE PERKINS BASSOON

Laurence Perkins is one of Britain's most highly respected bassoon soloists. He has performed and recorded much of the bassoon's solo repertoire. His recitals include concerts at the Wigmore Hall, the Purcell Room, and performances throughout the UK and abroad, including a tour of Eastern Europe for the British Council. He has given concerto performances with orchestras in Belarus, Ukraine and Portugal, whilst his overseas concerts with Camerata include performances in France, Germany, Norway, Hong Kong, Japan and Australia. In the UK, Laurence has performed concertos with many leading orchestras, including the English Chamber Orchestra and Manchester Camerata, working with conductors such as Sir Charles Groves, Sian Edwards and Carlo Rizzi.

His recent commercial recordings for Hyperion include a CD of concertos by Mozart and Weber with the Manchester Camerata, conducted by Douglas Boyd. This compilation received outstanding critical acclaim in the national press. He also recorded an earlier award-winning album for the same label in 1982, and has made numerous solo



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and chamber music recordings for IMP/Pickwick and Clarinet Classics. Laurence has been Director of the highly successful Wind Serenades Chamber Music Courses since 2002. He is principal bassoonist with the Manchester Camerata - a post which he has held since 1974.

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