

**TASMIN LITTLE**  
**takes 'The Naked Violin'**  
**to Maghaberry Prison and the City of Belfast School of Music**

Internationally-renowned violinist **Tasmin Little** is to take her ground-breaking project 'The Naked Violin' to Maghaberry Prison and the City of Belfast School of Music on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May, as part of the Belfast Music Society's new summer recital initiative.

Each workshop will last between 45 minutes and an hour, during which Tasmin will be introducing works specifically written for solo violin and demonstrating the many different faces of this wonderful instrument. The visit to Maghaberry Prison has been facilitated by the Prison Arts Foundation. Tasmin's second workshop, hosted by the City of Belfast School of Music, will be to an audience of c. 150 local school pupils, many of whom are violin students.

Tasmin Little began 'The Naked Violin' project last year, embracing the potential of internet technology and offering a free downloadable recital of works for solo violin alongside an ongoing series of concerts and workshops all over the country. There are now over 6000 international websites linked to Tasmin's site. She received the 2008 Classic FM Gramophone Award for Audience Innovation for 'The Naked Violin', and the project was featured on BBC TV's South Bank Show.

Prior to the 'Naked Violin' workshops Tasmin and regular concert partner, pianist John Lenehan, will be performing in the beautiful surroundings of the Belfast Harbour Commission on Thursday 21 May 2009 at 8.00 pm, the first of a new series of summer events organized by the Belfast Music Society. For this event, Tasmin will be introducing her brand new programme, '**Partners in Time**'. The programme includes popular works by Bach, Mozart and Tchaikovsky, and finishes with Bartok's exhilarating Romanian Folk Dances.

'Partners in Time' was launched by Tasmin earlier this year as a new CD on the BIS label. The CD was named Classic FM's CD of the week in February, and Tasmin has provided free downloadable spoken introductions and musical illustrations for all the works on a new website, [www.partnersintime.eu](http://www.partnersintime.eu)

Sheila Sloan, Chair of BMS, said, "We are thrilled that Tasmin Little will be inaugurating our new Summer Celebrity Recital. She is a wonderful musician and her new programme has just the right mix of music for a summer evening. The venue is absolutely beautiful and we are very grateful to the Belfast Harbour Commission for allowing us to use it. And I can't think of a more inspiring advocate for live music – the workshops on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> should be really inspiring!"

Tasmin has played with many of the world's greatest orchestras in a career that has taken her to every continent of the world. In addition to her regular solo performances, she now play/directs orchestras such as Norwegian Chamber, London Mozart Players, Royal Philharmonic, European Union Chamber Orchestra and Britten Sinfonia. In 2008, Tasmin made her fifteenth appearance at the BBC Promenade Concerts.

She plays a 1757 Guadagnini violin and has, on kind loan from the Royal Academy of Music, the 'Regent' Stradivarius of 1708.

Notes

Full programme for 'Partners in Time'

Kreisler – Praeludium and Allegro

Bach – Sonata in E, BWV 1016

Mozart – Sonata in C, K 296

Grieg – Sonata no 2 in G

Tchaikovsky – 'Mélodie' from Souvenir d'un Lieu Cher

Bartók – Romanian Folk Dances

- The BMS is 88 years old in 2009. The Society has an unbroken record of concert promotion in Belfast since 1921
- Belfast Harbour Commission has disabled access and free parking facilities
- Further information available on the BMS website: [www.belfastmusicsociety.org](http://www.belfastmusicsociety.org)
- Tickets available from Ulster Orchestra booking office, 028 9066 8798; alternatively, tickets may be reserved online at [www.belfastmusicsociety.org](http://www.belfastmusicsociety.org), and paid for by post
- The BMS is funded by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland's National Lottery scheme, and generously supported by Direct Wine Shipments, the Radisson SAS Hotel Belfast, dkni and Friends of the BMS. Its annual Festival of Chamber Music is presented in partnership with BBC Radio 3 and Queen's University School of Music and Sonic Arts.

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