

## **Colin Matthews (b. 1946) Two Miniatures (World Premiere)**

Colin Matthews and his elder brother David provided each other's initial training in composition. Colin progressed to Nottingham University where he read classics and subsequently composition. In the 1970s he taught here at the University of Sussex collaborating with Deryk Cooke to produce a performing version of Mahler's unfinished 10<sup>th</sup> Symphony and a related PhD thesis.

Paul Griffiths describes Matthews as: '...the Isambard Kingdom Brunel of contemporary music: master of great time machines, steamy with energy derived from pulse and from massive, surging harmony, and openly displaying their structural engineering, all finished with a craftsman's care' - a description which perhaps applies more to his numerous large-scale works than to today's Two Miniatures.

Matthews himself says of his new work which lasts about 5':

'The eloquent combination of clarinet, viola and piano, first established by Mozart, has become an increasingly popular one for composers in recent years, and the Jacquin Trio's contribution to the medium has been a substantial one. I was delighted by their performance of my Three Interludes a few years back, and offered to write more for them – here are the first two of what I hope will grow into a group of Miniatures, one of them quite dark, the other more lyrical.'