

# DUO | James Lisney Sarah Beth Briggs

*“an extremely charismatic duo”*

Two highly regarded British pianists and chamber musicians now combine their skills in this exciting piano duo combination. Their repertoire includes music from JC Bach to Hindemith and Hans Gál (with favourites such as Ravel, Fauré, Dvorak and Brahms along the way) but focuses most particularly on the great works of Mozart and Schubert which are widely regarded as being the pinnacle of the piano duet repertoire.



*Throughout their entire programme there was near-perfection in all aspects of their art.*

*great sensitivity, dazzling fingerwork, fine balance and perfectly judged pedaling*

*Wonderful music making and an extremely informative and amusing presentational style*

## Sample Programme A

Hans Gál Three Marionettes, op 74  
Mozart Sonata in C, K521  
Schubert A major Rondo, D951

### *Interval*

Fauré Dolly Suite, op 56  
Dvorak Slavonic Dance op 72/2 in E minor  
Debussy Petite Suite  
Mozart Andante and Variations in G major, K501

## Sample Programme B

Schubert Marche Brillante et Raisonnée, D823  
Mozart Andante and Variations in G major, K501  
Schubert F minor Fantasy, D940

### *Interval*

Mozart Sonata in C, K521  
Schubert Rondo in A major, D951

## Further information

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*...an artist of extraordinary magnetism*  
**Daily Telegraph**



Photograph by Ralph Obermann

JAMES LISNEY

*...he combines velvet touch and wide range of colour with complete understanding of phrasing and dynamic shading* **Daily Telegraph**

James Lisney enjoys a rich musical life, moving seamlessly from concerto and recital soloist to chamber musician, song accompanist and pianist director. Initiatives such as his Schubertreise series at London's South Bank Centre, his extensive Beethoven Project and the recording company Woodhouse Editions, provide a platform for his wide-ranging musical sympathies.

Following study with Jean Murphy, Phyllis Sellick and John Barstow, James Lisney made his Wigmore Hall debut in 1986. Early representation by the Young Concert Artists Trust in London led to a career that has taken him to many prestigious venues and gained invitations to appear with major orchestras.

James's repertoire ranges from baroque masterpieces to music of the present day. In the past decade, the music of Schubert and Beethoven has been a central pre-occupation both in performance and in recordings and he regularly presents cycles of the piano sonatas and chamber music by both composers. His recordings on Naxos, Bis, Somm, Olympia and Carlton have gained the highest recommendations. In the autumn of 2011 James launched a cycle of all the sonatas of Schubert and Beethoven, for both piano solo and duo with strings, in Belgium. He celebrated his fiftieth birthday in 2012 with five concerts at the Amsterdam Concertgebouw (including three new works by Jan Vriend). The same year, he performed Schubert's late music in Stamford, Leipzig, Brussels and Berlin. The present season sees him performing Schubert cycles in the Oxford International Piano Series, the Leipzig Gewandhaus and Mumbai.

[www.jameslisney.com](http://www.jameslisney.com)



Sarah is sponsored by Semaphore Multimedia Limited

A long-standing pupil of the late Denis Matthews and subsequently a pupil of Arrau student Edith Fischer, Sarah Beth Briggs rose to international attention when she became the joint winner of the International Mozart Competition in Salzburg. This followed 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 numerous prestigious UK venues, as well as giving 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, Bartók, Rawsthorne, Britten and Debussy. Her first concerto disc on the AVIE label (a Gramophone Critics' Choice in 2016) features the world premiere of Hans Gál's Piano Concerto coupled with Mozart Concerto K482 with the Royal Northern Sinfonia conducted by Kenneth Woods. January 2019 sees the release of a solo disc of Schumann and Brahms for AVIE.

Sarah enjoys balancing a successful solo career with numerous chamber music engagements and has worked with many acclaimed soloists. April 2018 saw the release of Sarah's first chamber music disc on Toccata Classics with Hungarian violinist Katalin Kertész and her ensemble. This was followed in August 2018 by a Gramophone Editor's Choice disc of Hans Gál and Shostakovich Trios on AVIE with Sarah's recently formed Briggs Piano Trio with violinist, David Juritz and 'cellist Kenneth Woods.

In addition to her longstanding duo partnership with Janet Hilton, they are joined by violist Robin Ireland (formerly of the Lindsay String Quartet) in the Anton Stadler Trio and by bassoonist, Laurence Perkins in Clarion 3. She also has a recently formed violin and piano duo with David Juritz. As a chamber musician, Sarah has featured on BBC2 and Radio 3.

[www.sarahbethbriggs.co.uk](http://www.sarahbethbriggs.co.uk)



SARAH BETH BRIGGS

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