

Adam Swayne (piano)

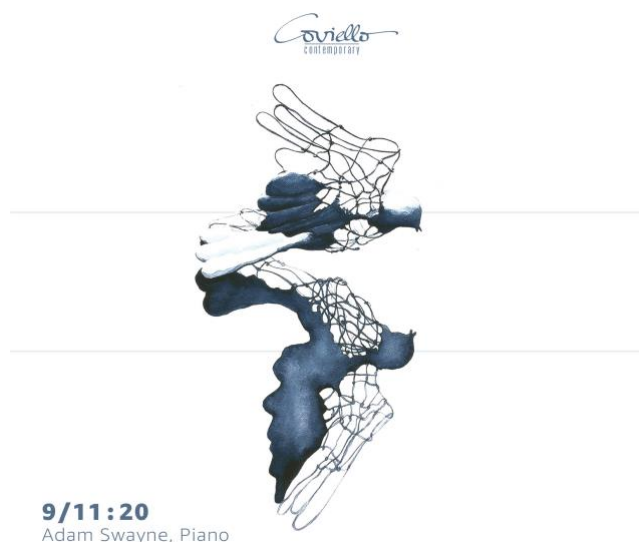
Commemorating 9/11

A recital of memorials for September 11th

As featured on the Coviello Contemporary CD
9/11:20 (listen on [Spotify](#))

Performed at London's **Wigmore Hall** on the 20th anniversary in 2021.

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International concert pianist Adam Swayne has created an acclaimed tribute to honour those who fell or endured the tragedies of 9/11. His program marks the 25th anniversary by offering reflection, catharsis, intimacy, community and hope for audiences in the 2026-27 concert season.

Throughout the recital, voices from a diverse range of American communities are heard, with three focussed on private reflections of 9/11. These include African American composer Karen Walwyn, gay New York composer David Del Tredici, and a new work by Kevin Malone: "Sudden Memorials". This 30-minute composition captures in sound the instant and fleeting memorials that friends and relatives leave at the scene of a tragedy. The work embraces polystylism, bringing further inclusivity into the narrative, and asks the pianist to use theatrical gestures and improvisation as part of the performance. Alongside three pioneering works by Henry Cowell, a very slow piece by Scott Joplin called "Solace" completes the programme by challenging the stereotype projected onto this composer during the twentieth century.

Program:

Karen Walwyn: Reflections on 9/11 (Nos. 3+6)

Henry Cowell: The Tides of Manaunaun, Fabric + Aeolian Harp

Kevin Malone: Sudden Memorials

Scott Joplin: Solace

David Del Tredici: Missing Towers

Length: 65 minutes

About the CD:

The cover image is a print of a wire sculpture by Scottish artist Vanessa Lawrence called "Together". Vanessa was undertaking an artist residency in the North Tower on 9/11 and witnessed the terrible events at close hand.

The accompanying booklet, in English and German, includes liner notes written by musicologist Tim Rutherford-Johnson which suggest new ways in which musicians and artists might commemorate disaster.

All artist royalties from this CD are donated to the US-UK Fulbright Commission, whose mission is to advance knowledge, promote civic engagement and develop compassionate leaders through education exchange between the peoples of the US and the UK.



Adam Swayne's career spans the roles of soloist, composer, conductor, presenter and teacher. He takes an inclusive and innovative approach to performance, putting communities at the heart of music-making.

Adam is Deputy Head of Keyboard Studies at the RNCM and a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy. He studied as a Fulbright Scholar with Ursula Oppens at Northwestern University in Chicago between 2003 and 2006. He has been fascinated by America and American music ever since.

Adam's first CD for Coviello, 'Speak To Me', featured American political music ranging from Amy Beth Kirsten to Rzewski. It was selected as an Instrumental Monthly Choice by BBC Music Magazine and received two nominations at the 2019 Opus Klassik awards in Germany.

Adam is concerned with the importance of music in commemoration. In 2012 he organised concerts for the centenary of the Titanic disaster, including a performance of Gavin Bryars' *The Sinking of the Titanic* in Southampton's Guildhall on the exact anniversary of the tragedy.

For more information please visit www.adamswayne.com

Reviews for 9:11/20

"Well-planned, impressively realised and hauntingly effective."

- Andrew McGregor, BBC Record Review

"A musical memorial of 9/11, it will necessarily speak to the heart of a nation; it could even act as part of the bereavement process ... A remarkably touching recital, brilliantly constructed, finely played and wonderfully recorded."

- Colin Clarke, Fanfare Magazine

"Swayne dazzles throughout with his technique, but more importantly, given the subject matter, the programme is thoughtful and striking, and his performances transparently moving and respectful."

- Nick Boston, Scene Magazine