



# Clare Hammond

piano

*"Amazing power and panache"* **Daily Telegraph**

*"Crisp precision and unflashy intelligence"* **The Guardian**

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

## REVIEWS OF 'REFLECTIONS'

Clare's debut CD for BIS Records  
of works by Andrzej and Roxanna  
Panufnik



*"A fascinating compendium, expertly executed"*, CJ  
**International Piano Magazine Choice**

*"stunningly performed by Clare Hammond"*, Ivan Moody  
**Gramophone UK**

*"a commandingly virtuosic performance"*, John Allison  
**BBC Music Magazine**

*"mit klug und spontan wirkendem"*, Peter Cossé  
**Klassik Heute**

*"skill, inspiration, clarity and an extraordinarily meticulous performance"*, Artem Avatinian  
**Gramophone Russia**

*"Elle excelle à installer dans chaque  
pièce une ambiance"*,  
Bertrand Boissard, **5 Diapasons**



Clare's second disc for BIS,  
of études by **Unsuk Chin**,  
Karol Szymanowski, Sergei  
Lyaunov and **Nikolai  
Kapustin** is due for  
international release in  
February 2015.

## HIGHLIGHTS 2012-14

- Recital from the Wigmore Hall broadcast live by **BBC Radio 3** in April 2012 and her performance of Ravel's *Le Tombeau de Couperin* chosen as one of their **"Classical Highlights"** for the month.
- Debut recitals for **Chopin i jego Europa** and the **Warsaw Autumn International Festival of Contemporary Music** in Poland.
- Panufnik centenary tour of Poland under the auspices of the British Council's 'Artists' International Development Fund', including recitals in Zakopane and Kalisz, and performances in Kalisz and Lublin of **Panufnik's Piano Concerto**. 
- Regular appearances on **BBC Radio 3**, including return invitations to **In Tune** and a broadcast of 6 études by **Unsuk Chin** for 'Hear and Now'.
- Clare is curating a chamber festival, **Panufnik 100: a family celebration** at Kings Place, London where she will perform with mezzo Heather Shipp, jazz singer Jacqui Dankworth and the **Brodsky Quartet**.
- **World premieres** of works by **John McCabe**, Arlene Sierra, Deborah Pritchard, Adam Gorb, Andrew Keeling, Robin Walker and **Edwin Roxburgh**.
- Return visits to give solo recitals at the **Bridgewater Hall** in Manchester and **Wigmore Hall** in London.
- Debut recitals in 2013 for the **Cheltenham Music Festival** and the **City of London Festival** with premieres of works written specially for Clare by Ken Hesketh and Robert Saxton.

## PRESS

*"displayed its scintillating passagework and poetic calm with great flair"*  
**The Guardian**, Cheltenham Festival, Rian Evans

*"... Most impressive, though, was her natural sense of pacing, allowing the hollowed-out climax of *Pour les Arpèges Composées* to gather like a wisp of smoke in sunlight before dissipating in a passing breeze."*  
**The Guardian**, Purcell Room, Guy Dammann

# SAMPLE PROGRAMMES

## Full-length Evening Recitals

Clare is happy to discuss programmes and to offer other suggestions if of interest.

These programmes can be modified to fit a lunch-time slot and works can be exchanged between the two.

### Programme 1

DEBUSSY  
*Estampes* (12')  
i. 'Pagodes', ii. 'La Soirée dans Grenade',  
iii. 'Jardins sous la pluie'

MENDELSSOHN  
*Andante and Rondo Capriccioso* (6')

BEETHOVEN  
Sonata No. 8 in C minor, Op. 13 'Pathétique' (22')

INTERVAL

RAVEL  
*Sonatine* (12')

SIMAKU  
*Hommage à Kurtág* (6')

RACHMANINOV  
Variations on a Corelli Theme, Op. 42 (20')

### Programme 2

COUPERIN  
Selection from *Pièces de Clavecin*, 6e ordre (8')

WOOLRICH  
*Pianobook IX* (10')

RAVEL  
*Le Tombeau de Couperin* (25')

INTERVAL

LYAPUNOV  
Three *Études d'Exécution Transcendante* (16')

CHOPIN  
Selection from *Études*, Op. 25 (18')

KAPUSTIN  
Three Studies in Different Intervals (9')

Listen to audio demos of Lyapunov and Kapustin at:  
[www.clarehammond.com/etude.html](http://www.clarehammond.com/etude.html)

The first programme features two key works for piano by French composers: Debussy's *Estampes* and the *Sonatine* by Ravel. The luxurious exoticism of Debussy's music stands in contrast to the poise and discipline of Ravel's music. Debussy's *Estampes* and Mendelssohn's witty *Andante and Rondo Capriccioso* precede Beethoven's turbulent 'Pathétique' sonata in the first half. *Hommage à Kurtág* by Thomas Simaku, currently based in York, is a wistful and haunting piece and is followed by an enduringly popular work, the sombre *Variations on a Corelli Theme* by Rachmaninov.

The second programme pairs movements from Couperin's *Pièces de Clavecin* with Ravel's *Le Tombeau de Couperin*, written in a neo-classical style as an eighteenth-century dance suite and dedicated to friends who were killed during the First World War. John Woolrich's *Pianobook IX* forms an intriguing and imaginative interlude. The second half is composed entirely of études. Clare's recording of those by Lyapunov and Kapustin for BIS Records is due for release in February 2015. Their fire and élan contrasts strongly with the more refined elegance of Chopin's studies.

"In Ravel's *Tombeau de Couperin*, the pianist was likewise in full expressive command of her fingers, conveying the swirling shimmer and sweet melancholy of a work that veers between elegance and emotion."

Conrad Wilson, **Herald Scotland**

"Hammond recalled both Myra Hess and Annie Fischer, great Beethoven pianists of bygone generations."

Terry Blain, **Culture Northern Ireland**

# SAMPLE PROGRAMMES

(continued)

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## Programme 3

COUPERIN

Selection from *6e ordre des pièces de clavecin* (12')

LISZT

Les jeux d'eaux à la Villa d'Este (7')

DUKAS, ROUSSEL and SCHMITT

Three movements from *Le Tombeau de Debussy*,  
published after Debussy's death in the  
*Revue Musicale*, 1920 (13')

- i) La plainte, au loin, du faune...
- ii) L'accueil des muses
- iii) Mirages, Op. 70 No. 1

RAVEL *Sonatine* (11')

INTERVAL

DEBUSSY

*Estampes* (12')

*Pagodes, La soirée dans Grenade, Jardins sous la pluie*

RAVEL

*Jeux d'eau* (5')

*Le Tombeau de Couperin* (25')

## Programme 4

BACH

Toccatà in C minor, BWV 911 (10')

MENDELSSOHN

Andante and Rondo Capriccioso (6')

BEETHOVEN

Sonata No. 3 in C major, Op. 2 No. 3 (26')

INTERVAL

MENDELSSOHN

*Songs Without Words*, Op. 67 (15')

RACHMANINOV *Études-Tableaux*, Op. 33 (26')

The third programme is comprised primarily of French music, opening with a selection of pieces from Couperin's *Pièces de Clavecin* and closing with Ravel's tribute to his predecessor, *Le Tombeau de Couperin*. Liszt's 'Les jeux d'eaux à la Villa d'Este' portrays the fountains at the Villa d'Este, just outside Rome, and was the direct inspiration for Ravel's *Jeux d'eau*, featured in the second half. In 1920, just after Debussy's death, a series of pieces by his contemporaries were written in tribute to the composer and published in the *Revue Musicale*. This programme includes contributions from Paul Dukas, Albert Roussel and Florent Schmitt. Ravel's *Sonatine* provides an elegant close to the first half whereas Debussy's *Estampes* takes us to more exotic climes.

The fourth programme opens with Bach's dramatic Toccata in C minor, followed by two works in a lighter vein: Mendelssohn's charming 'Andante and Rondo Capriccioso' and an early sonata by Beethoven. After the interval, we encounter the supreme lyricism of Mendelssohn's *Songs Without Words* and finish with the first book of Rachmaninov's *Études-Tableaux*; turbulent, passionate and utterly engrossing music.