



### Robin Michael

"A virtuosic tour de force played with passionate conviction"

**The Times**

Robin Michael and Daniel Tong ideally present the sonatas in two concerts: a lunchtime or short concert and a full evening recital. Alternatively, for two evening recitals they add Beethoven's own arrangement of his youthful horn sonata. Exceptionally, the five sonatas can also be performed in one evening with two intervals.



### Daniel Tong

"cultured pianism affords unqualified pleasure throughout"

**Gramophone**

## The Beethoven Cello Sonatas

### Robin Michael (cello) and Daniel Tong (piano)

**Beethoven's sonatas for cello and piano**, five consistently inspired and wonderful works, offer the opportunity to trace the development of the composer's genius throughout his life.

**Two early sonatas op. 5**, written whilst Beethoven was as renowned as a virtuoso pianist and improviser as he was a composer, are followed some years later by perhaps the most famous sonata for this combination, the **A major op. 69**. This sublime creation dates from his middle years and is contemporary with the Violin Concerto and the fifth and sixth symphonies.

**The last pair of sonatas, op. 102**, are fully mature creations, written in the highly-developed language of the late piano sonatas and string quartets.

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### Robin Michael

Following a critically acclaimed South Bank recital debut in 2003, Robin has been much in demand as soloist and chamber musician. He is principal cello of the Orchestra Revolutionnaire et Romantique and regular guest principal of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, English Baroque Soloists, Academy of Ancient Music and Soloists of Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment. Recent concert highlights include touring South Africa with both Haydn concertos and performing the complete Bach and Britten suite cycles. Robin is the cellist in the Fidelio trio with whom he has toured Europe, Asia and South Africa. They recently gave a critically acclaimed Wigmore Hall debut and make their US debut in New York and Washington in the 2010/11 season. He also appears regularly with chamber groups such as the Dante Quartet, Eroica Quartet and Nash Ensemble. Recent recordings include Joe Cutler's concerto with the BBC Concert Orchestra on NMC and the complete works for Cello and Piano by Alberto Ginastera for Lorelt.

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### Daniel Tong

Daniel Tong's musical life is spent performing as soloist and chamber musician, directing two chamber music festivals and teaching. He recently recorded a solo CD of works by Schubert, soon to be released on the Quartz label. Daniel has appeared at many of the foremost British venues and festivals - Wigmore Hall, South Bank Centre, St Georges Bristol, Birmingham Town Hall as well as the Cheltenham, Aldeburgh and Edinburgh Festivals. He is frequently heard on BBC Radio and has broadcast throughout Europe. His latest project, 'unravelling' in collaboration with musicologist Richard Wigmore, has seen a series of lecture-recital weekends on Beethoven and Schubert piano sonatas. In autumn 2012 he has been invited to curate a festival of Elgar's music at Kings Place in London. The recordings by his London Bridge Ensemble have been praised and recommended in the press and in 2012 the ensemble returns to the Wigmore Hall, appears at Kings Place in London and gives a series of concerts in Portugal. Each year Daniel plays with an array of wonderful artists, often at his own chamber festival in the Wye Valley.

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