



ADELAIDE: Friday 17 February 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Lisztian Virtuosity with impressive Australian pianist,
Stephanie McCallum @ Adelaide Fringe 06**

**“McCallum has a formidable pianistic armoury...
a most impressive recital” Classic CD (London)**

Stephanie McCallum is one of Australia's finest pianists. She gives her music a special kind of musical expression and refinement, which few bring to the more virtuosic repertoire of the 19th and 20th centuries. She teaches piano at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music and her ABC Classics and Tall Poppies recordings have received widespread national and international acclaim.

On **Saturday 11 March 2006** at **4.30pm** in Adelaide's **Pilgrim Church**, she will perform piano pieces by Alkan, Kats-Chernin and Liszt for Recitals Australia's Adelaide Fringe 06 concert.

Liszt and Kats-Chernin are performed relatively frequently in Adelaide, while according to one Adelaide Alkan devotee, it is almost twenty years, since such a fine pianist has performed Alkan.

Stephanie has almost had a life-long interest in the amazing, but technically challenging piano pieces by Franz Liszt and Charles-Valentin Alkan.

“Liszt and Alkan were almost exact contemporaries, but they couldn't have been more different in style and personality, yet both were extraordinary pianists and prolific and highly original composers,” remarks Stephanie.

“As a pianist I am attracted to the breadth of conception in the piano's sounds and textures, no doubt inspired by Liszt and Alkan's highly developed piano techniques. They both worked in large-scale forms as well as superb miniatures.”

As a student, Stephanie was fortunate to study with pianists, Gordon Watson and Ronald Smith in London who passed onto her the technical ideas to master these major works of the romantic piano repertoire.

Stephanie says, “The major hurdle in performing the larger works of Alkan is the sheer mental and physical stamina needed for these enormous structures. Alkan tries to imitate the large-scale orchestral textures, hence he was named, ‘the Berlioz of the Piano’.”

For her exclusive Adelaide Fringe 06 concert, Stephanie will perform three of the concertos from the *Douze Études dans les tons mineurs*. Later in 2006, ABC Classics will release her complete two-CD recording of those works.

ENDS.

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**CHRISTOPHER
WAINWRIGHT**
publicity

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RECITALS AUSTRALIA 2006 SUBSCRIPTION SERIES CONCERT 1

Lisztian Virtuosity



GUEST SOLOIST

Pianist: **Stephanie McCallum**

Sydney, New South Wales

PROGRAM

FRANZ LISZT

Les Jeux d'eaux à la Villa d'Este from *Années de Pèlerinage* 3, S. 163

FRANZ LISZT

Valse Impromptu, S. 213

ELENA KATS-CHERNIN

Variations in a Serious Black Dress

CHARLES-VALENTIN ALKAN

Concerto for Solo Piano Nos. 8, 9 & 10 from *Douze Études dans les tons mineurs*

WHO, WHAT, WHEN & WHERE

WHO & WHAT: Recitals Australia presents *Lisztian Virtuosity* with Stephanie McCallum

WHEN: Saturday 11 March 2006 at 4.30pm

WHERE: Pilgrim Church, 12 Flinders Street, Adelaide, South Australia

TICKETS: Adult \$25, Concession \$15, Child \$10 (plus booking fees)

BOOKINGS: FringeTIX (08) 8418 8666, <http://www.adelaidefringe.com.au> or at the door

PUBLIC ENQUIRIES: (08) 8266 4936, bh35a@netspace.net.au

MEDIA ENQUIRIES: 0438 829 728, cmwain@bigpond.net.au

Recitals Australia generously supported by: Government of South Australia, Arts SA |
Barclay Global Investors | Balanced Equity Management | Royal Commonwealth Society

Pilgrim Church is a disability accessible venue

<http://www.recitalsaustralia.org.au>

<http://www.adelaidefringe.com.au>

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