

**Music**  
**Professional Lunchtime Concert Series**

presents

**Stephane Ginsburgh, *piano***

Monday 12 November 2012

1pm

Turner Sims

**Popular Contexts volume 2**

Matthew Shlomowitz

for piano, sampler, voice and physical actions

UK premiere, commission by Centre Henri Pousseur 2010

**De Profundis for speaking pianist (1992)**

Frederic Rzewski

**Stephane Ginsburgh**, Brussels based pianist, collaborated with many composers such as Vyckintas Baltakas, Philippe Boesmans, Renaud De Putter, Jean-Luc Fafchamps, Fabian Fiorini, David Helbich, Panayiotis Kokoras, Pierre Kolp, Philipp Maintz, Benoît Mernier, Stefan Prins, André Ristic, Matthew Shlomowitz and Juan Carlos Tolosa and performed in numerous festivals such as Ars Musica (Brussels) and Agora (Paris). He often associates repertoire from different periods in his concerts and proposes new combinations with his instrument, percussion, electronics, voice, video and actions. He is artistic director of the Centre Henri Pousseur, studio for electronic music based in Liège and of SONAR a concert organisation based in Brussels. His implication in concert organisation meets the necessity for artists to engage into collective action. He regularly plays with Ictus Ensemble and collaborated with visual artist Peter Downsbrough and choreographers Anne Teresa De Keermaeker (Rosas), Johanne Saunier (Joji inc.) and Claudio Bernardo (As Palavras). He is assistant professor for piano at the Royal Conservatory and also teaches piano, philosophy and sociology at the Dalcroze Institute, both in Brussels. His CDs are published by Sub Rosa label (Feldman, Duchamp, Satie, Fafchamps) and he will record the complete Prokofiev piano sonatas for Cypres Records.

[www.ginsburgh.net](http://www.ginsburgh.net)

Matthew Shlomowitz

Popular Contexts volume 2 for piano, sampler, voice and physical actions  
(UK premiere, commission by Centre Henri Pousseur 2010)

Popular Contexts is a series of pieces that investigate aspects of everyday and popular culture with the aspiration of opening up a listening experience that enhances perception of the familiar and draws attention to sounds that we usually ignore or don't take seriously. Like Volume 1, this volume combines pre-recorded sounds with live instrumental music. The recordings consist of familiar sounds such as a rollercoaster ride, strummed guitar chords, electronic machine noises and New Year's Eve celebrations. The instrumental music is equally varied, made of melodies, chord progressions and textures that evoke various musical idioms. In this volume, the performer additionally speaks and enacts physical movements to further explore everyday and popular culture, as well as relationships between text, action, recorded sound and music. (Matthew Shlomowitz: [www.shlom.com](http://www.shlom.com))

Frederic Rzewski

De Profundis for speaking pianist (1992)

De Profundis is a 30-minute composition for piano solo, in which the pianist recites a text consisting of selected passages adapted from Oscar Wilde's letter to Lord Alfred Douglas, written during the author's imprisonment for "gross indecency" in Reading Gaol. The piece could be described as a melodramatic oratorio, in which eight sections with text are preceded by eight instrumental preludes. My composition was inspired by Luke Theodore, an old friend from the Living Theatre to whom the piece is also dedicated. Luke went out to San Diego in the early '80s to start his own theatre. When I visited him in 1984 he was performing a play he and his group had put together on the subject of prisons. It included some material from the Living Theatre's "Frankenstein" and a very lyrical and moving reading of episodes from Oscar Wilde. I had read the play's book, but in Luke's performance I was struck by the power of the writing. In 1989 the filmmaker Larry Brose asked me to write a piece for the pianist Anthony de Mare that could serve as the basis for a film. [...] All of us as well shared an interest in the politics of sexuality. The piece was finally written in the Summer of 1992. Since then it has been performed by a number of pianists, gay, straight, male and female. [...] The music demands a combination of virtuoso technique and a total lack of inhibition on stage, thus virtually guaranteeing that no mediocre or conventional performer will dare to go near it.

(Frederic Rzewski for Nonesuch Records)

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## Next concert

### Student Recital Series (to be confirmed)

Students from the Music Department  
at the University of Southampton  
perform short programmes.

Please call Turner Sims on 023 8059 5151 or check  
[www.soton.ac.uk/music](http://www.soton.ac.uk/music) for confirmation on Thursday.

Friday 16 November 2012

1pm

Turner Sims  
Free admission

