



MANCHESTER CAMERATA ANNOUNCE 2013/14 SEASON

Summary: Following a triumphant 40th anniversary season of sell-out concerts, Manchester Camerata announce their 2013/14 Manchester concert season under inspirational music director Gábor Takács-Nagy. A date for the diary this July is a collaboration with the Manchester International Festival which brings Argentinean pianist Martha Argerich to The Bridgewater Hall on Friday 12 July 2013. Highlights of the 2013/14 season include: Mozart concerto series, a collaboration with The Bridgewater Hall for Manchester's *Strauss's Voice* Festival, acclaimed international soloists including Giovanni Sollima, Jean-Efflam Bavouzet, Paul Lewis and Benjamin Grosvenor.

Following a season of sell-outs, world-class chamber orchestra Manchester Camerata opens its 2013/14 Manchester concert season on 20 September with an eclectic programme commemorating Britten's *centenary*, in the stunning surroundings of Manchester Town Hall.

Gábor Takács-Nagy, Manchester Camerata's inspirational Music Director says: "I embark on my third season at Camerata with great anticipation. We continue to celebrate Mozart concertos, bringing audiences every last nuance of drama, colour and joy in the music. This is how I see performances – making music that is honest, yet full of energy."

There are five **Mozart concertos** across the season, including three piano concertos: multi-award-winning French pianist **Jean-Efflam Bavouzet** (no.17 on 12 October); internationally acclaimed pianist **Paul Lewis** (no.25 on 22 February); one of Norway's most exciting young pianists **Christian Ihle Hadland** (no.12 on 27 April).

Classic FM Artist Claire Jones will join Camerata's newly appointed principal flute, **Amina Hussain**, for Mozart's *Concerto for Flute, Harp and Orchestra* on 20 September. On 8 February, the orchestra's exuberant leader, **Giovanni Guzzo**, will direct Mozart's *Fifth Concerto for Violin* from the **1709 Stradivarius violin**.

After a mesmerising performance in 2011, Italian cello sensation, **Giovanni Sollima**, makes a welcome return to Camerata on 8 November performing his own works alongside those of Schumann and Piazzolla.

Manchester Camerata will collaborate with The Hallé, BBC Philharmonic and The Bridgewater Hall for *Strauss's Voice*, a cycle of all thirty-nine of Richard Strauss's exquisite orchestral songs across nine thrilling concerts, celebrating the composer's 150th anniversary. On 22 February Camerata and The Bridgewater Hall present a powerful concert featuring a late night performance of Strauss's elegiac masterpiece *Metamorphosen*.

The season will close at The Bridgewater Hall on 24 May as Gábor Takács-Nagy conducts Beethoven's *Symphony no.5* and the *Triple Concerto*, with soloists **Benjamin Grosvenor**, **Giovanni**

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Guzzo and Hannah Roberts, alongside a new work by Camerata's 2013/14 Sound and Music 'Embedded' Composer-in-Residence, **Laura Bowler**.

The orchestra's laid-back and relaxed 'UpClose' series returns with intimate performances at Manchester Town Hall, Gorilla Bar and the Royal Exchange Theatre. The series starts with an innovative collaboration with Manchester Literature Festival to mark the 50th anniversary of Martin Luther King's defining 'I Have a Dream' speech. The series also delves into the worlds of Berlin cabaret and political theatre.

Manchester Camerata innovates and empowers with its creative programme of Learning and Participation work, reaching over 10,000 people each year. In 2013/14, Camerata musicians will lead on projects including **Music in Mind** (Rochdale, Greater Manchester), which will use group sessions based on music therapy to improve interactions between dementia patients and their carers.

The orchestra is part of **In Harmony Telford & Stoke on Trent**, a new In Harmony Sistema England project (one of four). Chief Executive Bob Riley says: "The Stafford music hub has brought us together with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. It's based on our strong links with Stafford, where we have performed for the past 10 years."

Other Learning and Participation projects include **Songlines** - a project with the Royal Exchange Theatre working with 10-14 year olds on the autistic spectrum; the **Youth Programme** (who will perform a number of pre-concert performances throughout the season) and the **Youth Forum**, which gives young people the chance to influence the orchestra's Learning and Participation programme.

Performing to 70,000 people each year, Manchester Camerata is chamber-orchestra-in-residence at The Bridgewater Hall, Manchester. The orchestra also presents an annual series at the Royal Northern College of Music and tours extensively across the North West, enjoying flourishing residencies in Chester, Colne, Stafford and Ulverston. This season the orchestra will perform at a number of other venues across Manchester, including Manchester Town Hall, Manchester Cathedral, Albert Hall, Gorilla Bar and the Royal Exchange Theatre.

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NOTES: MANCHESTER CAMERATA

- Acknowledged as one of the UK's world-class chamber orchestras, Manchester Camerata was originally founded in 1972. Music Director Gábor Takács-Nagy was appointed in 2011 and Leader Giovanni Guzzo joined in 2010.
- Manchester Camerata is one of only a handful of orchestras world-wide that is privileged enough to have a Stradivarius for their leader to play, thanks to the generosity of Jonathan Moulds, President of Bank of America Merrill Lynch's European business.
- In 2011, the orchestra finished a long term project to record the complete Beethoven Symphony cycle with Douglas Boyd, and the final disc featuring the Ninth Symphony was released in February 2012.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, REVIEWS, INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITIES OR LISTINGS PLEASE CONTACT:
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