

HEBRIDES ENSEMBLE

MEDIA RELEASE: 12 February 2015

Neglected Korean composer deserves recognition

Experimental Asian music from an exiled political prisoner and a British piece that evokes the perils of war feature as Hebrides Ensemble continues its concert season this March.

A masterpiece from the 19th century by Johannes Brahms combines with contemporary 20th century works by Herbert Howells and Isang Yun for Hebrides Ensemble's reflective 'Clarinet Quintets' concert series.

This programme: *Rhapsodic Quintet* by Herbert Howells, *Clarinet Quintet no.1* by Isang Yun and *Clarinet Quintet Op 115, in B minor* by Johannes Brahms highlights the versatility of the clarinet, full of passion, contemplation and richness of sound. Hebrides Ensemble Artistic Director William Conway-particularly admires the work of Isang Yun, and comments on the forthcoming concerts when the group will play his music for the first time:

"The music of Isang Yun, the Korean composer who died in 1995, represents a very individual voice and deserves more recognition. He inspired a generation of contemporary music in North and South Korea - fusing Asian ideas with Western instruments. His music has a contemporary and experimental sound, full of ornamentation and dynamic patterns. Yun studied in Japan and during the war he took part in anti-Japanese activities that led to him being imprisoned. In 1967, by then living in Germany, he was abducted by South Korean agents. There was a huge international protest and in 1969 he returned to Germany as a political refugee."

Herbert Howells' *Rhapsodic Quintet*, composed after the Great War in 1919, has a mystic and subdued feel. A similarly reflective work closes the concerts from the master of harmony, Brahms.

Hebrides Ensemble's Clarinet Quintets programme comes to Perth, Edinburgh and Musselburgh from the 2nd to 3rd March 2015.

ENDS

Notes to Editors

Available for interview:

Artistic Director William Conway.

Programme details:

Howells *Rhapsodic Quintet*

Isang Yun *Clarinet Quintet no.1*

Brahms *Clarinet Quintet Op 115, in B minor*

Clarinet Quintets concert dates, venues and booking details:

2 March 2015 @ 1.00pm

[Perth Concert Hall](#)

Tickets: £7.00 (£6.00 conc.)

01738 621031

2 March 2015 @ 6.00pm
Greyfriars Kirk, Edinburgh
Tickets: £14.00 (£10.00 conc. £5.00 students)
0131 668 2019

3 March 2015 @ 1.00pm
Brunton Theatre, Musselburgh
Tickets: £6.00
0131 665 2240

Upcoming concerts:

Stanford *Fantasy for Horn and Four Strings*
MacMillan *Horn Quintet*
Mozart *Horn Quintet in E flat major, K.407*

20 April 2015 @ 1.00pm
Perth Concert Hall
20 April 2015 @ 6.00pm
Greyfriars Kirk, Edinburgh
21 April 2015 @ 1.00pm
Brunton Theatre, Musselburgh
21 April 2015 @ 7.30pm
Aberdeen Music Hall

For more information, images or to arrange interviews, please contact James Coutts on 07510 011 294 or email james@hebridesensemble.com.

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www.hebridesensemble.com