

Andrzej Panufnik:

a centenary concert

"In all of my works I attempt to achieve a true balance between feeling and intellect, heart and brain, impulse and design."

Andrzej Panufnik



Embargoed for: 1 October 2014

Pianist Clare Hammond curates an evening of Andrzej Panufnik's chamber music in a celebratory centenary concert

On **22 November 2014**, pianist Clare Hammond will curate an evening of solo piano works and song to mark the **centenary** of Anglo-Polish composer Andrzej Panufnik's birth at the Jacqueline du Pré Music Building. Works by Andrzej Panufnik will be programmed alongside pieces by his composer daughter, Roxanna, and Polish compatriots Chopin and Szymanowski. Clare will be joined by mezzo soprano **Mae Heydorn** in what promises to be an illuminating and inspiring evening!

Forged in the fires of the two World Wars, Andrzej Panufnik's compositional output is inextricably linked with the major social and political events of the 20th century. Born in Warsaw at the onset of the First World War, he lived through the German occupation of the city in the Second World War and participated in musical resistance activities with the composer Lutosławski. Over the course of the conflict, Panufnik lost many of his closest relatives and saw his compositions consumed by the fires of the Warsaw Uprising. Initially fêted by the socialist government, he became unable to compose suitably 'positive' music and, accused of bourgeois decadence, made a dramatic escape to Britain in 1954. Panufnik spent the next 40 years in the UK and was knighted for his services to British music in 1991.

Clare Hammond has given centenary concerts of Panufnik's music across Poland, most notably for the 'Chopin and his Europe Festival' in Warsaw, and is co-curating a chamber festival at Kings Place in London with the Brodsky Quartet on the 30 November. She will give a pre-concert talk on

Andrzej Panufnik's life and works before the concert in Oxford and will also be signing copies of her disc of Andrzej and Roxanna's complete piano works, *Reflections*, during the evening. The centenary as a whole has brought wider attention to Panufnik's music, which Clare describes as "by turns vigorously energetic and lyrically expressive – he has an authentic and deeply engaging voice".

For further information, press CDs, downloads, photos and interview opportunities please contact Clare Hammond, E: info@clarehammond.com , T: 07890 815491
--

Notes to Editors

Pre-concert talk at 7pm, and concert at 8pm, both to be held at the Jacqueline du Pré Building, St Hilda's College, Cowley Place, Oxford OX4 1DY.

Tickets £20 gallery / £15 stalls / £5 students available from the Oxford Playhouse, <http://www.ticketsoxford.com>, 01865 305305. Entry to the pre-concert talk is free.

A dedicated press site for Clare's CD, *Reflections*, with audio clips, press photos, and a pdf of the press release, can be found at <http://www.clarehammond.com/panufnik.html>.

The full concert programme is as follows:

Andrzej Panufnik, *Twelve Miniature Studies*, Nos. 7-12 (piano solo)
Karol Szymanowski, *Métopes*, Op. 29 (piano solo)
Roxanna Panufnik, *This Mighty Heart* (song)
Andrzej Panufnik, *Dreamscape* (song)

Interval

Andrzej Panufnik, *Love Song* (song)
Karol Szymanowski, *Bestimmung*, Op. 22 Nos. 4 and 5 (song)
Frédéric Chopin, Two songs from Op. 74, Nos. 1 and 11 (song)
Andrzej and Roxanna Panufnik, *Modiltwa* (piano solo)
Frédéric Chopin, selection from *Études*, Op. 25 (piano solo)



Clare Hammond. Photo © Julie Kim



Mae Heydorn

BIOGRAPHIES

Andrzej Panufnik

Andrzej Panufnik was born in 1914 in Warsaw and grew up in a musical family, beginning to compose at the age of nine. He gained his diploma at the Warsaw State Conservatoire and travelled to Vienna to study conducting with Felix Weingartner, and to Paris and London for further composition studies. At the outbreak of war he returned to Warsaw where he remained throughout the Nazi occupation. In 1954 Panufnik left Poland as a protest against political control over creative artists, resulting in the total suppression of his name and music. He settled in England and subsequently gained British nationality. In 1977, after a 23-year long silence, Panufnik's music was once again heard in Poland, and in 1990 the composer made a momentous return to his native country to conduct a programme of his works to open the Warsaw Autumn Festival. The composer received a British knighthood in January 1991, and following his death nine months later was awarded a Polish knighthood by President Lech Walesa.

<http://www.panufnik.com>

Roxanna Panufnik

Roxanna Panufnik studied composition at the Royal Academy of Music and, since then, has written a wide range of pieces – opera, ballet, music theatre, choral works, chamber compositions, and music for film and television – which have been performed all over the world. 2013/14 sees numerous premieres in Europe, Australia and the USA with the choirs of Westminster and Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedrals, Philadelphia's St Mark's Episcopal Church, Chanticleer, the Welsh Sinfonia, Ernst Kovacic & the Leopoldinum Orchestra, the Albanian TV & Radio Symphony Orchestra and the London Mozart Players (with whom she has been appointed inaugural Associate Composer from 2012-15). Her multi-faith choral CD "Love Abide" (www.loveabide.com) was released this February to critical acclaim.

<http://www.roxannapanufnik.com>

Clare Hammond

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. Her recent disc release, of music by Andrzej and Roxanna Panufnik, was described by International Piano Magazine as "a fascinating compendium, expertly executed" and praised by the BBC Music Magazine for her "commandingly virtuosic performance". Highlights in 2014 include 3 BBC radio broadcasts, debut performances at 7 festivals across the continent, including the 'Chopin and his Europe Festival' in Warsaw, world premieres of works by 10 composers, and a Panufnik Centenary tour of Poland under the aegis of the British Council's 'Artists' International Development Fund'.

<http://www.clarehammond.com>

Mae Heydorn

Swedish-German mezzo alto Mae Heydorn, graduated from the Guildhall School of Music & Drama with distinction in 2012. The same year she made her solo debut at Glyndebourne Festival Opera as the Woodpecker in The Cunning Little Vixen and at Wexford Festival Opera in A Village Romeo and Juliet. A keen singer of songs, lieder and mélodies she has won the Making Music Philip and Dorothy Green Award for Young Concert Artists and the first prize in the British Schubert Society's Song competition. Mae performs recitals across Europe, at the Musiciennes à Ouessant Festival in France and the Paxos Chamber Music Festival in Greece. She has also sung at St Martin in the Fields, and in the Barbican, Cadogan and De Montford Halls and as soloist with the English Chamber Orchestra and Southbank Sinfonia.

<http://www.maeheydorn.com>

<http://www.st-hildas.ox.ac.uk/jdp>

<http://www.clarehammond.com>