



Press release

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### **Matthew Swann appointed Chief Executive of City of London Sinfonia**

City of London Sinfonia (CLS) has appointed Matthew Swann as Chief Executive following Barry Kempton's return to the United States at the end of 2011.

Matthew is currently Associate Producer for Classical Music at the Roundhouse, and Founder and Director of the Voices Now festival. His recent successes include the Roundhouse's groundbreaking Reverb festival which brought together a new wave of classical musicians at the legendary London venue, and the first Voices Now festival in March 2011, which saw over 2,000 amateur and professional singers perform together at the Roundhouse and broadcast live on BBC national radio. He is also Programme Manager for the Holst Singers, one of the UK's foremost choirs, and a Senior Associate with Liz Amos Associates, the leading arts executive search and selection consultancy.

"I am delighted to become Chief Executive of City of London Sinfonia at such an exciting time for the orchestra" said Matthew. "CLS is an ensemble which enjoys both an incredible performing and recording heritage, and an innovative approach to bringing in new audiences to classical music through its continuing [CLoSer](#) series and pioneering approaches through its [Meet the Music programme](#). In Michael Collins and Stephen Layton, CLS has two of the UK's finest musicians leading it on the platform and in the recording studio and I look forward to leading the orchestra through a period of renewed development."

City of London Sinfonia Chairman, John Singer, adds: "This is an exciting time of expansion and development for City of London Sinfonia and it is important to us to have a Chief Executive at the helm who shares our vision. Matthew, we feel, has the necessary energy, enthusiasm and experience to help us achieve this successfully."

**END**

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## City of London Sinfonia – Notes to editors

Firmly established as one of the UK's leading chamber orchestras, **City of London Sinfonia** was founded in 1971 by the late **Richard Hickox** and celebrates its 40th anniversary this year. The Orchestra is led by [Stephen Layton](#) (Artistic Director & Principal Conductor) and [Michael Collins](#) (Principal Conductor)

City of London Sinfonia makes regular appearances at all the major London concert halls and venues, as well as St Paul's Cathedral and other venues in the City of London. It has been resident orchestra at the capital's popular [Opera Holland Park](#) since 2004 and holds a long-standing residency in High Wycombe (birthplace of Richard Hickox), as well as being a regular guest at major UK festivals.

City of London Sinfonia has made over 100 recordings, including a series of operas by Benjamin Britten on the CHANDOS label, and won a **Grammy Award** for Best Opera for its recording of *Peter Grimes*. The orchestra's latest release is a recording of Weber's Clarinet and Horn Concertos on the CHANDOS label.

The Orchestra's [Meet the Music](#) education and outreach programme, founded in 1988, was one of the first established by a UK orchestra. Musicians spend approximately **100 days a year** making music with a wide range of groups, young and old, throughout the country, including a long standing residency at the world famous **Great Ormond Street Hospital**.

City of London Sinfonia receives no regular, core support from Arts Council England. It raises all its income from fees, ticket sales, corporate sponsorship, grants and donations. In September 2011, the Orchestra launched the ***Shaping the Future* fundraising campaign**, which aims to raise £1.8 million over the next three years.