Press Release, September 2013. For immediate release.

Chart Topper Headlines Murphy's Festival Offerings

Embassy Festival, The Hague, Saturday 7 September 2013

Classical / Jazz Programme

Held annually in the beautiful, historic centre of The Hague, the Netherlands' Embassy Festival is a vibrant and cosmopolitan celebration of the world's musical and culinary arts.

Curated by **Australian/Dutch conductor Simon Murphy**, the 2013 festival's classical/jazz stage features a rich variety of musical styles performed by leading international musicians in a series of concert programmes of music from 5 continents with repertoire spanning 5 centuries. The programme offers audiences in a delectable array of musical styles, from refreshing Mediterranean musical *aperitivi* to atmospheric Nordic jazz; from delicate, French impressionist musical portraits to vibrant, modern, new world composition. Music for the ears, eyes, heart, soul and mind.

Programme

Murphy's programme for the successful inaugural edition of the festival in 2012 was opened by Dutch harp superstar Lavinia Meijer, winner of the 2012 Edison Music Award, and featured a wide variety of other international artists, including Boreas Quartett Bremen and the Rembrandt Frerichs Trio.

Headlining this year's festival programme is UK-based **Australian classical saxophonist Amy Dickson** whose new solo album *Dusk and Dawn* (Sony) recently hit no. 1 in the British charts. In her festival concert *New World*, Dickson will perform works by French impressionists alongside compositions written for her by contemporary Australian composers. Opening the 2013 festivities is **Dutch star violinist Frederieke Saeijs** with a programme entitled *Reflections* in which she explores intimate, celebratory and virtuoso works for solo violin by Bach and Ysaye.

Other 2013 festival artists include **Swedish lute virtuoso Karl Nyhlin** performing works from his new CD exploring Jacobean period lute music from England and Scotland, **Ukrainian/American opera diva Julia Kogan** with a recital of comic art songs entitled *Duck Soup*, **ECM recording artist, Norwegian accordionist Frode Haltli** performing a programme of smooth Nordic jazz entitled *Northern Lights*, and **award-winning Canadian soprano Stefanie True** presenting lieder by Mozart, Dussek, Schubert and Robert and Clara Schumann.

The artistic director of the festival's Classical/Jazz stage, Simon Murphy, will also deliver a recital performance at the festival with a programme entitled *Summer Serenade* featuring refreshing works for solo viola by Paganini and Rolla. Other performances feature acclaimed U.S. pianist Bobby Mitchell and Belgian percussionist Koen Plaetinck.

Location

A stone's throw away from the city's historic concert halls, opera houses and art galleries, the tree-lined boulevard of The Hague's Lange Voorhout makes the perfect backdrop for the Embassy Festival's international classical and jazz programme. In this inspiring festival setting, along cobblestone streets once walked by Mozart, Beethoven and Dussek, modern audiences now have

the opportunity to savour some of the world's most exciting contemporary performers in a series of engaging concert presentations.

Other festival offerings include culinary delights from around the world, theatre, street art and more.

Embassy Festival Classical and Jazz Programme http://www.embassyfestival.com/33.html

Embassy Festival Brochure http://issuu.com/prooost/docs/ef_a6_boekje_lr/1

Festival organiser is Prooost in partnership with the city of The Hague.
Major festival sponsors include APM Terminals and ABN AMRO.

Festival Details

Embassy Festival, Lange Voorhout (outside), The Hague

Saturday 7 September 2013, 12:00 to 21:00

Entrance FREE!

www.embassyfestival.com

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For further information on conductor Simon Murphy's other projects and performing activities, visit:

www.simonmurphyconductor.com

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Not for publication

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