



Gerard McChrystal

Gerard comes from Derry, N.Ireland. He took up the saxophone as a second study for his RNCM audition in 1982. By 1987 he had made his concerto debut with the RTE Concert Orchestra playing the Dubois concerto live on TV. His UK debut was with the Philharmonia in 1989 premiering *Out of the Cool* by Dave Heath. He was the first student to graduate from RNCM, Manchester, with three awards, including a distinction in his PPRNCM. Further studies at The Guildhall School, London and Northwestern University, Chicago, followed.

Competition success includes The Royal Overseas League, RTE Musician of the Future, The £15,000 1st Prize Lombard and Ulster Music Foundation, Countess of Munster, The Sir James Caird Award, NFMS Award, BBC1 *Opportunity Knocks!* and The Park Lane Group. His Wigmore Hall debut came as a result of winning the intercolleagiate Ivan Sutton Recording Award.

He has worked with Philip Glass, The Smith Quartet, guitarist Craig Ogden, percussionists Ensemble Bash, The Soweto String Quartet, tenorist Tommy Smith, Uilleann piper Liam O' Flynn and vocal group *Anuna*.

Gerard has performed in 35 countries including USA, China, South Africa, Indonesia, Azerbaijan, Korea, Sweden and all over Europe including Italy, France, Spain and Slovenia. He has recorded albums with BBC NOW, Ulster Orchestra, London Musici, Craig Ogden, The Smith Quartet, Yan Pascal Tortelier; record labels include Chandos, Signum Records and Silva Screen.

Gerard is Professor of Saxophone at Trinity Laban Conservatoire, London and he teaches at The Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama in Cardiff. He is also Phoenix Saxophone Orchestra's Patron

The workshop will focus on live ensemble playing, with tips and advice on sax technique, learning, performing and getting the most from your instrument as we go along.

To join, please email **treasurer@phoenixsax.org.uk** with your **name**, your **email address**, a contact **telephone number**, and the **first and second choices of sax** you would like to bring.

Please send your £30 direct to the bank account below.

Bank details

Account name: Phoenix Saxophone Orchestra CIO

Sort Code: 20-49-17

Account No: 10116580

Reference: SAXWKS and your surname

We look forward to welcoming you.

Liz Pearce, Treasurer

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