



Wigmore Hall announces start of live streaming

Recitals and events to be opened up to viewers around the world

Thursday 28 January 2016 8.00pm

**FREE worldwide access at:
www.wigmore-hall.org.uk/live/stream**

London's Wigmore Hall – the leading international venue for chamber music and song and one of the UK's flagship cultural organisations – today announces the first event to be streamed, hailing a new era of international access to some of its many recitals and events.

Such is the success of the programming by the Hall's Chief Executive and Artistic Director **John Gilhooly**, most recitals at the Hall play to capacity or near-capacity audiences. Attendances at Wigmore Hall have almost doubled from 120,000 a decade ago to over 200,000 in 2015/16. Its award-winning record label, Wigmore Hall Live, as well as regular BBC Radio 3 broadcasts already ensure wider access to the venue's unrivalled programme of concerts and events – including an astonishing number that comprises 488 concerts and as many Learning events next season. The Hall will now enable more people than ever to experience some of the glories of Wigmore Hall's work.

Its first streamed event takes place on Thursday 28 January 2016, to coincide with the venue's 2016/17 Season Launch, and features an interview with **John Gilhooly**, who will discuss the programme for 2016/17, followed by performances from Berlin's **Armida Quartet**, soprano **Anna Lucia Richter** with pianist **Michael Gees**, and baritone **Andrè Schuen** with pianist **Daniel Heide**, all especially chosen by John Gilhooly for this occasion.

John Gilhooly, Chief Executive and Artistic Director of Wigmore Hall, says:

'People around the world want to engage with us and we are committed to sharing everything we do with the widest possible audience – from our extensive artistic programme, our dedication to new work and developing artists, our influential Learning programme, and award-winning record label. It is our responsibility to actively promote the arts, to make them as accessible as possible beyond the Hall and into the wider communities, and this is made possible by a new and stronger presence in the digital world.'

Future live-streamed concerts will be announced in due course, and will grow season-by-season so that they become an integral part of the Hall's operations. Following the first stream on 28 January, future plans for live streaming include the Irish Culture in Britain: A Centenary Celebration Gala Concert on Thursday 21 April 2016 at 7.30pm.

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