

Press release for immediate use

Leading Scottish pianist to headline The Cumnock Tryst festival

- **Internationally acclaimed Scottish pianist Steven Osborne will perform on Saturday 5 October at Sir James MacMillan's Cumnock Tryst Festival.**
- **He will replace soprano Danielle de Niese who can sadly no longer perform due to a change in circumstances.**
- **Tickets and more information available at www.thecumnocktryst.com**



Credit – Ben Ealovega

Images available to download [here](#)

The Cumnock Tryst is delighted to announce that the eminent Scottish pianist **Steven Osborne** will now perform at this year's festival at Trinity Church, Cumnock on the evening of Saturday 5th October. He will replace soprano Danielle de Niese, who can no longer join



us due to a change in circumstances. All tickets already bought for the Saturday evening concert at Trinity Church will still be valid.

Osborne's appearance at the Tryst will be an incredibly special one as he will bring the beauty, seriousness and spirituality of Beethoven's music to our festival audience for the first time. Osborne will play Beethoven's Sonatas Op. 109, 110 and 111, the last three of the thirty-two sonatas that this iconic composer wrote over the course of his career.

Osborne released his interpretation of these sonatas in May on the Hyperion label to wide critical acclaim. Gramophone Magazine described his recording as a "magnificent achievement" and that "Osborne's kinship with the composer is everywhere apparent and he conveys the vast contrasts of the last three sonatas unerringly". Meanwhile Fiona Maddocks of The Observer noted of the recordings that "[Osborne] captures Beethoven's humanity, tumult and crazed fervour".

Steven Osborne is one of the finest Scottish musicians of his generation, regularly touring to the world's leading concert halls for solo and orchestral appearances. His visit to The Cumnock Tryst is set to be a highlight in the festival's history and we can't wait to hear him share these inspirational works with our audiences.

Sir James MacMillan, Artistic Director of The Cumnock Tryst said:

"Steven Osborne is one of the most revered pianists on the planet these days. He is also a Scot. He brings some of the most sublime music in the repertoire to Cumnock. Beethoven is one of the first names that comes to mind when one thinks about classical music. His late works, like these last three piano sonatas, are like music from Heaven - extraordinary, visionary works which probe the borderlands between the human and the sacred. I've always dreamed that The Cumnock Tryst would be able to present a programme like this."

2019 will see the sixth Cumnock Tryst take place from 3-6 October 2019 in and around the village of Cumnock in Ayrshire, where the festival's Artistic Director Sir James MacMillan grew up. The most diverse festival programme so far, this year's concerts range from new work from Jay Capperault and Gillian Walker, and informal evenings at the Dumfries Arms Hotel this year including Barbara Dickson and the Farmers Choir. As ever, The Cumnock Tryst welcomes a group of musicians as its resident artists, this year Mr McFall's Chamber and also forefronts music education as part of the main programme including the chance for audiences to see inside the compositional process in a public masterclass.

/Ends

Listings Information:

Steven Osborne

Saturday 5 October, 7.30pm

Trinity Church, Ayr Roa, Cumnock, KA18 1DW d



Book at:

Online - www.thecumnocktryst.com

Phone - 0141 332 5057

In person - Royal Conservatoire of Scotland Box Office, 100 Renfrewshire Street, Glasgow, G23DB

Press Enquiries

For more information, interviews, photos and tickets please contact the media team:

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Steven Osborne

Steven Osborne is one of Britain's most treasured musicians whose insightful and idiomatic interpretations of diverse repertoire show an immense musical depth. His numerous awards include The Royal Philharmonic Society Instrumentalist of the Year (2013) and two Gramophone Awards. His residences at London's Wigmore Hall, Antwerp's deSingel, the Bath International Music Festival and most recently with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra are a testament to the breadth of his interests and the respect he commands.

Concerto performances take Steven Osborne to major orchestras all over the world including recent visits to the Deutsches Sinfonieorchester Berlin, Salzburg Mozarteum, Radio Sinfonieorchester Wien, Oslo Philharmonic, Finnish Radio Symphony, Danish National Radio, London Symphony, Royal Stockholm Philharmonic, Yomiuri Nippon Symphony, Australian Chamber Orchestra, St Louis Symphony, Aspen Music Festival and Mostly Mozart Festival at Lincoln Center. He has enjoyed collaborations with conductors including Christoph von Dohnanyi, Alan Gilbert, Vladimir Ashkenazy, Stéphane Denève, Ludovic Morlot, Juanjo Mena, Sakari Oramo, Andrew Litton, Ingo Metzmacher, Vladimir Jurowski, Vasily Petrenko, Jun Märkl, Ed Gardner and Louis Langrée.

Summer 2017 saw Steven Osborne give the world premiere of Julian Anderson's Piano Concerto "The Imaginary Museum" in his fourteenth performance at the Proms. A long-time admirer of Osborne's playing, Anderson wrote the piece for and dedicated it to him, and 17/18 saw further performances with the co-commissioners Bergen Philharmonic/Ed Gardner and Sydney Symphony/Ludovic Morlot. Reflecting his eclectic musical taste, the current season includes concertos ranging from Beethoven, Brahms and Mozart to Britten, Falla, Messiaen, Shostakovich and Tippett.

Steven Osborne's recitals of carefully crafted programmes are publicly and critically acclaimed without exception. He has performed in many of the world's prestigious venues including the Konzerthaus Vienna, Amsterdam Concertgebouw, Philharmonie Berlin, de Doelen Rotterdam, Palais des Beaux Arts Brussels, Suntory Hall Tokyo, Lincoln Center NY, Kennedy Center Washington, Carnegie Hall and is a regular guest at London's Wigmore



Hall. His chamber music partners include Alban Gerhardt, Paul Lewis, James Ehnes, Dietrich Henschel and Alina Ibragimova.

Highlights of 18/19 season include performances with the Sydney Symphony and Seattle Symphony/Ludovic Morlot, Orchestre Philharmonique du Strasbourg/Flor, Antwerp Symphony/Yamada, City of Birmingham Symphony/van Steen, BBC Scottish Symphony/Volkov, BBC Philharmonic/Sir Andrew Davis, Ulster Orchestra/Litton, Singapore Symphony and New Zealand Symphony/Carlos Kalmar. Throughout 2019 Osborne celebrates the 75th anniversary of Messiaen's *Vingt regards sur l'enfant Jésus* with performances at the Elbphilharmonie in Hamburg, Manchester, Oxford and London. Marking his 20th year as a Hyperion recording artist, summer 2018 saw the release of Rachmaninov Etudes Tableaux. His 28 releases have accumulated numerous awards in the UK, France, Germany and the USA including two Gramophone Awards, three Preis der Deutschen Schallplattenkritik Awards and a Choc in Classica Magazine in addition to a clutch of Editor's Choice in Gramophone and Recordings of the Year from The Daily Telegraph, The Guardian, The Times and The Sunday Times. His recordings span a wide range of repertoire including Beethoven, Schubert, Debussy, Ravel, Liszt, Stravinsky, Prokofiev, Rachmaninov, Medtner, Messiaen, Britten, Tippett, Crumb and Feldman.

Steven Osborne won first prize at the prestigious Clara Haskil Competition in 1991 and the Naumburg International Competition in 1997. Born in Scotland he studied with Richard Beauchamp at St. Mary's Music School in Edinburgh and Renna Kellaway at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester. He is a Visiting Professor at the Royal Academy of Music and in March 2014 was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.