

Acclaimed and celebrated Scottish concert pianist Murray McLachlan will perform at the Compass Music and Arts Center, Brandon on April 15 at 7:30pm, the first recital to be given on a classic 1915 Steinway piano recently donated to the Compass Music and Arts Foundation by the estate of late New York jazz musician John Fischer. This will be a very special occasion as artists of the caliber of McLachlan are in great demand.

McLachlan's program for the evening will include Chopin's *24 Preludes, Op. 28*, Ronald Stevenson's *Pensees sur les Preludes de Chopin*, Finzi-McLachlan's 2016 transcription of *Three Bagatelles for Clarinet and Piano*, and Nikolai Myaskovsky's *Sonata No. 1 in D minor*.

This performance brings together many connections between the Compass Center, the concert venue Brandon Music and the classical recording company Divine Art Records. Divine Art has had the good fortune to work with Murray McLachlan on several recordings and the company which has bases in England and Germany is headquartered at the Compass Center. Meanwhile, the donation of the piano to the Compass Music and Arts Foundation now allows the Compass Center to hold more concerts in its 2,300 sq. ft. performance space. The organization also presents Saturday evening concerts almost every week in its Brandon Music location and is now able to host piano-based concerts at either venue, taking advantage of the larger auditorium at the Compass Center.

Murray McLachlan is known throughout the international classical piano world for his more than 40 commercial recordings, as the author of three books on piano technique and numerous articles on piano technique and repertoire, his leadership in top professional piano publications, and as Chair of both the UK section and international executive council of the European Piano Teachers' Association (EPTA).

The widely known and respected BBC Music Magazine said Murray McLachlan "is a pianist with a virtuoso technique and a sure sense of line. His timing and phrasing are impeccable, and his tone-full but unforced in the powerful passages, gentle and restrained in the more lyrical – is a perpetual delight."

McLachlan has appeared as soloist with most of the leading UK orchestras and his recognition has been far-reaching, bringing invitations to perform on all five continents. He teaches at the Royal Northern College of Music and at Chetham's School of Music in Manchester where he has been Head of Keyboard since 1997. He is the Founder/Artistic Director of the world famous Chetham's International Summer School and festival for Pianists, Europe's largest summer school devoted exclusively to the piano, as well as the founder of the Manchester International Concerto competition for Young Pianists. Incidentally, the prize awarded to the 2007 winner of the competition, Anja German, was a fully funded solo album released by Divine Art's subsidiary Diversions Records. Eighteen of McLachlan's own award-winning recordings have also been produced by Divine Art.

The concert will follow the traditional format of performances at Brandon Music, with a pre-concert dinner prepared by Vicky Regia, executive chef at Brandon Music and the SoundBite

Café in the Compass Center. Tickets for the concert are \$20. Dinner is \$25. Reservations are required for dinner and recommended for the show. Call 802-247-4295 or email [info@cmacvt.org](mailto:info@cmacvt.org) for reservations. Visit [www.cmacvt.org](http://www.cmacvt.org) for more information.

Compass Music and Arts Center is located at Park Village, 333 Jones Dr. Brandon VT, 05733 (Park Village used to be the Brandon Training School, located 1.5 miles north of downtown Brandon off of Arnold District Rd.).

Since making his professional debut in 1986 at the age of 21 under the baton of Sir Alexander Gibson, Murray McLachlan has consistently received outstanding critical acclaim. Educated at Chetham's School of Music and Cambridge University, his mentors included Ronald Stevenson, David Hartigan, Ryszard Bakst, Peter Katin and Norma Fisher.

McLachlan's repertoire includes over 40 concertos and 25 recital programmes. He has performed the complete Beethoven piano sonata cycle six times, as well as the complete piano music of Brahms. He has given first performances of works by many composers, including Martin Butler, Ronald Stevenson, Charles Camilleri, Michael Parkin and even Beethoven!

His recordings include the complete sonatas of Beethoven, Myaskovsky and Prokofiev, the six concertos of Alexander Tcherepnin, the 24 Preludes and Fugues of Rodion Shchedrin, Ronald Stevenson's 'Passacaglia on DSCH', the major works of Kabalevsky, Khatchaturian and Weinberg and the complete solo piano music of Erik Chisholm which MusicWeb International called "the musical revelation of the 21<sup>st</sup> century". Divine Art will be releasing McLachlan's latest recording, the Piano Concerto by Marcus Blunt, later this year.