



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jamie Wolf, 704-714-5112 or jamiew@charlottesymphony.org
charlottesymphony.org | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#)

POLYMATH PIANIST STEPHEN HOUGH TO PLAY SCHUMANN WITH CHARLOTTE SYMPHONY
MARCH 14 & 15 PROGRAM ALSO INCLUDES ANTONIN DVORAK'S SYMPHONY NO. 8 AND BENJAMIN BRITTEN'S ARRANGEMENT OF A CHACONNE BY HENRY PURCELL



February 18, 2014 | CHARLOTTE, NC – Stephen Hough, “concert pianist, writer of words and music, governor of royal ballet companies, theology, art, poetry, perfume, puddings ...” as his Twitter profile reads, will perform Schumann’s Piano Concerto in A minor with the Charlotte Symphony on March 14 and 15.

Hough’s is the first classical musician to hold a MacArthur Fellowship, and his artistry at the piano has been celebrated world-wide by a series of other prestigious awards.

Notable recognitions include Northwestern University’s Jean Gimbel Lane Prize in Piano, the Royal Philharmonic Society Instrumentalist Award and a collection of more than 50 albums that have earned him international prizes and several Grammy nominations.

But, as one might glean from his website—stephenhough.com—or Twitter feed—[@houghhough](https://twitter.com/houghhough)—Hough is more than a pianist.

As a true polymath, an all-around renaissance man, he not only performs music, but also composes. He writes both poetry and prose. He paints. And Hough is becoming known for these other talents, especially as an author in the UK.

This January, he was made a Commander of the Order of the British Empire by Queen Elizabeth in the New Year's Honors List for creative contributions to our world.

On top of writing, composing and painting, Stephen Hough has a residency with the BBC Philharmonic performing concertos by Brahms, Liszt, and Schumann during the 2013-14 season. He also continues to appear with major European and American orchestras and play regular recitals in major halls and concert series across the globe, to critical acclaim:

"Whether he played Schumann, Brahms, Chopin or himself, jaws dropped at the subtleties of touch and articulation, the poetic phrasing, emotional volatility, the easy summoning of rainbow sonorities across the instrument's range." (Geoff Brown, *The Times*, January 2013)

Christopher Warren-Green will conduct Hough's seventh appearance with the Charlotte Symphony, the most recent being his performance of the Grieg Piano Concerto in 2011 under Warren-Green's baton. However, Hough has not performed the Schumann Piano Concerto in A Minor for Charlotte audiences, nor has he ever recorded it, so experiencing this famous Romantic piece performed live by a talent such as Hough is a special opportunity.

In addition to the Schumann piece with Stephen Hough, Christopher Warren-Green will conduct the Charlotte Symphony through Benjamin Britten's arrangement of a chaconne by Purcell and Dvorak's Symphony No. 8 at the Friday, March 14 and Saturday, March 15 program. Concerts begin at 8 pm at the Belk Theater.

For more information and tickets, go to charlottesymphony.org or call the Charlotte Symphony ticket office at 704-972-2000.

About the Charlotte Symphony

Founded in 1932 and led by internationally renowned Music Director Christopher Warren-Green, the Charlotte Symphony is a non-profit organization that serves the whole community through music that educates, entertains and enriches the human spirit. We are world-class musicians, music teachers and music lovers. We put violins in the hands of Charlotte's children and actively nurture the next generation with our programs in music education. We bring artistic excellence to Charlotte's parks and hospitals, schools and places of worship, stadiums and concert halls. The Charlotte Symphony is a cornerstone of the cultural community, connecting people and adding value to their lives through music.

###