

INHERITING THE EARTH



Take a moment to reflect on the awesome natural beauty of our Earth – what is our place in it? What does it mean to be custodians of this vast planet?

Ruby Hughes and the United Strings of Europe present *Inheriting the Earth* – arrangements and commissions of 20th and 21st Century works by women composers that celebrate natural beauty and explore our role in safeguarding it.

Expanding the repertoire for voice and string orchestra, the project seeks to engage audiences and young musicians with the challenges of preserving and nurturing our natural world. No-one can pretend that music has answers to the great loss of biodiversity we're witnessing, nor does it have the ability to solve climate change. But music can provide a space to allow tempers to ease, minds to calm, thinking to resume and optimism to flourish.

Partnering with independent Swedish record label BIS Records, this project will be released digitally and on disc in late 2024.

PROGRAMME

Lili Boulanger (arr. R Samuel) *Reflets*

Nadia Boulanger (arr. R Samuel) *La mer est plus belle*

Alma Mahler (arr. R Samuel) *Stille stad*

Laue sommernacht

Rhian Samuel *Naming the flowers*

A perfect view

My river runs to thee

Deborah Pritchard *Beyond the Stars* (USE commission)

Joanna Marsh *Another Eden* (USE commission)

Errollyn Wallen *Rain*

On the Mountain

Timeless

Ruby and the United Strings of Europe will perform a selection of these works at the Wigmore Hall on 16 Sept 2023

RUBY HUGHES

Holder of a Borletti-Buitoni Trust Award and a former BBC New Generation Artist, **Ruby Hughes** has appeared at the world's great opera houses, concert and recital halls. A champion of women composers, Ruby's disc *Heroines of Love and Loss* was Editor's Choice in Gramophone Magazine and was awarded a Diapason d'Or. Ruby collaborated with the United Strings of Europe on the ensemble's second album *Renewal* and they have performed together in Switzerland and the UK to great acclaim.

www.rubyhughes.com



UNITED STRINGS OF EUROPE

The **United Strings of Europe** creates profound musical experiences that celebrate diversity and bridge cultural divides. Praised for its original programming and 'virtuosically expressive' playing (*The Times*), the London-based ensemble commissions and arranges music, collaborates with a wide range of artists, and is building a catalogue of critically-acclaimed albums on BIS Records.

www.unitedstringseurope.com

BIS RECORDS

Founded in 1973, BIS Records is one of the most highly respected classical labels in the world, praised for the sound quality of its recordings, for the versatility and variety of its catalogue, and for undertaking projects of daunting complexity such as the 68-disc Sibelius Edition and the complete series of Bach's cantatas with the Bach Collegium Japan and Masaaki Suzuki.

Praise for United Strings of Europe and Ruby Hughes' past collaborations

"Ruby Hughes [...] presented her voice very much as a fine-spun instrumental line, woven around the string layers of the players" - ★★★★★ [Plays to See](#)

"superbly executed" - ★★★★★1/2 [Stereophile Magazine](#)

"a cracking disc" - **Gramophone Magazine**

"performed with total commitment by the string orchestra, and the heights achieved by it and Hughes in the Golijov performance are remarkable" - [Textura](#) top 20 albums of 2022



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