

# ‘Étude’

a solo recital disc

Clare Hammond, piano, for BIS Records

UNSUK CHIN  
*Études*, Nos. 1-6 (1995-2003)

KAROL SZYMANOWSKI  
*Études*, Op. 33 (1916)

SERGEI LYAPUNOV  
*Études d'Exécution Transcendante*, Nos. 4-6  
'Terek', 'Nuit d'été', 'Tempête' (1897-1900)

NIKOLAI KAPUSTIN  
*5 Studies in Different Intervals* (1992)



Audio demos at:

[www.clarehammond.com/etude.html](http://www.clarehammond.com/etude.html)

DISC TO BE RELEASED IN FEB / MAR 2015



The six études by the South-Korean composer, Unsuk Chin, form the centrepiece of this disc. Some of the most significant pieces to be written for the piano in recent years, these are natural successors to the piano études by György Ligeti and are already of international prominence. With their scintillating textures and inventive use of timbre, they are entirely absorbing and electrifying works which are rapidly becoming a keystone of the piano repertoire.

These have been combined with a variety of études from either end of the twentieth century. The three by Lyapunov are very much in a late-Romantic, Lisztian mould with descriptive titles and compelling narratives. The first, 'Terek', is named after a river which flows from Georgia into Russia and is prefaced with a dramatic poem by the Russian poet Lermontov. 'Nuit d'été' is more contemplative and is followed by the impassioned and explosive 'Tempête'.

Szymanowski's Op. 33 were written less than 20 years after Lyapunov's yet they inhabit an entirely different sound-world. With mercurial timbres and fleet textures, they are similar to Debussy's études, written in the same year. The programme ends with *5 Studies in Different Intervals* by Nikolai Kapustin. Each study is structured around a specific interval yet, despite this rather rigid concept, they are in a free-formed jazzy style and provide an exuberant finale to the disc.

CLARE HAMMOND, piano

Acclaimed by The Daily Telegraph as a pianist of "amazing power and panache", Clare Hammond gave debut recitals at the City of London, Cheltenham and Presteigne Festivals, and made return visits to the Wigmore and Bridgewater Halls in 2013. The Guardian wrote of her performance of Ken Hesketh's *Horae (pro clara)* at the Cheltenham Festival that she 'displayed its scintillating passagework and poetic calm with great flair'. A passionate advocate of twentieth and twenty-first century music, Clare combines a formidable technique and virtuosic flair onstage with stylistic integrity and attention to detail.

Clare's recital at the Wigmore Hall in 2012 was broadcast live by BBC Radio 3, chosen as one of their classical highlights for the month and later broadcast on Radio 4 in the Netherlands. She released her debut CD for Prima Facie Records in 2012, and appeared on BBC Radio 3's 'In Tune' to promote the disc. Highlights in 2013 included the premieres of works by Kenneth Hesketh, Ed Hughes, Robert Saxton and Robert Peate, four BBC broadcasts, and two discs for BIS records; one of the complete solo piano works of Andrzej and Roxanna Panufnik and the other of études by Unsuk Chin, Karol Szymanowski, Nikolai Kapustin and Sergei Lyapunov.

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