

Stephen Kovacevich

13 November 2009

Presented by City Recital Hall Angel Place



Program

BACH Partita No.4

SCHUMANN Kinderszenen

Interval

BEETHOVEN Diabelli Variations

Stephen Kovacevich has won unsurpassed admiration for his playing of Beethoven, Brahms, Mozart and Schubert. In addition to his long and distinguished career as a soloist he has conducted for many years, winning warm praise for his work with orchestras throughout the world in repertoire from the 18th and 19th centuries.

Born in Los Angeles, Stephen Kovacevich made his concert debut as a pianist at the age of 11. His international reputation has been built both on his concert appearances, renowned for their thoughtfulness and re-creative intensity, and on the highly acclaimed recordings he has made throughout his career. Stephen has appeared with orchestras worldwide. In recent years he has performed all the Beethoven concertos and symphonies as conductor / soloist with the London Mozart Players. Recent and forthcoming highlights include concerto appearances with Rotterdam Philharmonic under Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Montreal Symphony Orchestra under Kent Nagano, Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra and Orchestre Philharmonique de Monte-Carlo, and recitals in London, Tanglewood, Chicago, Houston, Sydney, Brisbane, Beijing and Shanghai. Stephen has recently released to unanimous critical praise Beethoven's *Diabelli Variations* for Onyx Classics, exactly 40 years after his first recording of the work for Philips in 1968.

Stephen is also a committed chamber musician. During the 2008/09 season he had a mini-residency of Brahms and Bartok chamber music at the Wigmore Hall. Other appearances include chamber recitals at the Amsterdam Concertgebouw and the Vienna Musikverein.

'Perhaps nobody else can play the piano with this degree of precision and turn it to such musically intense ends.' The Independent