

# A North American Premiere... An Internationally Acclaimed Soloist – Tom Beets: *Concerto for Recorder and Orchestra* in May 2019

This year's PS Festival Concert in Verizon Hall will include an unusual performance of a contemporary work by British composer, Graham Fitkin. Performed only once, in Britain, Fitkin's *Concerto for Recorder and Orchestra* became one of three celebrated orchestral works to be nominated last year for the BBC's British Composer Awards 2018.

This piece requires a soloist who can perform on six different size recorders (ranging from one that is a few inches long to one that is about six feet tall) over the course of the piece. We have engaged Tom Beets, a remarkable recorder soloist from Belgium and a member of the renowned Flanders Recorder Quartet, who will spend two weekends with us, culminating in the performance of this concerto on May 19, 2019.

Mr. Beets' residency with Philadelphia Sinfonia includes two rehearsals, a master class in historically informed performance practice on Saturday, May 11, 2019 as well as the PS Festival Concert performance of Graham Fitkin's work.

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**Not to be missed, this concert is scheduled at 4 PM,  
Sunday, May 19, 2019 in Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center.  
For more information call: 215-351-0363.  
Tickets at: [www.kimmelcenter.org](http://www.kimmelcenter.org)**

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## Tom Beets' Master Class: Historically Informed Performance Practice

While in residence with Philadelphia Sinfonia on the weekends of May 11 and 18 to rehearse and perform with us, recorder soloist Tom Beets will also present a master class in historically informed performance practice. While Mr. Beets will be performing a *contemporary* piece in concert with us, his primary focus as a performer involves historic works from previous centuries.

Sandwiched between PSP's rehearsal and that of PS on Saturday, May 11th, 2019, Mr. Beets' master class will introduce our musicians to this niche area of musical performance that is fun, different, and intriguing to many contemporary musicians. All Sinfonia students and families — and the public — are welcome to attend.

**Mr. Beets' master class:  
Saturday, May 11, 2019. Time 1:30–2:30 PM**



Tom Beets, recorder soloist.  
Photo: Silvie Bonne

## MEET TOM BEETS

Tom Beets is a talented and exciting recorder player and teacher. Between 2007 and 2018 he was a driving force, as well as a playing member of *The Flanders Recorder Quartet* who were acknowledged as one of the leading recorder groups in the world. With them he played and taught all over the world and recorded half a dozen CD's.

Tom also plays in the recorder quintet *Mezzaluna* and has worked with *Cappila Flamenca*, *Sarada* and *Currende*.

Tom teaches in music schools in Belgium, leads masterclasses and workshops across Europe, in the Far East, and in the USA. He is director of the *Mechelen Blokfluitdagen* and its English counterpart, *Recorder Summer School*, and on the summer sessions faculty of the Amherst Early Music Festival. Furthermore, Tom is on the editor team of the Dutch recorder magazine, *Blokfluitist*. Since 2013 Tom has organized and conducted over 50 recorder orchestra days together with Joris Van Goethem, under the brand name *Air-Force*.

Tom became honorary Vice-President of the Society of Recorder players and was awarded the "Distinguished Achievement Award" by the American Recorder Society as member of the FRQ. He also plays the viola de gamba.