

Queen Elizabeth Hall, London
Sunday 13th July 2003 at 7.45pm

"High-spirited and historically informed" (NEW YORKER) "Utterly unique" (WNYC, New York)

A unique musical journey through Gershwin's life

GERSHWIN in focus

RHAPSODY IN BLUE
AN AMERICAN IN PARIS
EXTRACTS FROM PORGY AND BESS
& GERSHWIN'S SPECTACULAR IMPROVISATIONS ON
I GOT RHYTHM
THE MAN I LOVE
FASCINATING RHYTHM
SOMEONE TO WATCH OVER ME, ETC.

featuring "THE Gershwin pianist of our time" (BBC Proms)

JACK GIBBONS and the voice of Sir Ben Kingsley as George Gershwin

TICKETS: £18, £15, £12, £8

In aid of the Musicians Benevolent Fund

Royal Festival Hall
Queen Elizabeth Hall
Purcell Room

Box office
+44 (0)20 7960 4242
Telephone credit card booking
£1.50 per transaction

BOOK ONLINE
www.rfh.org.uk
NO BOOKING FEE



GERSHWIN in focus JACK GIBBONS piano and the voice of Sir Ben Kingsley as George Gershwin

The "irrepressible Jack Gibbons" (Sunday Express), the award-winning British pianist, widely regarded as one of the world's finest

piano interpreters of Gershwin, is back. His historic return to a sold out Queen Elizabeth Hall last year, following his remarkable recovery from a near fatal car accident, was greeted by tremendous standing ovations, and drew such words as "miraculous" and "gutsy" from the national press. Hailed by the BBC as "THE Gershwin pianist of our time" at his Proms debut in 1995, and by the Sunday Times as "a remarkable talent", Jack Gibbons has established an enviable reputation as one of Britain's finest pianists. Public performer from the age of 10 and winner at 20 of the Newport International Piano Competition, Jack Gibbons has performed with great acclaim in some of the world's greatest concert halls, including New York's Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall and London's Royal Albert Hall, sharing the stage with the likes of Liza Minnelli, Tony Bennett, James Galway, John Pizzarelli, etc..

For the Gershwin Centenary in 1998 Jack Gibbons was commissioned by the BBC to write and present an in depth programme on George Gershwin, covering all aspects of his remarkable genius, with Gershwin's own words spoken by Oscar-winning actor Sir Ben Kingsley. Now, for the first time in a concert hall, Jack Gibbons recreates that programme, interspersing the stunning music of George Gershwin with his own uniquely relaxed and informative asides, together with the words of George Gershwin, spoken by Sir Ben Kingsley.

Tonight's programme will also include many of the breathtaking show-tune improvisations that made Gershwin's piano playing legendary in the 1920s and 30s. Gibbons' unique reconstructions of Gershwin's original keyboard variations are the subject of an award-winning CD series on ASV, "The Authentic George Gershwin", featuring the first modern recordings of over 4½ hours of original Gershwin material and described by the noted Gershwin biographer Edward Jablonski as "a remarkable recreation of Gershwin's unique keyboard style".

"So far has Gibbons perfected his art that this was not an evening OF Gershwin but, as near as we could ever come to, an evening WITH Gershwin." (Daily News)

"Jack Gibbons is utterly unique in the music world... astonishing." (WNYC, NYC)

"Jack Gibbons is not a pianist, he's a genius" (Lady Walton, widow of composer Sir William Walton).

"One of the most delightful aspects of going to a Gibbons concert is that you get to spend an evening with somebody who is really enjoying entertaining you. His delight in and enthusiasm for the music is almost tangible." (Oxford University Review)

www.JackGibbons.com

CONCERT MANAGEMENT: Maureen Lunn 01753 645008 m.m.lunn@amservice.net

JACK GIBBONS plays
the Authentic
GEORGE GERSHWIN
on ASV...

"Sensational"
Classic CD



Volume One: 1918-1925
ASV WHL 2074



Volume Two: 1925-1930
ASV WHL 2077



Volume Three: 1931-1937
ASV WHL 2082



Volume Four: The
Hollywood Years
ASV WHL2110

Jack Gibbons will be signing copies of his award-winning CDs after the performance. Jack Gibbons' CDs are available in all good record stores including HMV and Tower