



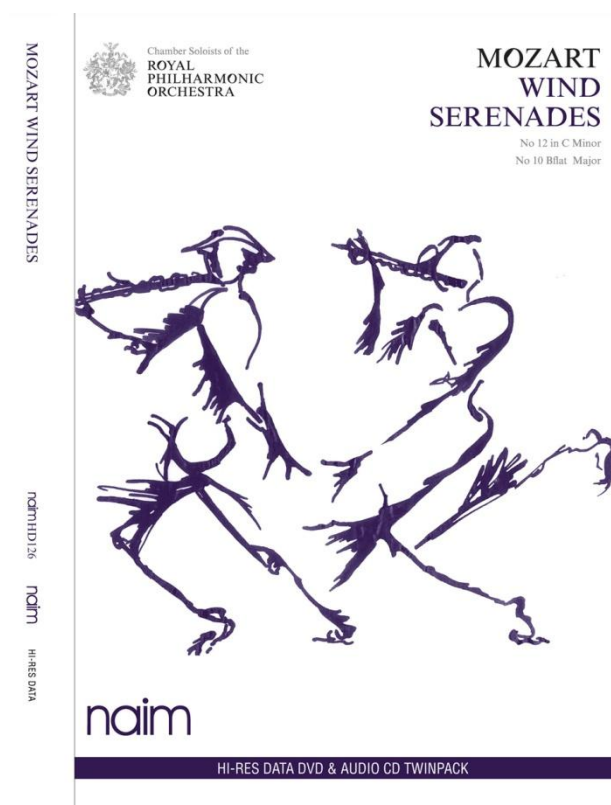
PRESS RELEASE

Naim Classical label launches with Hi-Res Audio and CD releases

CD and Hi-Resolution Audio Data DVD in Dual Pack available now

The first two releases: Mozart Wind Serenades with the Chamber Soloists of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and Hands on Heart, a live concert in memory of the brother of cellist Tim Hugh, were both recorded in hi-res digital (24Bit 88.2kHz) by Grammy award-winning Tony Faulkner.

Music and hi-fi enthusiasts with Naim HDX hard disc players, NaimNet Music Servers, many other brands of servers and streams and even computers with high quality sound cards will be able to hear the performances as Tony Faulkner recorded them - in hi-res 24Bit 88.2kHz digital audio.



The pack includes a CD for compatibility with traditional CD players and a DVD Data disc containing the hi-res audio files in the highest quality wav format. Naim and the Naim Label do not consider the compromise of compression of audio files to be worthwhile, considering the ever decreasing price of hard disc space.

This is the Naim Label's first release of any material in hi-res digital. The label has been experimenting with and assessing the possibilities of releasing a good proportion of its back catalogue in either 24Bit 88.2kHz format if it was recorded digitally or 24Bit 96kHz if originally recorded in analogue form.

Expect to see a succession of releases during 2009.

Hi-res digital audio brings an audio quality far superior to conventional CD. Listening tests indicate a level of detail previously unheard and an increase in realism of the sound that brings the listener far closer to the music and the performance.

NAIM AUDIO LIMITED

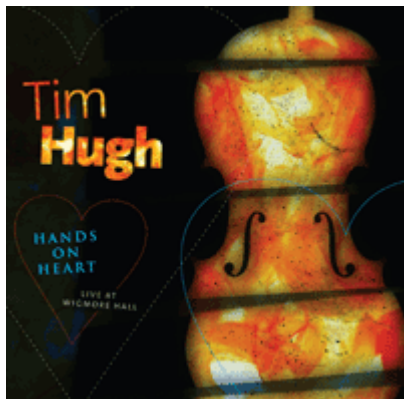
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Tim Hugh

Hands On Heart (Live At Wigmore Hall)



Track Listing

- | | | |
|-----|--|------|
| 1. | Bartok Rhapsody No1 <i>Lassu</i> | 5:20 |
| 2. | Bartok Rhapsody No1 <i>Friss</i> | 6:03 |
| 3. | Kodaly Sonata for Solo Cello <i>Allegro Maestoso</i> | 4:52 |
| 4. | Kodaly Sonata for Solo Cello <i>Adagio</i> | 5:09 |
| 5. | Kodaly Sonata for Solo Cello <i>Allegro M. Vivace</i> | 3:51 |
| 6. | Piazzolla Le Grand Tango | 3:29 |
| 7. | Rachmaninov Ne Poy Krasavitsa | 3:25 |
| 8. | Paganini Moses in Egypt <i>Variation on a Theme</i> | 3:17 |
| 9. | Glasunov Chant du Menestrel | 3:43 |
| 10. | Rimsky-Korsakov Flight of the Bumble Bee | 1:36 |
| 11. | Faure Apres un Reve | 2:23 |

Total Time: 72:14

Tim Hugh - cello

Olga Sitkovetsky - piano

Recorded, engineered, produced and mastered by Tony Faulkner

Recorded at Wigmore Hall, London on 26th November 2007





Tim Hugh, principle cellist of the London Symphony Orchestra, is widely regarded as the one of the great British cellists of the 21st century. This recording also features top Russian accompanist Olga Sitkovetsky (piano).

In 2005, Steve Hugh, Tim's older brother, unexpectedly died of a heart attack. This recording was made on 26th November 2007 among the famous acoustics and architecture of the Wigmore Hall in London, at 'A Concert for Steve' www.concertforsteve.org that the Hugh family had arranged in order to raise funds for the charity, British Heart Foundation.

Naim is proud to be donating 20% of every disc sold to the British Heart Foundation in the United Kingdom who aim to fight Heart disease with groundbreaking research, vital prevention activity and quality care www.bhf.org.uk.

Hands On Heart is an apt and emotional tribute, but also a poignant collection of mixed classical repertoire for cello and piano including a number of colourful encores such as Rimsky-Korsakov's 'Flight of the Bumblebee' and personal favourites such as Faure's 'Après un Reve'.

Tim's cello is by Petrus Roman made in 1708. 300 years old this year. The piano certainly was special - a brand new Steinway D, specially selected for the Wigmore Hall by András Schiff and maintained/tuned by Steinway London.

Chamber Soloists of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra

Mozart Wind Serenades No 12 & No 10

Track Listing

Serenade K388 No 12 in C Minor 'Nacht Musique'

1.	Allegro	8:03
2.	II Andante	3:58
3.	III Menuetto in Canone	4:19
4.	IV Allegro	6:39

Serenade K361 No 10 in B flat Major 'Gran Partita'

5.	I Largo	9:21.6
6.	II Menuetto	8:51
7.	III Adagio	5:10
8.	IV Menuetto – Allegretto	4:56
9.	V Romanze – Adagio	6:13
10.	VI Tema con Variazioni	9:48
11.	VII Rondo	3:41
Total Playing Time:		71:23

Oboes

John Anderson, Timothy Watts

Clarinets / Bassett Horns

Douglas Mitchell, Thomas Watmough, Rachel Brown, Alan Andrews



**Bassoons**

Daniel Jemison, Helen Simons

Contra Bassoon

David Chatterton

French Horns

Martin Owen, Kathryn Saunders, Andrew Fletcher, Philip Woods

Recorded, engineered, produced and mastered by Tony Faulkner

Recorded at Cadogan Hall, London on 21st August 2007

Background Notes from Tony Faulkner

Tim's CD was recorded in the Wigmore Hall which is London's foremost venue for classical chamber music recitals.

"We recorded the concert live, and also recorded a short incomplete dress rehearsal during the previous afternoon to set the microphone positions and balance as well as to have some 'safety net' additional musical material for editing in case we were confronted with a member of the audience coughing all the way through part or the entire concert. In my experience coughs and sneezes from the audience are often the loudest and most extreme audio bandwidth moments in a live concert, so it is helpful to be able to avoid the biggest ones if they might otherwise be distracting."

This system is very different from conventional recording sessions where musicians sit in an empty studio auditorium with no atmosphere from an audience, and a producer barks instructions to them to stop, start and repeat sections or bars of music while he/she collects material to be compiled "mistake free" long after the event. This technique can create recorded accuracy at the expense of performance sterility.

The Wigmore recording was made at 88k2 sampling rate with 24bit resolution, straight on to a SADiE LRX workstation. Once the master was ready for release we created two versions: one at 88k2/24 for the archives and eventual release as high-res, and one for 44k1/16 CD release. The CD 44k1/24 was created with care by downsampling the 88k2 original to 44k1 using my averaging method (i.e. no brickwall filtering) and simple flat dither (2-bits peak-to-peak) down to 16bits. This system works well for classical music and minimises the loss of information inherent in making a traditional master for listening on a CD player.

<http://www.greenroomproductions.biz>



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IMAGES

Images can be downloaded from:

<http://www.audioplus.org.uk/>

About The Naim Label

The Naim Label concept is, and always has been, to produce recordings which are of outstanding performances. The recorded artists are never influenced: the belief is that, far better results can be achieved through allowing musicians the freedom to follow their instincts.

The Naim Label's catalogue presents a wide spectrum of musical possibilities, from intense jazz to inspired contemporary, electrifying acoustic guitar to sublime classical. Operating this way the label celebrates diversity: giving the listener the opportunity to experience an ever-expanding range of music, with consistently high sound quality.

Over the years, people have asked why a successful manufacturer of hi-fi also has its own record label. Naim Audio believed that, with the depth of knowledge which had been acquired from over thirty years of manufacturing state of the art audio equipment, they would be in good stead to contribute positively to the music making process. The success of the Naim Label indicates that the supposition was correct.

For more information please visit www.thenaimlabel.com