



# 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"*, C.J  
**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 **Unsk Chin**, Karol Szymanowski,  
Sergei Lypaunov 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 **Unsk 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 PROGRAMME

## Full-length Evening Recital

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

### PROGRAMME PROPOSAL

#### BACH / BRAHMS

Chaconne in D minor for the left hand alone (15')

#### KNUSSEN

*Prayer Bell Sketch* (6')

#### DEBUSSY

Selection from *Préludes* (20')

'Danseuses de Delphes', 'Le vent dans la plaine',  
'Les sons et les parfums tournent dans l'air du soir',  
'Des pas sur la neige', 'Ce qu'a vu le vent d'ouest',  
'La Cathédrale Engloutie', 'Les collines d'Anacapri'

#### INTERVAL

#### SIBELIUS

*The Trees*, Op. 75 (15')

#### LISZT

'Sposalizio', *Années de Pèlerinage*, Book 2 (8'30)

'Les jeux d'eaux à la Villa d'Este', Book 3 (8')

'Funérailles' from *Harmonies Poétiques et Religieuses* (10')

Listen to Liszt and Knussen at:

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

### ALTERNATIVE WORKS

#### SATIE

*Gnossiennes*, Nos. 1-3 (8')

Inspired by the rituals of an ancient Gnostic sect.

#### LISZT

'Vallée d'Obermann' (12'30) from the *Années de Pèlerinage* Book I

A powerful depiction of a Swiss landscape.

#### MESSIAEN

Selection of *Préludes* (15')

Saturated with Catholic symbolism.

#### SAXTON

*Hortus Musicae* Book I (2013, 18')

A series of pieces written for and premiered by

Clare inspired by ideas of the metaphysical

garden and based on Renaissance polyphony and

plainchant.

Listen at:

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

This programme combines works which share a devotional or religious character. Brahms' transcription of Bach's Chaconne in D minor for left hand is a meditation in itself and its cumulative effect, particularly in a church acoustic, is extremely powerful. Knussen's *Prayer Bell Sketch* was written in memory of composer Toru Takemitsu and explores Eastern bell sounds. The selection of *Préludes* by Debussy focuses on those with a religious or mystical character ('Les Danseuses de Delphes' and 'La Cathédrale Engloutie') and those which depict natural landscapes.

The second half opens with Sibelius' *The Trees*, a series of five miniatures named after different species of trees, with a strong Scandinavian folk element. The programme concludes with three works by Franz Liszt, ordained by the Catholic church in 1865 and latterly known as the 'Abbé Liszt'. 'Sposalizio' is a reflection on Raphael's painting 'Betrothal of the Virgin' and in 'Les jeux d'eaux à la Villa d'Este' Liszt refers to baptismal waters which he says 'confer eternal life on the receiver'. 'Funérailles', from the *Harmonies Poétiques et Religieuses*, is an elegy to thirteen Hungarian generals executed in 1849 by the Austrian army.

"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**