



BRITISH
COMPOSER
AWARDS

BRITISH ACADEMY OF SONGWRITERS, COMPOSERS AND AUTHORS (BASCA)

presents the

British Composer Awards 10th Anniversary Concert

Featuring eleven Award-winning compositions
Performed by Endymion and the Vasari Singers

**Purcell Room at Queen Elizabeth Hall, Southbank Centre
Wednesday 5 December 2012, 7.45pm**

Discover the artistry of some of Britain's most celebrated contemporary composers as BASCA mark the 10th Anniversary of the British Composer Awards with a concert at the Purcell Room. The programme - on Wednesday 5 December - features eleven works from the Awards' history, performed by the joint forces of leading contemporary music exponents, Endymion and the Vasari Singers.

The thought-provoking programme features choral and chamber works that have won British Composer Awards since the founding of the Awards in 2003. Earliest of the Award winners is Gabriel Jackson's *O Doctor Optime*, winner of the Liturgical Award in 2003, and most recent is Anthony Payne's *String Quartet No. 2* which won last year's Chamber Award.

2008 proved to be a bumper year, with four of the winning works represented in the programme: Michael Zev Gordon's *This Night* (Choral Award); James MacMillan's *The Canticle of Zachariah and Data est mihi omnis potestas* (Liturgical Award); Judith Bingham's *Fantasia* (Instrumental Solo/Duo Award); and Joe Cutler's *Folk Music* (Chamber Award). In the words of the Guardian, *Folk Music* which was inspired by the traditional music of the Ukraine and Poland "...allows for knee-jiggling joy and mind-buzzing excitement as the ear follows the intricate interweaving of ideas".

Sir John Tavener and Sir Harrison Birtwistle, who have been nominated on numerous occasions are represented by *Ex Maria Virgine* (Liturgical Award 2009) and *Crowd* (Instrumental Solo/Duo Award 2007) respectively; Ruth Byrchmore by *A Birthday* (Liturgical Award 2005); Tarik O'Regan *Threshold of Night* (Liturgical Award 2007); and Gary Carpenter by *Azaleas*, winner of the Chamber Award 2006.

The Concert follows hot on the heels of the announcement of the winners of the 10th British Composer Awards at Goldsmiths' Hall on Monday 3 December. The 13 category strong shortlist - which focus on contemporary, classical and jazz compositions - will be made public on Thursday 25 October. The award ceremony will open with

Endymion's performance of the 2012 winning work in the student competition.

Instigated by BASCA in 2003, the British Composer Awards exist to promote the art of composition, to recognise the creative talent of composers who live and work in the UK and to bring contemporary music to a wider audience.

BASCA and BCA chairman Sarah Rodgers says, "We are immensely proud of the British Composer Awards. In a short span of years, they have come to represent a spectrum of the diversity and excellence that is the best of contemporary classical and jazz composition in the British Isles. The past 10 years have unveiled a new generation of composers of breath-taking vitality and originality. Whilst the British Composer Awards can continue to champion today's composers and bring light to new talent, BASCA will continue to devote resources to making sure that composers are recognised and celebrated."

After the presentation on 3 December and the concert on 5 December, BBC Radio 3 will broadcast a feature on the British Composer Awards on Sunday 9 December. Additionally, the shortlist will be discussed on air in the week preceding the Awards.

The British Composers Awards 10th Anniversary Concert has been generously supported by the RVW Trust.

www.britishcomposerawards.com

Thursday 25 October	British Composer Awards short-list announced
Saturday 1 December	BBC Radio 3, <i>Hear and Now</i>, 11pm
Monday 3 December	British Composer Awards, Goldsmiths Hall
Wednesday 5 December	10th Anniversary Concert, Purcell Room at Queen Elizabeth Hall, 7.45pm
Sunday 9 December	BBC Radio 3 Sunday Concert featuring the 2012 British Composer Awards, 2pm

For Further Information:

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British Composer Awards

10th Anniversary Concert

Date:

Wednesday 5 December at 7.45pm

Venue:

Purcell Room, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Southbank Centre

Programme:

Judith Bingham	Fantasia
Gabriel Jackson	O Doctor Optime
Sir John Tavener	Ex Maria Virgine: Verbum caro
	Rocking
James MacMillan	The Canticle of Zachariah
	Data est mihi omnis potestas
Sir Harrison Birtwistle	Crowd
Anthony Payne	String Quartet No.2
Ruth Brychmore	A Birthday
Michael Zev Gordon	This Night
Tarik O'Regan	Threshold of Night
Gary Carpenter	Azaleas
Joe Cutler	Folk Music

Performing:

Endymion: Philip Venables, director

Vasari Singers: Jeremy Backhouse, conductor

Tickets:

£15 (limited concessions available)

Box Office:

0844 847 9910

Online:

www.southbankcentre.co.uk

About BASCA

BASCA, the British Academy of Songwriters, Composers and Authors, is the professional association for music writers of all genres in the UK. With membership approaching 2,000, it is the single voice for British music creators.

BASCA works to foster a sense of community amongst songwriters, lyricists and composers, and to campaign on their behalf in the domestic, European and international political arenas. As the only association in the country made up entirely of music writers, the organisation has an unparalleled insight into the issues affecting music creators in the UK today. We work closely with our members, keeping them informed in a constantly changing environment via our publications, websites, seminars and professional networking events. BASCA also presents the Ivor Novello Awards, British Composer Awards and Gold Badge Awards annually.

Membership of BASCA is open to working songwriters who are members of a royalty collection society, such as PRS for Music, BMI or ASCAP.

Academy Fellows: John Adams, David Arnold, Malcolm Arnold, John Barry, Don Black, Pierre Boulez, John Dankworth, David Ferguson, George Fenton, Elton John, Barry Gibb, Maurice Gibb, Robin Gibb, Andrew Lloyd Webber, Paul McCartney, Peter Maxwell Davies and Tim Rice.

www.basca.org.uk