

CONCERTS

AT THE UNIVERSITY

AUTUMN–WINTER 2014

Tuesday 4 November 2014

1.10pm

Reid Concert Hall

KDKDK

Katharine Durran · piano

Kirsteen Davidson Kelly · piano

Programme of work by **STRAVINSKY**.



THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH
Edinburgh College of Art

The Rite of Spring

Igor Stravinsky (1882–1971)

Scenes of Pagan Russia in Two Parts:

Part One : Adoration of the Earth

Introduction : Lento

The Augurs of Spring

Ritual of Abduction

Spring Round Dances

Ritual of the Rival Tribes

Procession of the Wise Elder

Adoration of the Earth

Dance of the Earth

Part Two : The Sacrifice

Introduction : Largo

Mystic Circles of the Young Girls

Glorification of the Chosen One

Evocation of the Ancestors

Ritual of the Ancestors

Sacrificial Dance

In 1913 Europe was on the brink of the Great War: decadence, exoticism, Expressionism and the volatile interaction between dance, painting, psychoanalysis and music meant that the Western orchestral sound world was rapidly changing forever. The maelstrom created by the clash of late-flourishing Romanticism with the intrepid Avant-Garde produced an outpouring of extrovert and awe-inspiring works, many of which have become pillars of the repertoire. Stravinsky composed at the piano, and much of *The Rite of Spring* seems to explode from under the fingers. Famously, a week before the notorious 1913 Paris première of the ballet, Stravinsky and Debussy played through the piano duo version. Its primal and pivotal place in the history of Western music derives from the powerfully elemental way in which rhythmic and chordal combinations - both the horizontal and vertical elements - are inexorably combined into the ruthless logic of the whole.

KDKDK

Katharine Durran and Kirsteen Davidson Kelly are both based in Moffat, south west Scotland, and have worked together as KDKDK since 2008. They perform some of the most exuberant and virtuosic 20th and 21st-century repertoire for two pianos, including works by Claude Debussy, Gabriel Jackson, George Gershwin and Gustav Holst.

Katharine Durran has developed highly acclaimed parallel careers as solo pianist, exponent of new music, chamber musician and song accompanist. She gave her first concerto performance in Edinburgh at the age of 11. After reading Music at St Catharine's College, Cambridge, she studied at the Royal College of Music under Kendall Taylor and Geoffrey Parsons. For ten years she was pianist of the award-winning group *Tapestry*. Her other ensembles include *Onyx* and the *Giovanni Piano Trio*. Highlights of recent seasons included trio concerts with former BBC Young Musicians of the Year David Pyatt and Rafal Zambrzycki-Payne, recital tours with violinist Madeleine Mitchell and performances of the complete Beethoven 'cello sonatas with Sebastian Comberti. Other recent projects include performing late Beethoven alongside J.S. Bach's *Goldberg Variations* and the commissioning of *New French Song* which involved working with twenty of Britain's leading composers. She has made many broadcast appearances on BBC Radio 3. She has recorded extensively with singers and instrumentalists, and her debut solo album of the complete Toccatas of J.S. Bach received superb reviews.

Kirsteen Davidson Kelly graduated in music from the University of Edinburgh and subsequently studied piano at the Ecole Normale de Musique in Paris and with Nelly Ben-Or in London. She co-founded the innovative ensemble *Piano Circus* where she stayed for thirteen years, commissioning and performing works by composers such as Julia Wolfe, David Lang, Graham Fitkin and Nikki Yeoh, and appearing at major venues internationally. She has recorded extensively for Decca and other labels, including classic works by Stravinsky, Steve Reich, Terry Riley and Graham Fitkin, and Piano Circus' critically acclaimed CD *Transmission*, which she co-produced. Kirsteen regularly performs work by Max Richter, including *Waltz with Bashir* Live with the Philharmonia Orchestra at London Southbank's Meltdown Festival 2014, and *Vivaldi Recomposed* with Daniel Hope at the Merano Festival 2013. She has an ongoing collaboration with composer Vroni Holzmann and has recently recorded Vroni's new piano cycle *Dream Tree*, to be released later this month. In 2014 Kirsteen completed her doctorate on mental imagery rehearsal strategies for expert pianists at the University of Edinburgh.

FORTHCOMING CONCERTS:

Thursday 6 November

7.30pm

Reid Concert Hall

Metamorphoses

Performed by Grey Area, Martin Parker.

PLEASE NOTE, DUE TO ILLNESS, THIS CONCERT HAS BEEN POSTPONED
UNTIL THE NEW YEAR.

Friday 7 November

1.10pm

Reid Concert Hall

Roderick Long · violin

Fiona Bryce-Murdoch · violin

Joanna Galbraith · viola

Lindsay Martindale · cello

Rosie Townhill · cello

SCHUBERT String Quintet in C major D956

ADMISSION FREE

Tuesday 11 November

1.10pm

Reid Concert Hall

Performances by Music students from the University of Edinburgh

ADMISSION FREE

Friday 14 November

1.10pm

McEwan Hall

Edinburgh University Singers

John Kitchen · conductor and organ

Calum Robertson · conductor

PARRY Blest pair of sirens

PARRY I was glad

STANFORD Magnificat Op. 164

FINZI Part songs

ADMISSION FREE