



Press Release, Turkey Tour, June 2015

Simon Murphy and The New Dutch Academy at the

### **43<sup>rd</sup> ISTANBUL MUSIC FESTIVAL**

performing the programme

#### **“BACH AND HIS DUTCH CONTEMPORARIES”**

Simon Murphy and The Hague's Baroque orchestra, The New Dutch Academy (NDA), will appear at the 43<sup>rd</sup> Istanbul Music Festival this June performing their internationally successful concert programme “Bach and his Dutch Contemporaries”. Other festival-artists include mezzosoprano Magdalena Kožená, Lars Vogt and the Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie, Arabella Steinbacher and the Lucerne Chamber Orchestra, Yuri Bashmet and the Moscow Soloists, Yuja Wang, Kim Kashkashian, and The Borodin String Quartet.

Created by international award-winning conductor Murphy, the programme celebrates the richness, inventiveness and enormous variety present in the music of the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries – particularly in the music of Bach *and* in the musical gems written by his Dutch contemporaries. Delivering an intimate and personal musical experience, Murphy offers a captivating view of the cosmopolitan European music scene of the period, brought to life in an authentic, immediate, personal and dynamic sound-scape.

The programme features breathtaking Dutch Baroque works by Hacquart – a member of the Huygens circle, organist of the oud-katholieke church in The Hague and the composer of the very first opera written in Dutch – as well as by The Hague statesman Van Wassenaer, by Handel's Dutch concertmaster De Fesch, and by Schickhardt from his revolutionary *L'Alphabet de la musique*, a collection of 24 sonatas with one appearing in each (!) of the musical keys. German star Soprano Gudrun Sidonie Otto will sing classic Bach arias such as “Bist du bei mir” and “Schlummert ein”, and Handel's beautifully rejuvenating spring aria “Meine Seele hört im Sehen”, and recorder virtuoso Elisabeth Champollion will perform Vivaldi's sopranino concerto in C (RV 443).

For the performances in Turkey, Murphy will also include music by Bach's flautist Buffardin and by Bach's brother, both residents of Istanbul in the early 18th century.

In 2006, Murphy toured the programme to Australia, with highly successful subsequent tours to Canada and the US in 2007 and 2009, and Hong Kong and China in 2014. He has performed the programme in various forms throughout Europe on the festival circuit, including at the prestigious Bachfest Leipzig in 2010. In 2013, at home in The Hague, Murphy and the NDA were invited to perform a very special version of the programme for the Dutch Council of State and the Dutch royal family (pictured below).

Murphy and the NDA's appearance at the Istanbul Music Festival is supported by the Embassy and Consulate General of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. During the tour, the NDA give a special concert performance for embassy guests in Ankara, alongside the main festival performance in Istanbul.

Murphy and the NDA's festival performance takes place on Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> of June 2015, at the Netherlands Consulate General, Istanbul, commencing at 10:30.



NDA Concert for the Dutch royal family  
and the members of the Dutch Council of State,  
Gotische Zaal, Raad van State, 2013

## VIDEO AND AUDIO LINKS “BACH AND HIS DUTCH CONTEMPORARIES”

Live in Concert, Video [http://www.simonmurphyconductor.com/web/video\\_details.aspx?ItemId=1384899](http://www.simonmurphyconductor.com/web/video_details.aspx?ItemId=1384899)

Live in Concert, Audio [http://www.simonmurphyconductor.com/web/music\\_details.aspx?ItemId=1117114](http://www.simonmurphyconductor.com/web/music_details.aspx?ItemId=1117114)

Programme Background [http://www.simonmurphyconductor.com/web/buzz\\_details.aspx?ItemId=1471447](http://www.simonmurphyconductor.com/web/buzz_details.aspx?ItemId=1471447)

43<sup>rd</sup> Istanbul Music Festival Info <http://t24.com.tr/haber/43-istanbul-muzik-festivali-programi-belli-oldu,286094>



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## REVIEWS

“The NDA speelt met grote liefde, onstuimige vaart en fantasie ... plezierig, buitengewoon fris, inventief en verrassend” (NRC Handelsblad)

“18th century Rock 'n Roll!” (Luister)

“Vibrant, energetic and wonderfully secure playing” (Gramophone)

“sumptuous ... swinging rhythms ... stylish ornamentation ... inventive extemporisation ... The NDA is a big band playing on period instruments ...” (BBC Music Magazine)

“The hottest property on the European baroque scene is the New Dutch Academy directed by Simon Murphy, a viola-playing wunderkind ... Since the group's emergence in early 2002, it has scored international festival raves and a raft of recording awards. ... textbook illustration of style and presentation ... glorious mellifluous playing ... Replete with swashbuckling dynamic contrasts, piquant continuo parts and soaring Mannheim rockets, it puts flesh on the cobwebbed skeletons of Haydn's predecessors and drags musicology into the hypercritical glare of the contemporary concert platform.” (The Australian)

“einem tollen Konzert der New Dutch Academy ... Organisch atmend mit Liebe zum Detail und doch mit großem Bogen kam die Musik von der Bühne. Die Spielfreude der Musiker war ihnen auf die Gesichter geschrieben, sodass es keine Frage war, dass der Schlussapplaus überreich ausfallen würde.” (Hessische/Niedersächsische Allgemeine)

“schon atemberaubend ... Der Verve, das pulsierende Temperament und die gleichzeitig feinste Feinheiten ... eine sensationelle Interpretation! ... Das Klangbild ist erfreulich lebendig, transparent und voller Noblesse, fängt das volle Temperament und den feinsinnreichen Stil trefflich ein.” (Concerto, Duitsland)

[www.newdutchacademy.nl](http://www.newdutchacademy.nl)

## FURTHER INFO

Simon Murphy, Musical Director  
[www.simonmurphyconductor.com](http://www.simonmurphyconductor.com)

Gudrun Sidonie Otto, Soprano  
[www.sidonie.at](http://www.sidonie.at)

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Not for publication

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