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TRIOKHALDEI

22 - 23

TRIO KHALDEI



Trio Khaldei brings together Barbara Baltussen (piano), Pieter Jansen (violin) and Francis Mourey (cello), three musicians with a passion for chamber music and, more specifically, for the unique sonority of the piano trio.

Since its first concert in 2011, Trio Khaldei has developed from a young, promising ensemble to a crowd favourite on Belgium's biggest stages. In 2013, the trio was one of the six ensembles nominated for the first edition of the Supernova competition. Over the last few years, the trio has performed in many cultural centres throughout the country, in prestigious venues such as the Centre for Fine Arts (Brussels), AMUZ (Antwerp), De Bijloke (Ghent) and the Concertgebouw in Bruges, as well as at numerous festivals in Belgium and abroad, including the Ghent Festival of Flanders, Festival 20/21, En Avant Mars, Is Arti (Lithuania), the Spectrum Festival and the Arsana Festival

(Slovenia), Eesti Kontsert (Estonia), Baltais Fligelis (Latvia) and Performer's Present International Artistic Symposium (Singapore). The trio has also recorded for Belgian stations Canvas (television) and Klara (radio) and the Slovenian National Radio.

Trio Khaldei's first CD, dedicated to Shostakovich and Prokofiev, was released in spring 2017 by French label Paraty (distributed worldwide by Harmonia Mundi). It was very well received by the press and the audience. The second CD, dedicated to Hummel, Brahms and Schönberg, was released by the same label at the end of May 2019.

Trio Khaldei has a particular affinity with Russian music from the first half of the 20th Century, especially music by Shostakovich. The trio's namesake, Evgueni Khaldei, was the official photographer of the Stalin regime, and created striking portraits of all the great Russian artists of the time. The search for truth, authenticity and the nuances brought by this photographer to difficult moments throughout his life are a great source of inspiration for the trio.

Trio Khaldei likes to bring together music from times past and present in its programs, introducing the public to music by lesser-known composers as well as the great masters.

The program *Impressive Impressionism* brings together Ravel's trio, *La Mer* by Debussy (arr. Sally Beamish) and the colourful music of the Belgian composer Frits Celis. *Masters of Melancholy* offers the legendary *Trio in Eb* by Franz Schubert, accompanied by Piazzolla's *Four Seasons of Buenos Aires* and a little-known *Trio* by the young César Franck.

www.triokhaldei.com



A black and white photograph of a theater stage. In the foreground, the dark, curved wooden frames of an orchestra pit are visible, with some metal hardware at the base. The stage floor is made of dark wood planks. In the background, a large audience of people is seated in the theater, looking towards the stage. The lighting is dramatic, with strong highlights and deep shadows.

PROGRAMS
22 - 23



LA MER

La Mer, Debussy's orchestral masterpiece in a fantastic arrangement for piano trio by Sally Beamish

Trio Khaldei extends the limits of the trio repertoire by offering new arrangements from the great symphonic repertoire. These arrangements inevitably shed another light on this orchestral music, thought to be known inside and out, and allow this iconic repertoire to be presented on stages that the original version would never reach.

The adaptation for piano trio of Debussy's *La Mer* by Sally Beamish is a prime example. This re-orchestration does not simply reproduce the main elements of the original, but offers a perfect adaptation of the work to the colours of the piano trio. This emblematic piece of the great orchestral repertoire reveals itself in its essence: intense, colourful, intimate.

We offer this wonderful arrangement in two programs: **De l'aube à la nuit**, a dialogue of lights and shadows with Schoenberg's *Verklärte Nacht* (trio version), and **Impressive impressionism**, a program combining the harmonies of *La Mer* with those of Ravel and Celis.

La Mer and Verklärte Nacht, two emblematic symphonic poems united in the same program.

Debussy and Schönberg have, each in their own way, abandoned the traditional form of the symphony to turn to that of the symphonic poem, a form offering all the freedom necessary to translate a source of extra-musical inspiration into music.

The sea in all its qualities inspired Debussy in 1905 to write a symphonic poem in three parts: *De l'Aube à midi sur la mer*, *Jeux de vagues* and *Dialogue du vent et de la mer*.

A few years earlier - in 1899 - Schönberg used the famous poem by Richard Dehmel to compose his string sextet "Verklärte Nacht", bringing the romantic style to its climax.

60'

CLAUDE DEBUSSY *La Mer* (arr. S. Beamish)

ARNOLD SCHÖNBERG *Verklärte Nacht* (arr. E. Steuermann)

The culmination of impressionist orchestral and chamber music

Impressive, rich and bewitching, impressionist music occupies a unique place in the history of music. Intimate and subtle sound fields, freer harmony, floating rhythms, oriental influences and the influence of jazz music are all new sources of inspiration for composers.

For **Claude Debussy**, a symphonic poem was the obvious choice to represent the sea and all its qualities. In three parts, *De l'Aube à midi sur la mer*, *Jeux de vagues* and *Dialogue du vent et de la mer*, it's one of the main orchestral pieces of this period. Presented here in an arrangement by Sally Beamish, this work reveals itself in its essence.

Called to the front in 1914, **Maurice Ravel** had to urgently finish the composition of his Piano Trio. The haste of the writing process has spawned one of the most innovative and colourful pieces in the history of chamber music. The inspiration of Basque rhythms, a form of Malaysian poetry and the exploration of the extremes of each instrument make it a true masterpiece.

Trio Khaldei, great defender of Belgian music, offers you in addition to these two French icons the colourful music of the Belgian composer **Frits Celis**. His Trio Op. 5, composed in 1958, is characterised by a very strong rhythmic tension, a clear structure but above all an admirable and wide palette of timbres.

FRITS CELIS Trio, op. 5

CLAUDE DEBUSSY La Mer (arr. S. Beamish)

45'

FRITS CELIS Trio, op. 5

MAURICE RAVEL Trio

CLAUDE DEBUSSY La Mer (arr. S. Beamish)

90'

The background is a dark, textured surface, possibly a book cover or a piece of fabric, with a vertical white line on the left side. The text is white and centered horizontally.

**MASTERS
OF
MELANCHOLY**

La mélancolie, c'est le bonheur d'être triste.

— Victor Hugo

In this program, Trio Khaldei brings together three composers mastering the sound of melancholy.

César Franck, the most famous Belgian composer, was born in 1822 and found in his work the ultimate symbiosis of German Romanticism and French Impressionism. His Piano Trio Op. 1, No. 1 is a rarely-played pearl.

Born in 1921, **Astor Piazzolla**, the great Argentine tango master, represents the four seasons in Buenos Aires in a unique way. These are four nostalgic tangos in which Latin America and Europe meet and blend.

Franz Schubert's second Piano Trio in Eb is one of the absolute highlights of the piano trio repertoire. This trio is one of Schubert's last compositions, written a year before his death in 1828. Schubert based the second movement, *Andante con moto*, on a Swedish folk song: *Se solen sjunker*.

“Watch the sun descend behind the high peaks of the mountains. Oh beautiful hope, you flee the dark shadows of the night.”

95'

CÉSAR FRANCK Trio, Op. 1 No. 1

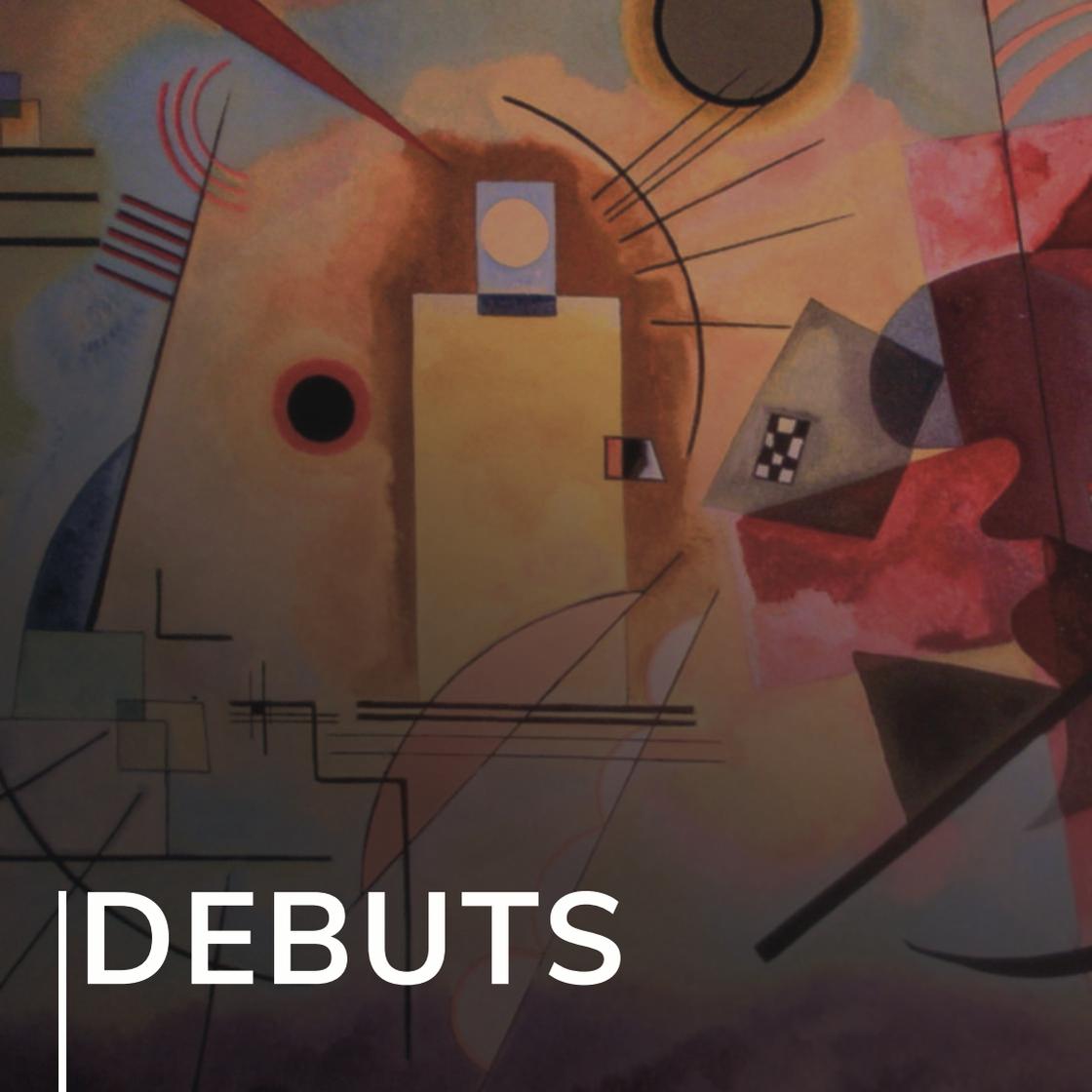
ASTOR PIAZZOLLA Four seasons of Buenos Aires

FRANZ SCHUBERT Trio in Es, D929

FRANZ SCHUBERT Trio in Es, D929

ASTOR PIAZZOLLA Four seasons of Buenos Aires

65'



DEBUTS

Five composers experimented at the start of their careers with the challenging form that is the piano trio.

Writing a piano trio is a challenge for any composer. The repertoire is already rich with countless masterpieces. In addition, striking the right balance between the unique but formidable combination of the tonal colours of the piano and strings makes the trio a tough taskmaster.

Although the pieces in this programme are part of each composer's early works, certain typical characteristics of their later styles are already audible. In **Jean Sibelius'** Trio in C Major, we hear the first signs of the narrative style of his future orchestral works.

Sergei Rachmaninoff's first Elegiac Trio, written in 1892 when he was 19, pays homage to his mentor, Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky. Despite his youth, Rachmaninoff showcases a mature range of tonal colours in the piano part.

Dmitri Shostakovich wrote his first Piano Trio at the age of 17. This one-movement trio was dedicated to Tatjana Glivienko and originally entitled 'Poème', and it is no less rich in tempos and characters.

This programme is also a chance to discover two lesser-known composers. The Belgian composer **Gillis Sacré** wrote Sursum for the Khaldei Trio in 2015.

Gaspar Cassadó was a famous Catalan cellist of the first half of the 20th Century, who studied composition with Maurice Ravel. He composed a brilliantly virtuoso trio, influenced by earlier Spanish models, but revealing great panache and considerable demands via guitar imitations, malagueña rhythms and lashings of folkloric brio.

JEAN SIBELIUS Trio "Lovisa", JS 208

GILLIS SACRÉ Sursum

DMITRI SHOSTAKOVICH Trio No. 1, Op. 8

SERGEI RACHMANINOFF Trio élégiaque No. 1

GASPAR CASSADO Trio

75'

60'

JEAN SIBELIUS Trio "Lovisa", JS 208

GILLIS SACRÉ Sursum

DMITRI SHOSTAKOVICH Trio No. 1, Op. 8

GASPAR CASSADO Trio

Contemporary music



DEBUSSY AND HIS SPECTRAL LEGACY

CLAUDE DEBUSSY Violin Sonata (1917)

LUC BREWAEYS 3 miniatures for violin and cello (2008)

CLAUDE DEBUSSY Cello Sonata (1915)

JONATHAN HARVEY Trio (1971)

KAIJA SAARIAHO Light and Matter (2014)

PRESENCE

SALVATORE SCIARRINO Trio No.2 (1987)

JONATHAN HARVEY Trio (1971)

BERND ALOIS ZIMMERMAN Présence (1961)

KAIJA SAARIAHO

KAIJA SAARIAHO

Aure for violin and cello (2011)

Nocturne for violin solo (1994)

Im Traume for cello and piano (1980)

Ballade for piano solo (2005)

Tocar for violin and piano (2010)

Spins and Spells for cello solo (1997)

Light and Matter for violin, cello and piano (2014)

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