



BARRY DOUGLAS

Barry Douglas has established a major international career since winning the Gold Medal at the 1986 Tchaikovsky International Piano Competition, Moscow. As Artistic Director of Camerata Ireland and the Clondeboy Festival, he continues to celebrate his Irish heritage whilst also maintaining a busy international touring schedule.

Highlights of the 14/15 season include the season opening concerts with the BBC Scottish Symphony and performances with the Orchestre National de France, Israel Symphony (performing Penderecki's concerto under the composer's baton), Staatskapelle Halle, and the Ulster and Sapporo Symphony Orchestras. He has previously given concerts with the London Symphony, Russian National, Cincinnati Symphony, Singapore Symphony, Berlin Radio Symphony, Seattle Symphony and Melbourne Symphony Orchestras alongside the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic and Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestras, among others. Barry regularly plays in recitals throughout the world, with upcoming performances in the UK (including London's Wigmore Hall), in Mexico, Malta, the US, Russia, Japan and Italy.

Barry is an exclusive Chandos recording artist and is currently recording the complete works for solo piano of Brahms, the first two albums of which have received much critical praise. The third one is due to be released in October 2014 and the further on in May 2015. International Record Review wrote that "this is indeed Brahms playing of the utmost integrity and authority... this cycle looks set to become a benchmark version." The interesting programming of each disc, which has already garnered much critical praise, presents each album as a stand-alone recital, providing a varied and engaging listening experience. September 2014 will also see the release of Celtic Reflections – an exploration of Irish folk music through eighteen of Barry's own arrangements – from ancient melodies to pieces by contemporary songwriters.

In 1999 Barry Douglas founded the chamber orchestra Camerata Ireland to celebrate and nurture the very best of young musicians from both Northern and the Republic of Ireland. In addition to striving for musical excellence, one of the orchestra's aims is to further the peace process in Ireland by promoting dialogue and collaboration through its musical education programmes. Barry regularly tours with Camerata Ireland throughout the world and has plans to visit China with the orchestra in the 2014-2015 season. Highlights of the past season were Camerata Ireland's debut at the BBC Proms in London and a world premiere of a new cantata commissioned by The Honourable The Irish Society, "At Sixes and Sevens", alongside the London Symphony Orchestra to celebrate Derry-Londonderry becoming City of Culture 2013.

Barry Douglas received the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in the 2002 New Year's Honours List for services to music.



CAMARATA IRELAND

Camerata Ireland was founded in 1999 by international pianist, conductor, educator and recording artist, Barry Douglas. His vision was to create a chamber orchestra of excellence to match the best in the world. Camerata Ireland brings together the finest Irish musicians to celebrate the wealth of musical talent from within the island of Ireland, to present a new and positive image of Ireland and to create a unique sound that comes from the orchestra members' shared musical heritage.

The orchestra has gained an international reputation for excellence. Camerata Ireland has given performances throughout the USA and Europe, and in Asia. Notable successes have been the Irish Festival of Arts and Culture in China in 2004, the 2006 International Beethoven Festival in Warsaw, the Smithsonian Festival in the US Library of Congress, the Naantali International Festival in Finland in 2007 and the Festival de la Chaise-Dieu in France in 2008 and 2009. Camerata Ireland's annual International Concert Series takes it to several major concert venues throughout Europe such as the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées in Paris, Cadogan Hall in London, The National Concert Hall in Dublin and the Auditorio Nacional de Música in Madrid. Camerata Ireland was honoured to be one of the few chamber orchestras to be invited to be resident in the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées in Paris, performing the complete Mozart Piano Concertos over several seasons.



ST. MALACHY'S & HAZELWOOD INTEGRATED

Under the Baton of Heather Lowry and Laura Dynes, St. Malachy's College and Hazelwood Integrated college have worked together on many occasions perfecting their beautiful sound. The Schools were combined together when entering the FISCA Christmas Gala Competition and they haven't looked back since. Their music has reached many, even places such as Paris.



DOMINICAN COLLEGE FORTWILLIAM

Under the Baton of Maebh McKeon, Dominican College, Fortwilliam have gone from strength to strength, it is a choir that is known for its professionalism and striking sound. They are this year's winners of the Tom Foley award at the FISCA Christmas Gala Competition combined with Belfast High school.



MEGAN MOONEY

Megan Jane Mooney has been working as the Artistic Director of The Flax Trust since September 2015. She has studied with teachers such as Dr. Angela Feeney and Jenny Bourke at Queen's University Belfast and is currently studying with the world renowned Dr. Veronica Dunne at the Royal Irish Academy of Music. Megan was awarded a BMus (hons) from Queen's University Belfast in 2014 and a DipMus (hons) in Performance and Teaching from the Royal Irish Academy of Music in 2015. Megan has given critically acclaimed performances in both the musical theatre and operatic worlds, playing roles such as Maria from Bernstein's West Side Story and The Sorceress in Purcell's Dido & Aeneas. Megan has given performances in Belfast's Grand Opera House, The Waterfront Hall, The Riverside Theatre, Theatre at the Mill and the Market Place Theatre. Megan is a multiple prize winner in all the major Northern Irish singing competitions and is a bursary recipient of the Flax Trust. Megan is delighted to join the Celtic Tenors as special guest in April 2016.

Flax Trust wishes to thank:

Barry Douglas, Camerata Ireland
Arts Council, Holy Cross Church
St. Malachy's College
Hazelwood Integrated College
Dominican College, Fortwilliam

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The Flax Trust

A Christmas Concert

IN AID OF THE REFUGEES

TUESDAY 22ND DECEMBER 2015

7.30PM

AT HOLY CROSS CHURCH



Barry Douglas
& CAMERATA IRELAND



in concert with

St. Malachy's College, Hazelwood Integrated College,
Dominican College, Fortwilliam and Soprano Megan Mooney

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: Noel Thompson BBC



PROGRAMME

INTERVAL

Welcome & introduction from Noel Thompson

Beethoven Piano Concerto No.2 in B-flat major, Op.19

St Malachy's College & Hazelwood Integrated College

Mozart Symphony no.40 in g minor, KV.550

Dominican College Fortwilliam

Silent Night - Trad. Carol

Carol of the Bells - Ukranian Christmas Carol

Once in Royal David's City

Verse 1 - Megan Mooney Soprano

*Once in royal David's city,
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her Baby,
In a manger for His bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ, her little Child.*

Verse 2 - All (Including Audience)

*He came down to earth from heaven,
Who is God and Lord of all,
And His shelter was a stable,
And His cradle was a stall:
With the poor, and mean, and lowly,
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.*

Verse 3

*And our eyes at last shall see Him,
Through His own redeeming love;
For that Child so dear and gentle,
Is our Lord in heaven above:
And He leads His children on,
To the place where He is gone.*

The Lord's Prayer - A.H. Malotte

Medley Christmas - Trad. Arr by R. Howard

Hark the Herald

Verse 1 - Megan Mooney, Soprano

*Hark the herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled"
Joyful, all ye nations rise
Join the triumph of the skies
With the angelic host proclaim:
"Christ is born in Bethlehem"
Hark! The herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!"*

Verse 2 - All (Including Audience)

*Christ by highest heav'n adored
Christ the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come
Offspring of a Virgin's womb
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see
Hail the incarnate Deity
Pleased as man with man to dwell
Jesus, our Emmanuel
Hark! The herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!"*

Verse 3

*Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Son of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings
Ris'n with healing in His wings
Mild He lays His glory by
Born that man no more may die
Born to raise the sons of earth
Born to give them second birth
Hark! The herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!"*