

## Stephen Hough



“The most perfect piano playing conceivable” – *The Guardian*

Stephen Hough's singular artistic vision transcends musical fashions and trends. In recognition of his achievements, Hough was awarded a prestigious MacArthur Fellowship in 2001, joining prominent scientists, writers and others who have made unique contributions to contemporary life.

Stephen Hough has appeared with most of the major European and American orchestras under conductors including Abbado, Ashkenazy, Dohnányi, Dutoit, Salonen, Gergiev, and Maazel. He plays recitals regularly in the major halls and concert series around the world, and is a guest at festivals such as Salzburg, La Roque d'Antheron,

Edinburgh, Aldeburgh, Mostly Mozart (New York), Aspen, Ravinia, Tanglewood, Hollywood Bowl, and the BBC Proms, where he has made over a dozen concerto appearances.

Recent orchestral highlights include performances with the New York, Los Angeles and London Philharmonics, Cleveland and Philadelphia Orchestras, London Symphony, and Orchestre National de France. Stephen Hough also toured the US with the Russian National Orchestra led by Vladimir Jurowski and gave his debut performance with the Berlin Philharmonic and Sir Simon Rattle in 2007, which was televised worldwide.

Over the next year, Hough returns to the Boston, Chicago, San Francisco symphonies amongst others; plays recitals in Stern Auditorium, Carnegie Hall and the Royal Festival Hall, London; records all of the Tchaikovsky piano concertos in live concerts with the Minnesota Orchestra led by Osmo Vanska for Hyperion. Other orchestral and recital appearances include visits to London, Berlin, Vienna, Milan, Frankfurt, Moscow, Hong Kong and Sydney, and, in addition, he tours with the Irish Chamber Orchestra as pianist, director and composer.

An exclusive Hyperion recording artist, many of Stephen Hough's catalogue of over 40 CDs have garnered international prizes, including the Deutsche Schallplattenpreis, Diapason d'or, Monde de la musique, several Grammy nominations and eight Gramophone Magazine Awards, including 'Record of the Year' in 1996 and 2003, and the Gramophone 'Gold Disc' Award in 2008, which named his complete Saint-Saëns Piano Concertos with the CBSO and Sakari Oramo, as the best recording of the past 30 years. His most recent release is A Mozart Album, with works by Mozart, Johann Baptist Cramer, Ignaz Friedman, Liszt/Busoni and Hough.

Stephen Hough is also an avid writer and composer. In addition to musical articles and critically-acclaimed CD liner notes, his interest in theology has led to published essays and a book, *The Bible as Prayer*, which was published by Continuum in 2007. In spring, the same year, his cello concerto was premiered by Steven Isserlis and the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic; and in the summer two choral works - *Mass of Innocence and Experience* and

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Missa Mirabilis - were performed at London's Westminster Abbey and Westminster Cathedral respectively. He has also published numerous compositions with Josef Weinberger Ltd.

A resident of London, Hough is a visiting professor at the Royal Academy of Music, and holds the International Chair of Piano Studies at his alma mater, the Royal Northern College in Manchester.

For further information please visit [www.stephenhough.com](http://www.stephenhough.com)

2008/09 season only. Please contact HarrisonParrott if you wish to edit this biography.