

For Immediate Release

4 May 2012

Hong Kong

**Prolific Classical Recording Pianist, Ronald Brautigam
Joins Debuting Conductor Paul McCreesh for
“Moments in the Sun” (25 & 26 May)
Opening performance sponsored by CIC Investor Services Limited**

Inspired by the dramatic peaks of the Swiss Alps and the warm sunshine of Italy, Mendelssohn’s First Piano Concerto was one of the first concertos recorded in 1995 by a young Dutch pianist, [Ronald Brautigam](#) . Now, almost 20 years and 50 CDs later, Brautigam will be joined by 2008 Gramophone Award winner, conductor [Paul McCreesh](#) in this very same piece. **Mozart+:** “**Brautigam plays Mendelssohn**” concerts will be held at **8pm, 25 & 26 May 2012 (Fri & Sat) in Hong Kong City Hall Concert Hall.**

The rest of the popular programme includes Schubert’s *Rosamunde*: Ballet Music II & Entr’acte III, Mozart’s Symphony No. 34 in C and Beethoven’s Symphony No.8 in F.

Tickets, priced at \$320, 240, 180 and 120, are available at URBTIX. Programme Enquiries: 2721 2030.

The opening performance is sponsored by CIC Investor Services Limited.

A programme commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Hong Kong City Hall

Ronald Brautigam, piano

“...his decorative playing flowed ‘like oil’..”

---*The Independent*

Ronald Brautigam, one of Holland’s leading musicians, is remarkable not only for his virtuosity and musicality but also for the eclectic nature of his musical interests. He studied in Amsterdam, London and the USA – with Rudolf Serkin. In 1984 he was awarded the Nederlandse Muziekprijs, the highest

musical award. He performs regularly with leading European orchestras under distinguished conductors such as Riccardo Chailly, Charles Dutoit, Bernard Haitink, Frans Brüggen, Philippe Herreweghe, Christopher Hogwood, Iván Fischer and Edo de Waart.

One of the most successful recording classical artists, Brautigam has more than 50 titles released so far. His recordings have earned him 2 Edison Awards, 2 Diapasons d'Or and 1 Diapason d'Or de l'année, eight Choc de Mois (*le Monde de la Musique*) and in Cannes two MIDEM Classical Awards, for the best solo recording in 2004 and in 2010 the prestigious Concerto Award for the recording of Beethoven's Piano concertos No.2 and 4.

Paul McCreesh, conductor

“Paul McCreesh was like a magician, bringing his precise mental image of the piece, with all its richness of tone colours, to life...”

---*Kölnische Rundschau*

Paul McCreesh has established himself at the highest levels in both the period instrument and modern orchestral fields through his guest conducting and his work with the Gabrieli Consort & Players, of which he is the founder and Artistic Director. Recognized for his authoritative and innovative performances on the concert platform and in the opera house, he has performed in major concert halls and festivals across the world. As guest conductor McCreesh works regularly with many of Europe's orchestras and increasingly on large-scale choral projects. In the 2011/12 season, McCreesh returns to the Danish National Symphony with Sol Gabetta and makes his debuts with the Orchestre National de Lyon, Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra (USA), Malaysian and Hong Kong Philharmonic orchestras.

Director of Brinkburn Music in UK and Artistic Director of Wratislavia Cantans Festival in Poland, Paul McCreesh has a large catalogue of award-winning recordings with Deutsche Grammophon and in July 2011 launched his own record label – Winged Lion – in collaboration with the Gabrieli Consort & Players, Signum Classics, and the Wratislavia Cantans Festival.

Programme

Some musical works earn just a moment in the sun, while others become perennial classics. Schubert's incidental music for the play *Rosamunde* all but vanished for 60 years. Now it is among his best loved pieces.

Mendelssohn's first piano concerto was so popular in its day that legend has it one piano learned to play the work all by itself! The sublime Ronald Brautigam will do the honours for our performance. Perhaps no less famous is Mozart's 34th symphony, whose opening bars shine with Classical optimism.

Beethoven's eighth symphony might seem to live in the shade of its mighty neighbours, the seventh and ninth, but the eighth is nevertheless among the greats - Beethoven at his sunniest and most optimistic.

Mozart +: Brautigam Plays Mendelssohn

25&26 | 5 | 2012

FRI & SAT 8PM

HK City Hall Concert Hall

HK\$320 \$240 \$180 \$120

Available at URBTIX now

Opening Performance is sponsored by CIC Investor Services Limited

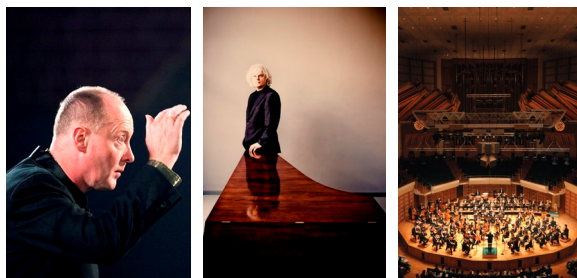
Programme Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Hong Kong City Hall

Artists

[Paul McCreesh](#) conductor

[Ronald Brautigam](#) piano

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Programme

MOZART Symphony No 34, K.338

MENDELSSOHN Piano Concerto No.1

SCHUBERT *Rosamunde*: Ballet Music No.2

SCHUBERT *Rosamunde*: Entr'acte III

BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 8

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Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra

Edo de Waart

Artistic Director and Chief Conductor

The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra (HKPO) is one of Asia's leading orchestras. Enriching Hong Kong's cultural life for over a century, the Orchestra has grown into a formidable ensemble of Chinese and international talents, attracting world-class artists to collaborate on its stage. The HKPO annually touches the lives of over 200,000 music lovers through more than 150 performances. Under the leadership of Artistic Director and Chief Conductor Edo de Waart, the HKPO has scaled new heights of musical excellence, and will continue to do so under the artistic leadership of Jaap van Zweden, the Orchestra's Music Director from the 2012/13 season.

The HKPO stays in tune with our city by presenting the Orchestra in unexpected venues and bringing the excitement of the concert experience to every home through radio and television broadcasts including the largest symphonic event of the year, Swire Symphony under the Stars, at Happy Valley. The Orchestra runs a comprehensive schools education programme, HSBC Insurance Creative Notes, bringing the joy of classical music to primary, secondary and special school kids. The Orchestra also collaborates regularly with other performing arts organisations such as Opera Hong Kong in addition to its crossover series with Western and Chinese pop artists.

The Orchestra also builds its reputation and raises its artistic standards by touring. In September 2010, de Waart and the HKPO returned to China, performing at the Expo 2010 Shanghai, Xi'an and Beijing to critical acclaim.

The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra is financially supported by the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

SWIRE is the Principal Patron of the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra

The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra is the Venue Partner of the Hong Kong Cultural Centre