

PRESS INVITATION

Pianist Paul Berkowitz makes returns to London after 25 years to release new Schubert CD (5 Sept) and perform at St. John's Smith Square (9 Nov)



5 September | 6pm | Steinway Hall
Album launch event

8 November | 10am – 1pm | Guildhall
Masterclass

9 November | 7:30pm | St. John's
Smith Square
Concert

Schubert Sonata No. 19 in C Minor D958

Schubert Sonata No. 20 in A D959

Schubert Sonata No. 21 in B \flat D960

Paul Berkowitz *piano*

***"He has a voice, a musicality, a bigness of pianism
distinctively his own...his integrity is commanding"***

BBC Music Magazine

Canadian pianist Paul Berkowitz makes his return to the London stage after 25 years to celebrate the culmination of a 30-year Schubert cycle project. Berkowitz will perform Schubert's 19th, 20th and 21st piano sonatas at St. John's Smith Square on 9 November to mark the release of his latest CD on Meridian records. Berkowitz has chosen the final three sonatas for this concert, as they are the works he began his Schubert recording cycle with. This concert will be the first time Berkowitz will have performed the last three Schubert sonatas all in one concert, having been playing them his whole life.

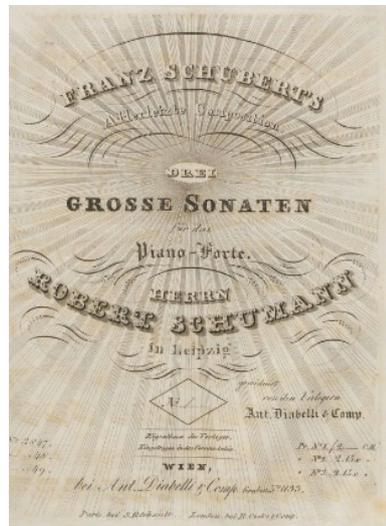
Berkowitz's Schubert project began in 1987 with Meridian records and the releases of the final two CDs in autumn 2017 bring the project to a close. John Shuttleworth - found of Meridian records - went to Berkowitz's Wigmore Hall concert in 1984 and invited him to record with his label, which prompted the pianist to conceive the idea of this full Schubert cycle. Berkowitz's project has been well received by the press, with the Sunday Times claiming he is ***"in the royal class of Schubert interpreters"***.

Ahead of his concert at St. John's Smith Square, Berkowitz will launch the final album of his Schubert project at Steinway Hall on 5 September, which will include a short recital.

Schubert's piano sonatas were written sporadically between 1815 and 1828. Only a handful of the sonatas were printed whilst Schubert was alive, the rest were published in the years following his death.

Paul Berkowitz

Paul Berkowitz has an outstanding international performance career, having toured with great success in the U.S., Canada and Europe. A student of Rudolf Serkin at the Curtis Institute of Music, Professor Berkowitz' recent performances and recordings have focused on the piano music of Beethoven, Schubert, Schumann and Brahms. A recording artist for Meridian Records, his discography includes a seven-volume CD set of the complete **Schubert Piano Sonatas**, as well as Schumann's **Kreisleriana**, which was selected by the BBC Record Review as the best of all available recordings of the work. In 1993, Mr. Berkowitz joined the music faculty at UCSB, having been Professor of Piano at the Guildhall School of Music in London since 1975.



His students have won prizes in many important competitions, including the Charles Heenen International Chamber Music Competition (the Netherlands), the BBC Young Musician of the Year, and the Young Concert Artist Auditions. Mr. Berkowitz has recorded the complete **Piano Sonatas of Schubert** for Meridian Records to worldwide acclaim, winning accolades for "Records of the Year" in the **Sunday Times** of London and the **Los Angeles Times**, as well as CDs of Schumann and Brahms.

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