

DISC PROPOSAL

‘Mazurka’

Clare Hammond, PIANO



Acclaimed as a pianist of “amazing power and panache” (*The Telegraph*), Clare Hammond is recognised for the virtuosity and authority of her performances and is developing a “reputation for brilliantly imaginative concert programmes” (*BBC Music Magazine*, ‘Rising Star’). The *Guardian* described her as a “dazzling athlete” following her Barbican debut in 2015, while in 2014 she gave debut performances at 7 festivals across Europe, including the ‘Chopin and his Europe Festival’ in Warsaw, world premieres of works by 10 composers, and three broadcasts for BBC Radio.

This programme presents a series of original and lively Mazurkas by composers from across Europe. Only Szymanowski gives us an authentically ‘Polish’ take on the dance, while the other composers present novel perspectives influenced by their Latin, Slavic, Germanic, Scandinavian and British heritage. The variety and originality of their approaches results in a fascinating and distinctive programme with some truly exquisite gems.

Listen to audio and video demos at:
[www.clarehammond.com/
recordings.html](http://www.clarehammond.com/recordings.html)

See recent reviews at:
[www.clarehammond.com/
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DEBUSSY
Mazurka (2’30)

FAURÉ
Mazurka Op. 32 (8’)

SAINT-SAËNS
3 Mazurkas (Op. 21, 24 and 66, 12’)

GRIEG
‘Mazurka con grazia’ from 4 Piano Pieces, Op. 1 (3’)

SIBELIUS
Mazurka, No. 3 from 10 Little Pieces, Op. 34 (1’40)

ALBÉNIZ
3 Mazurkas de salon, Op. 66, Nos. 1, 4 and 5 (11’)

GRANADOS
Mazurka, No. 1 from *Escenas románticas* (5’30)

MARTINU
Mazurka, H. 284 “Hommage to Paderewski” (2’)

SCHUMANN, CLARA
Mazurka in G minor from *Soirées musicales*, Op. 6 (3’30)

ADÈS
3 Mazurkas, Op. 27 (12’)

SZYMANOWSKI
Mazurkas, Op. 50 Nos. 2, 9 and 6 (8’)

70 minutes in total



Clare Hammond

piano

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

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

www.clarehammond.com

HIGHLIGHTS 2014-15

- Performing Philip Glass' etudes alongside the composer at a sold-out concert in April 2015 at the **Barbican Hall, London**.
- Regular recitals at the **Wigmore Hall** in London including a performance in 2012, broadcast live by **BBC Radio 3** in April 2012 and chosen as one of their **'Classical Highlights'** for the month.
- BBC Music Magazine's **'Rising Star'** in March 2015.
- Appeared as the younger Maggie Smith in the recent film adaptation **The Lady in the Van** by Alan Bennett, and performed Chopin and Schubert on the soundtrack for **Sony Classics**.
- Debut recitals for **'Chopin and his Europe'** 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', with recitals in Zakopane, Warsaw and Kalisz.
- Regular appearances on **BBC Radio 3**, including performances of Sibelius and Rangström in a **BBC Symphony Orchestra** studio concert.
- Clare co-curated the chamber festival, **Panufnik 100**, at Kings Place with the **Brodsky Quartet**, described as the *"culmination of the centenary"* by the Telegraph.
- Two discs released with **BIS Records** and a third to be released in June 2016.
- Debut recitals 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.



RECENT REVIEWS

"This is one of the most enjoyable recordings to come my way this year"

Harrington, **American Record Guide**

"young British rising star Clare Hammond was a dazzling athlete"

Fiona Maddocks, **Guardian**
Barbican Hall, London

"This array of wizardry is not for the faint-hearted"
Jessica Duchon, **BBC Music Magazine**

"unfaltering bravura and conviction"
Bryce Morrison, **Gramophone**

"vitalité éloquente et force de conviction"
Bertrand Boissard, **Diapason**

"definition of bravura over barnstorming"
CRITIC'S CHOICE, **Classical Music Magazine**

"a pronounced virtuoso"
Hartmut Lück, **Klassik Heute**

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



"... 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