



Press Release

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Hosts and speaker announced for

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY MUSIC AWARDS DINNER

Tuesday 10 May at 6.45pm, The Brewery, City of London

Presented in association with BBC Radio 3

- **Graham Vick to give keynote speech**
- **Gerald Finley to present RPS Music Awards trophies**
- **BBC Radio 3 presenters Suzy Klein and Sara Mohr-Pietsch to host**

The groundbreaking opera director **Graham Vick** will be the keynote speaker at this year's Royal Philharmonic Society [RPS] Music Awards on Tuesday 10 May. The awards will be hosted by BBC Radio 3 presenters **Sara Mohr-Pietsch** and **Suzy Klein**, with silver lyre RPS trophies presented to the winners in thirteen categories by the distinguished Canadian baritone, **Gerald Finley** (himself a former RPS Music Awards winner*).

The RPS Music Awards, presented in association with BBC Radio 3, are the UK's highest recognition for live classical music. This year's awards celebrate outstanding achievement in 2015.

Graham Vick is the Artistic Director of Birmingham Opera Company (which won RPS Music Awards in 2001, 2004 and 2007) and works in major opera houses worldwide with the world's leading conductors. He has a passion and belief that opera can speak directly to all kinds of people, a view that finds full voice in his ambitious, fearless artistic work. Often provocative, his keynote speech comes at a time when, with the ongoing crisis at English National Opera, the future of opera is very much in the spotlight.

Graham Vick is the latest in a long line of distinguished awards speakers, including the Music Director of the Royal Opera House, and RPS Gold Medallist, **Sir Antonio Pappano**, the Director of the British Museum, **Neil MacGregor**, Director of the Royal National Theatre, **Nicholas Hytner** and artist **Grayson Perry**, who have offered wise, often challenging words on the major cultural issues of the day.

A special programme featuring highlights from the RPS Music Awards ceremony, interviews and music will be broadcast on BBC Radio 3 the following night, Wednesday 11 May at 7.30pm

FIND OUT WHO'S SHORTLISTED FOR THIS YEAR'S AWARDS AT
www.rpsmusicawards.com

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* Gerald Finley won the RPS Music Award for Singer in 2000