

Clarinet and Piano DUO



Janet Hilton

clarinet



*“RARE LIGHTNESS AND GRACE,
SHAPED WITH THE QUIET FREEDOM
OF A GREAT SINGER.”*

FINANCIAL TIMES

Janet Hilton’s recitals with pianist Sarah Beth Briggs have been critically acclaimed. Her wide-ranging repertoire encompasses much loved favourites, including works by Brahms, Weber, Poulenc, Debussy and Schumann and lesser played masterpieces ranging from Burgmuller to Bernstein. In addition, Janet’s phenomenal technique and sensuous tone have inspired numerous living composers to write music for her.

Sarah Beth Briggs

piano

Sarah is a virtuoso solo performer and a sensitive interpreter of chamber music. Duo recitals always feature some solo piano items to add variety and balance to the programme.

In addition to their very popular duo recitals, Janet and Sarah form part of two exceptional trios. In *Clarion*³ they are joined by internationally renowned bassoonist, Laurence Perkins, offering delightful



photograph by clive barca

*“AN ARTIST OF EXTRAORDINARY
MAGNETISM”*

DAILY TELEGRAPH

repertoire for this striking and unusual combination of instruments whilst the more orthodox but splendidly balanced *Anton Stadler Trio*, sees Janet and Sarah combining their talents with Robin Ireland (ex violist of the world renowned Lindsay Quartet, and one of the UK’s most sought after chamber musicians).

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 Tierra 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.

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 in 2001 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.

Sample Programmes

PROGRAMME A

Weber	Seven Variations on a theme from Silvana, op. 33
Bartok	Suite op. 14
Brahms	Sonata no. 1 in F minor, op. 120

Interval

Martinu	Sonatina
Brahms	Intermezzos and Rhapsody, op. 119
Debussy	Première Rhapsodie

PROGRAMME B

Lutoslawski	Dance Preludes
Debussy	Two Preludes from Book 1
Weber	Grand Duo Concertante, op. 48

Interval

Schumann	Fantasy Pieces, op. 73
Chopin	Ballade no 3 in A flat major, op 47
Joseph Horowitz	Sonatine (1981)

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 ('...she holds her own with many of the illustrious names on disc' Gramophone, '...performances of real stature, the pianism is first rate...' International Record Review) 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. This duo partnership with Janet extends to two highly successful trios - *Clarion*³ featuring the unusual combination of clarinet, bassoon and piano (with Laurence Perkins) and the more orthodox but splendidly balanced *Anton Stadler Trio* with Robin Ireland (perhaps best known as violist of the Lindsay Quartet). 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 chamber music and piano at York University.



For further details about Janet please see

<http://www.impulse-music.co.uk/hilton.htm>

Sarah's further details can be found at

<http://www.sarahbethbriggs.co.uk>

You are also very welcome to make contact with Sarah on 01904 787011