



PRESS RELEASE For Immediate Release

May 2006

Crotchets and Cream Tea...

August Afternoon Tea Concerts at St Martin-in-the-Fields



St Martin's has started the first phase of its £36 million renewal project but behind the hoarding it is business as usual. This August sees the start of a new series of **Afternoon Tea Concerts**. Every Wednesday in August at 3.30pm, some of London's best young musicians will perform an hour of music in the beautiful and tranquil surroundings of this 18th century church. Concerts last one hour and are designed to offer a musical respite from hot and humid London. Concert-goers can complete the experience with a traditional English tea in the award-winning Café in the Crypt before or after the concert and receive 20% discount on the afternoon tea range in the Shop in the Crypt.

St Martin's has a long history of supporting young talent and we are delighted to be working with the Concordia Foundation for this series. The Concordia Foundation supports young artists by providing support and coaching and giving them opportunities to perform for large audiences. All the performers featured in the series are Concordia Foundation musicians.

Tickets priced £6 (concert and afternoon tea) and £3.50 (concert only) are available from the box office on 020 7839 8362 or online www.smitf.org.

Concerts take place on:

Wednesday 2 August, 3.30pm

Wednesday 9 August, 3.30pm

Wednesday 16 August, 3.30pm

Wednesday 23 August, 3.30pm

Wednesday 30 August, 3.30pm

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS

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For further information, interviews or photography, please contact Quintilla Hughes at quintilla.hughes@smitf.org or on 020 7766 1130

Notes to Editors

- St Martin-in-the-Fields, with over 350 concerts a year, is one of the busiest music venues in the country. St Martin's **Concerts by Candlelight** series is world-renowned, drawing visitors from all over the world who are attracted by St Martin's superb acoustics, intimate and yet impressive surroundings and outstanding musicians. Concerts take place on some Tuesdays and every Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 7.30pm and include Early and Baroque Music, chamber and world music, song and piano recitals. For more information on St Martin-in-the-Fields please go to www.smitf.org
- The **Concordia Foundation** became a registered charity in 1995 with Yehudi Menuin as patron. It was founded by Gillian Humphreys, international soprano, to provide platforms for young artists; to initiate and develop educational and artistic links between the UK and other countries; to encourage, support and promote young artists who have studied either overseas or at our British music academies and to arrange exchange visits by young artists between the UK and overseas.

Visits have been made to Vietnam to perform Mascagni's *Cavalleria Rusticana* at the Ho Chi Minh Opera House in 2000, and Leoncavallo's *Pagliacci* at the Hanoi Opera House in 2005, following the earlier launch of the Concordia Concerto series in Hanoi; to present musical workshops at orphanages in Romania, the Philippines and Thailand and also cultural exchange visits with Australia, Argentina and Myanmar to raise funds for local charities.

A vital aspect of the work of the Foundation is the development of the Concordia Children's Educational Programme, which provides much needed music workshops and concerts for young people, often giving them their first experience of live classical music with the additional benefit of it performed by artists from around the world.

The Concordia Foundation is delighted to be associated with St Martin-in-the-Fields in the development of a series of tea-time recitals during the month of August 2006. For more information please contact Concordia Foundation, 25 Craven Street, London, WC2N 5NT. 020 7925 2545, E-mail: info@concordiafoundation.com; www.concordiafoundation.com. Registered charity number: 1045967

- **The Café in the Crypt** is open every day for breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea and evening meals. Afternoon tea is served daily from 2pm – 6pm

A wide selection of teas and vintage English china tea sets are available to buy from the **Shop in the Crypt**. English breakfast and Earl Grey are priced at £3.95, Moroccan mint, orange spiced white tea or gunpowder green at £5.50. Katie Pott's Vintage Tea sets start at £19.99.