

WILLIAM HOWARD is established as one of Britain's leading pianists, enjoying a career that has taken him to over 40 different countries. His performing life consists of solo recitals, concerto performances, guest appearances with chamber ensembles and instrumentalists, and regular touring with the Schubert Ensemble of London, Britain's leading group for piano and strings and winners of the Royal Philharmonic Society Award for Best Chamber Ensemble. He can be heard on over 30 CDs, released by Chandos, Hyperion, ASV, NMC, Collins Classics, Black Box and Champs Hill.

His solo career has taken him to many of Britain's most important festivals, including Bath, Brighton and Cheltenham, and he has been artist in residence at several others. He has performed many times in the Wigmore Hall and the South Bank in London and has broadcast regularly for BBC Radio 3. For many years he has been invited to perform and teach at the Dartington International Summer School. His recording of Dvořák Piano Works was selected in the Gramophone Critics' Choice, and his recording of Fibich's *Moods, Impressions and Souvenirs* won a Diapason D'Or award in France.

Recent solo engagements have included performances at the Leamington, Petworth, Paxton and Spitalfields Festivals, at Kings Place in London and in Oregon, USA. His most recent recording, released in April 2011, is of Pavel Zemek Novák's extraordinary 75-minute cycle of 24 Preludes and Fugues, described by David Matthews as "*one of the finest piano works of our time.*" A double five-star review in the BBC Music Magazine (October 2011) described the performance as "*superb*" and the music "*a real discovery*".

He is passionate about 19th century piano repertoire, especially Schubert, Chopin, Schumann and Fauré. He also has a strong interest in Czech piano music, and has been particularly acclaimed for his performance of Janáček, for which he received a medal from the Czech Minister of Culture in 1986. Many leading composers of the present day have written for him, including Sally Beamish, Petr Eben, Piers Hellawell, David Matthews, Pavel Novák, Anthony Powers, Howard Skempton and Judith Weir.

"A pianist of quite special lustrousness and versatility..." **The Independent**

"lyrically eloquent playing" **Los Angeles Times, USA**

"superb pianism" **Classic CD**

"An astonishing interpreter" **Diapason, France**

"A thoroughly musical talent..." **The Times**

"Always alive and interesting..." **The Herald**

"Authority and eloquence..." **Gramophone**