

# IAN PAGE AND THE MOZARTISTS ANNOUNCE RETURN TO THE CONCERT STAGE IN 2021



Kiandra Howarth © Ben Ealovega

"Page's band, The Mozartists, make the colours and expressiveness of overtures and symphonies leap off the page."

BBC MUSIC MAGAZINE

Ian Page and The Mozartists have announced their plans to return to the concert stage in 2021, having not performed live since the outbreak of COVID-19. Across three concerts, all at Cadogan Hall, the ensemble will collaborate with soloists Kitty Whately, Ronald Brautigam and Kiandra Howarth. The Mozartists are working with Cadogan Hall to create a safe concert environment and all three concerts will run straight through without an interval. Streaming and broadcasting opportunities are being considered and more details will be shared on The Mozartists' website in due course.

lan Page writes: "It's a tremendous joy and relief to be planning and preparing for concerts again. Our MOZART 250 project is a continuously evolving journey, so we're thankful to be returning with two concerts exploring the music being composed by Mozart and his contemporaries in 1771, and I'm delighted to be working again with two wonderful singers, Kitty Whately and Kiandra Howarth. I'm also very excited to be collaborating with the remarkable Dutch fortepianist Ronald Brautigam for the first time, having had to cancel our

planned concert together last April. More than anything, though, I'm thrilled at the prospect of sharing live music-making with an audience once again."

The Mozartists celebrate Mozart's birthday with their first concert of the year on 27 January, when they will be joined by mezzo-soprano Kitty Whately. Entering the seventh year of their ambitious and visionary MOZART 250 series, which explores the life, works and influences of Mozart 250 years on, lan Page and The Mozartists present their annual retrospective concert, this year performing works from 1771. The programme features works by 15-year-old Mozart, as well as Mysliveček, Boccherini and Salieri, culminating in Haydn's 'Trauer' symphony.

Page and The Mozartists return to Cadogan Hall in March for an all-Mozart concert of minor-key masterpieces written between 1786 and 1788. The composer's Adagio & Fugue in C minor opens the programme, followed by his Piano Concerto No. 24 in C minor, which sees the ensemble join forces with celebrated Dutch fortepianist Ronald Brautigam. The programme ends with Mozart's 40<sup>th</sup> Symphony, one of the composer's most dynamic and best loved works.

In May the ensemble take to the stage with Australian soprano Kiandra Howarth, one of The Mozartists' Associate Artists, to provide a fascinating overview of Mozart's life in 1771. In addition to Mozart symphonies and arias written during the course of the year, the programme also features highlights from operas by Paisiello and Hasse that Mozart would have heard during his travels in Italy.

In the summer of 2020 The Mozartists launched an innovative 'Pay it Forward' appeal to generate funds for their freelance artists, who were severely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The appeal successfully raised advance fees for artists, which allowed The Mozartists to pay them in advance for future performance and recording projects.

Debbie Coates, Chief Executive of The Mozartists, said "Our 'Pay it Forward' appeal is an attempt to provide a much-needed stream of income for our musicians during these difficult times. It feels particularly important to reach out and support the world-class individuals whose skill, artistry and commitment are the lifeblood of our cultural infrastructure."

In addition to their 'Pay it Forward' appeal, The Mozartists also initiated a collaboration with Exit Live where they are releasing downloads of past concerts for audiences to purchase. The proceeds from each recording are being shared directly and equally among every performer who took part in the performance, again offering additional income for freelance musicians.

www.mozartists.com

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**Notes to Editor** 

**27 January 2021, Cadogan Hall, 7:30pm** 1771 – A RETROSPECTIVE

Mozart Symphony [No. 42] in F, K.75

Mysliveček Aria, "Non so se il mio peccato" from Adamo ed Eva

Boccherini Minuet from String Quintet in E major, G.275

Salieri "E non degg'io seguirla... "Lungi da te" from Armida

Haydn Symphony No. 44 in E minor, 'Trauer'

## **22 March 2021, Cadogan Hall, 8pm**RONALD BRAUTIGAM PLAYS MOZART

Mozart Adagio & Fugue in C minor, K.546

Piano Concerto No. 24 in C minor, K.491 Symphony No. 40 in G minor, K.550

### 11 May 2021, Cadogan Hall, 8pm

### MOZART'S 1771

Mozart Symphony No. 12 in G, K.110/75b Mozart Concert aria, "Non curo l'affetto", K.74b

Paisiello Aria, "Onde amiche... Smarrita, tremante" from Annibale in Torino

Mozart Symphony No. 13 in F, K.112

Hasse Aria, "Non esser troppo altero" from *Il Ruggiero* 

Mozart Aria, "L'ombra de' rami tuoi" from Ascanio in Alba, K.111

Mozart Symphony No. 14 in A, K.114

### The Mozartists – full biography here

The Mozartists, under the dynamic leadership of conductor and artistic director Ian Page, are leading exponents of the music of Mozart and his contemporaries. Originally called Classical Opera, the company was founded in 1997, and has received widespread international acclaim for its stylish and virtuosic period-instrument orchestra, its imaginative and innovative programming, and its ability to nurture and develop world-class young artists.

#### lan Page – full biography here

Ian Page is the founder, conductor and artistic director of Classical Opera and The Mozartists. With the company he has conducted most of Mozart's operas, including the world premières of the "original" version of Mitridate, re di Ponto and a new completion of Zaide, as well as the UK premières of Gluck's *La clemenza di Tito*, Telemann's *Orpheus* and Jommelli's *Il Vologeso*, and the first new staging for 250 years of Johann Christian Bach's *Adriano in Siria*. In 2009 he made his Royal Opera House début conducting Arne's *Artaxerxes* at the Linbury Studio Theatre, and in 2019 he conducted Handel's *Ariodante* at the Drottningholm Palace Theatre, Sweden.

lan is deeply committed to nurturing and championing outstanding young singers and players – for several years he was a professor at the Royal College of Music, and he has given masterclasses for the Guildhall School of Music & Drama and The Royal Opera's Jette Parker Young Artists Programme. He is also a passionate spokesman for classical music, opera and the arts, and has broadcast on BBC 4 and Sky Arts, as well as making many radio appearances.