



ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC

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For immediate release

FIRST EVER TALK AND DEMONSTRATION ON

MUSIC FOR IMPAIRED HEARING

AT THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC

MARCH 11 1986 at 5.30pm

Award-winning timpani/percussionist Evelyn Glennie
will take part

Since 1977 a project called 'Communication Through Music' has been breaking new ground at the Royal Academy of Music. Founded by Margaret Hubicki, the course provides a basic knowledge of different handicaps and disabilities and enables students to explore the ways in which music can be used to benefit the physically, mentally and sensorily impaired. In nine years the course has met with great enthusiasm from students wishing to find varied outlets for their musical talents.

On March 11 1986, at 5.30pm at the Academy, for the first time, a new element will be introduced in this programme. William Fawkes, a teacher who has been involved with the teaching of music to deaf and hearing-impaired children for some ten years, will give a demonstration and talk to Academy students on the subject of 'Music for Impaired Hearing'. He will bring with him, from the Mary Hare Grammar School for the Deaf, a 15 member school band, using instruments such as synthesisers, timpani, percussion, and recorders, and a 9 member recorder consort, consisting of bass, tenor, treble and descant recorders. Aged

11 and up, the children will give a concert and practical demonstration of how music can be developed with deaf and hearing-impaired children.

Evelyn Glennie, the award-winning timpani/percussionist who is completely deaf, graduated from the Royal Academy of Music in 1985, and will participate in the project on March 11. Recently she has been filmed, by Yorkshire Television, performing with these same children of the Mary Hare School, in a programme due to go out on Yorkshire Television's "First Tuesday" in February/March 1986.

William Fawkes, wanting to devote all his time to the teaching of music without the added duties of a deputy headmaster and teaching history, returned to the Mary Hare Grammar School as part-time music director in March 1985, after taking early retirement. He gives lecture demonstrations on music and the deaf in this country and abroad. The objective is to show in the most vivid way to students of the Academy, the techniques used in teaching music to such children, pioneering new methods in this creative field of therapy and music.

For further information please contact:

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