

Press Release

For release: Monday 1 August 2016

Britten Sinfonia and Thomas Adès at the BBC Proms Monday 15 August at 7.30pm, Royal Albert Hall and live on BBC Radio 3

Britten Sinfonia returns to the BBC Proms, with a programme conducted by regular artistic collaborator, **Thomas Adès**.

In Spring 2017, Britten Sinfonia and Thomas Adès embark on a three-year Beethoven Symphony Cycle*. In a taste of pleasures to come, Britten Sinfonia's Proms programme features Adès conducting Beethoven's *Symphony No. 8*, alongside the UK premiere of a new cello and orchestra version of his own work, *Lieux retrouvés*, inspired by the "haunting sense of time and place" of the cello, with soloist **Steven Isserlis**. The programme also features the London premiere of Francisco Coll's piquant *Four Iberian Miniatures*, with violin soloist **Augustin Hadelich**, which was commissioned by Britten Sinfonia and Saffron Hall in 2014.

Tickets, priced from £7.50 - £38 are available at bbc.co.uk/proms or 0845 401 5040 and in person at the Royal Albert Hall. The concert will be broadcast live on BBC Radio 3.

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Notes:

*** About Britten Sinfonia/Thomas Adès Beethoven Symphony Cycle – May/June 2017**

Britten Sinfonia's 2016/17 season includes two major projects with **Thomas Adès** and **Gerald Barry**. In Spring 2017, the orchestra launches a new three-year Beethoven Symphony Cycle, with Adès as director and conductor. Adès interleaves Beethoven's masterworks with the deft, audacious and sometimes explosive music of the wonderfully idiosyncratic Irish composer, **Gerald Barry**. The cycle begins with Beethoven's first three symphonies, and features Barry's *Chevaux de Frise*, and aptly, *Beethoven*. An accompanying concert at Milton Court Concert Hall features chamber works by the two composers, with Adès at the piano (26 May- 6 June 2017). Britten Sinfonia/Thomas Adès Beethoven Symphony Cycle takes place at the Barbican London, with concerts also in Norwich and at Saffron Hall, where Britten Sinfonia become resident orchestra in Autumn 2016.

Earlier in the season, Adès conducts the European premiere of **Gerald Barry's** *Alice's Adventures Under Ground* (co-commissioned by the Barbican, Britten Sinfonia and the LA Philharmonic Association).

Barbara Hannigan, in the title role, leads an outstanding cast that also includes **Allan Clayton**, **Allison Cook** and **Hilary Summers** (Barbican Hall - 28 November).