

National Press Reviews

PLG Young Artists New Year Series, 2011

THE GUARDIAN

No one would accuse the Park Lane Group's annual showcase of young talent of lacking variety... thrilling to hear when played with this kind of precision and sensitivity ... an evidently gifted composer as well as performer ... packing punch and promise ... a beguilingly open-toned voice ...

DAILY TELEGRAPH

Every year it comes around: a parade of brilliant young musicians ... real musical pleasure ... a blizzard of modernist poly-rhythms with computer-like precision ... eloquent performance ... something to enjoy rather than merely cope with ... a lovely soft-edged appeal ... strong performances with real relish ... a powerful, poised impression

THE TIMES

Invigorating series of ten recitals ... superb young instrumentalists ... a bold and brilliant bunch ... sensuously and scintillatingly delivered ... superbly executed ... A composer who knows how to exploit fully the possibilities of his instrument ... Thrilling moments ... beautifully languid songs ... glittering piano effects and expressive vocal lines ... brilliant control and refined tones ... confident and stylish musicians ... another future star ... a sparkling course ... refined technique, kissed by poetry ...

CLASSICALSOURCE – on line

... a brilliant start to the week ... the music's gracefulness was rather lovely and the witty fade-away was beautifully managed ... persuasive performers ... a notable duo ... a lively performer, vividly living the words ... well-judged characterisations ... a sensitive accompanist ... surely destined to become a front-runner ... rapt and involving playing throughout ... awesome but restrained technical ability ... remarkably fresh and intuitive response ... a real pleasure to have expectations and assumptions so thoroughly confounded ... strongly communicative acting style and an equally strong attractive voice ... hugely accomplished young musicians ... virtuosic and exciting playing ... If that's star quality, Savournin's got it. So does his pianist, James Young.

PLG Young Artists New Year Series, 2010

THE STRAD

Tamsin Waley-Cohen showed her mettle from the outset ... a blisteringly fine reading ... its frenetic energy ... The world premiere of Richard Causton's Fantasy and Air was full of vibrant colour and played with a strength of feeling and expression that characterised Waley-Cohen's whole performance. Waley-Cohen showed impeccable command and agility here, particularly in its fearsome fugue ... brilliant Latvian accordionist Ksenija Sidorova ... incredible sonorities and textures ... the yearning beauty of Barber's String Quartet ... playing with a brittle intimacy ... technically these players were superb, and their ensemble sound well judged.

THE TIMES

... the contents are often miraculous ... will be remembered as one of the real finds of this series ... minute controlled finger technique and again incarnating every breath of the music ... held us in rapt attention with her daring and

undaunted performances of an enticing PLG commission ... properly virtuosic ... another promising pianist of clean fingers and ambition ... smartly delivered ... poise, blended tone and general lustre ... liquid golden tones and enviable breath control ... an ensemble of almost frightening sheen ... high degree of passion and promise ... they were the night's stars ... exuberant panache, shaded colours and controlled ensemble ...

LONDON EVENING STANDARD

Rising Park Lane stars pass the test ... a vibrant personality ... an intensity that was hard to resist ... fluttered and swooped to dazzling effect.

THE GUARDIAN

... a fine player ... fearless intensity ...

CLASSICALSOURCE – on line

... impressive showcase ... deep expressiveness ... compelling account ... a flawless display ... a knockout performance ... an amazingly accomplished artist ... flowing, deeply-felt and dignified ... lucidity and dedication ... high-octane account ... formidable articulation ... a hair-raising close fairly brought the house down ... the makings of a natural accompanist ... an impressive performance ... a constant pleasure ... considerable technical challenges were confidently surmounted ... an ensemble from whom we will doubtless be hearing more ... In total control ... an exceptional performance ... played with freedom and range of expression ... prodigiously gifted ... emotionally charged and superbly virtuosic playing ... a very impressive player ... big, romantic style ...

PLG Young Artists New Year Series, 2009

THE TIMES

... a young and fearless soprano ... ever-sentient piano playing ... every challenge in the book ... the star of the evening ... musical intelligence, sensitivity and skill ... passion and perception ... huge panache ... the finesse and flair of this ensemble ... beautifully sensitive cello playing ... the real high point of the evening ... her sparky dexterity and sheer physical strength had already surfaced ... evident delight in drawing out every wonderfully subtle and zany imagining

DAILY TELEGRAPH

"The annual showcase for talented young musicians in contemporary repertoire."

FINANCIAL TIMES

... for more than 50 years talented young artists have had the Park Lane Group to help them ... everyone has carte blanche to be adventurous ... graceful aplomb, silvery tone and lightness of touch ... engaging delicacy ... an artist whose age is irrelevant to his musical maturity ... quietly impressive ... one of those rare musicians who makes you unaware of technique – and eager to hear again."

LONDON EVENING STANDARD

"... wit and a kind of fervent grace in unfeasibly difficult music ... delivered with technical assurance and complete emotional involvement. All these performers will develop and mature. Remember their names."

THE OBSERVER

"Bursting with talent and brimming with pride, every year like the promise of spring the pick of Britain's finest young musicians parade into London's Purcell Room with a whole landscape of opportunity lying before them ... there are jewels to be found here ... opened up a whole jewellery's shop ... deeply sensual account ... agile, expressive face and crystal-clear diction ... deep appreciation of form and structure ... brilliant reading ...

a young composer to watch ... judged it beautifully ... a rhapsody of great haunting beauty ... a hilarious evocation of gusty seaside weather ... glorious meditation ..."

THE GUARDIAN

"... spirited musicianship ... tension and virtuosity that showed the strengths of a flamboyant piece ..."

INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY

"The quality of the performances remained extraordinarily high ... strong and impressive ..."

THE TATLER

"Keys to success ... young talent"

TIME OUT

"The PLG Young Artists New Year Series once again features a week of talented instrumentalists showing their chops in inventive combinations and thoroughly modern programming."

CLASSICAL SOURCE – on line

"... the cream of young musicians ... a haunting impression ...a commanding recital ... whimsical imagination ... a poised performer ...held the audience spellbound ... a very gifted player ... much achievement and considerable promise ... a magnificent account ...excellent performances ...quite outstanding ... great music is alive and well in a very fine performance ... a highly effective showcase ... performances of commitment and flair ... hugely impressive ... the highly successful format of juxtaposing two very different instrumental combinations ...finely executed ... expressive fervour ... poise and finesse ... persuasive exponents ... electrifying effect ... musically inspiring .."

MUSICAL POINTERS – on line

... complete security and enviable aplomb ...sure control ... deft touch a sultry, commanding presence ... competitive instincts and electric imaginations ..."
