**RTÉ CONTEMPO QUARTET WITH ISHAY SHAER (PIANO)**

“Shaer treats the composer’s allusions by ‘reading’ both the musical and the literary texts: asking questions, providing answers, leading dialogues, meditating, narrating or being impulsively enthusiastic. Ideas that seem as though they develop at the very moment give his interpretation of the piece a persuasive originality.”

Fritz Herzog, “Generall-Anzeiger Bonn”

Brahms: Piano Quintet in F major, Op. 34

Haydn: Quartet Op 76 no 3 ‘Emperor’

Dvorak: Piano Quintet no 2 in A major, Op 81

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**LONDON HANDEL PLAYERS WITH BAROQUE DANCERS MARY COLLINS AND STEVE PLAYER**

Led by Adrian Butterfield, the Baroque ensemble that recently sold-out Carnegie Hall, present ‘Dances fit for a King’, a celebration of Baroque dance, on the 300th anniversary of the death of Louis XIV.

Mary Collins, dancer; Steve Player, dancer; Adrian Butterfield, violin/director; Claire Salmon, viola; Rachel Byrt, viola; Nicola Cleary, viola; Kath Sharman, cello; Laurence Cummings, harpsichord.

In association with the East Cork Early Music Festival.

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**MARY HEGARTY SINGS THE JAZZ SONGBOOK**

Mary Hegarty explores the standard, and not-so-standard, repertoire of the great American song writers.

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**VANBRUGH QUARTET WITH PAUL ROE (CLARINET)**

Mozart: String Quartet No.14 in G major, K.387 ‘Spring’

Scán Doherty: Quartet No.3

Brahms: Clarinet Quintet, Op.115 with Paul Roe

Paul Roe is a musician with particular interests in performance, education and coaching/mentoring. He is a performer (clarinet and bass clarinet) of international repute and was Associate Principal Clarinet of the National Symphony Orchestra of Ireland from 1987-2000.

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**CARDUCCI QUARTET PERFORMS THE SHOSTAKOVICH CYCLE: OPENING CONCERT.**

Described by The Strad as presenting “a masterclass in unanimity of musical purpose, in which severity could melt seamlessly into charm, and drama into geniality, the Carducci Quartet is recognised as one of today’s most successful string quartets. ‘Truly extraordinary stamina in a musical marathon’, ‘astonishing intensity’, ’lives in a lifetime event.’ The Guardian

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**ROLAND DYENS (GUITAR)**

Roland Dyens is unique in the classical guitar world, in that he always begins his concerts with an improvised piece. These spontaneous compositions are distinctive, and both you and he will experience this first piece of music together, for the first time.

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**FINGHIN COLLINS (PIANO)**

One of the most significant musicians to emerge from Ireland in recent times, Finghin Collins was born in Dublin in 1977 and studied with John O’Connor at the Royal Irish Academy of Music and with Dominique Merlet at the Geneva Conservatoire.

Bach Partita No. 1 in B flat major

Schumann Waldszenen Op. 82

Schubert Four Impromptus Op. 90

Chopin Polonaise-Fantaisie Op. 61

Let your Christmas start here!

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**MADRIGAL ’75**

Madrígal ’75 is well established as Cork’s leading vocal ensemble with a host of national and international awards. Each year their festive concert of imaginatively chosen music attracts a huge audience. Let your Christmas start here!