

Odysseus Piano Trio

Sara Trickey, violin
Gregor Riddell, cello
Clare Hammond, piano



"Performed with rhythmic élan and finesse" **The Strad**
"Amazing power and panache" **The Daily Telegraph**

www.odysseustrio.com

After studies at Cambridge University and IMS Prussia Cove, and extensive chamber music experience with a number of ensembles, Sara, Gregor and Clare have established the Odysseus Piano Trio. Their debut season in 2015 sees them perform at venues across the UK, including St David's Hall in Cardiff, and the Deal, Frome, Llandeilo and Rye Festivals.

While their repertoire encompasses core works for trio, they also aim to seek out less familiar pieces and to bring them to new audiences. All members of the ensemble are keen communicators and enjoy interacting with audiences and students in pre- and post-concert talks, workshops and masterclasses.

Acclaimed as a pianist of "amazing power and panache" (*The Telegraph*), **Clare Hammond** is recognised for the virtuosity and authority of her performances and is developing a "reputation for brilliantly imaginative concert programmes" (*BBC Music Magazine*, 'Rising Star'). In 2015 the Guardian described her as a "dazzling athlete" following her performance at the Barbican Hall, she gave five broadcasts for BBC Radio 3, and recorded discs for Sony, BIS Records and Signum.

Highlights in 2016 include her Royal Festival Hall debut with the Philharmonia, and a concerto tour of Poland, to include a newly discovered work by Josef Myslivecek, a mentor of Mozart. Clare will release a disc for BIS Records, *Horae (pro clara)*, with solo piano music by Ken Hesketh, and returns to the Cheltenham and Presteigne Festivals. Her most recent disc release, 'Etude' has received unanimous critical praise for its "unfaltering bravura and conviction" (*Gramophone*) while the BBC Music Magazine stated that "this array of wizardry is not for the faint hearted".

www.clarehammond.com

Sara Trickey is well established as one of the foremost violinists and chamber musicians of her generation, acclaimed for her "fiery and passionate" performance style (*The Strad*). Leader of the Bronte string quartet for 6 years, she now has a busy career as a soloist and freelance chamber musician and is currently a Recommended Artist for Making Music with the pianist Daniel Tong. Her work has taken her to all the major UK concert venues, including the Purcell Room, Royal Opera House, St David's Hall in Cardiff and Kings Place London, and she has been the featured violinist at the Presteigne Festival several times.

Sara has made concerto appearances with the City of London Sinfonia, the Orchestra of St Johns, the Welsh Sinfonia, Presteigne Festival Orchestra and many others. Recent recordings include the complete violin sonatas by William Mathias, a world premiere recording for Naxos, and a disc of Schubert violin and piano music for the Champs Hill Music label. Sara's performances have been broadcast on BBC Radio 3 and Welsh television.

www.saratrickey.com

Gregor Riddell is a cellist and composer active in a diverse range of musical projects. As a founder member of the Solstice String Quartet, he has performed at major European concert halls and premiered a substantial number of works including his own, *Touch-In, Touch-Out*. He is also a member of Living Room. In 2012 Gregor attended a Banff Creative Residency where he wrote a substantial work for cello and electronics, *Their Scintillant Blades*, which he recorded with American producer/composer Rob Lewis supported by an MBF Emerging Excellence Award. He has received two commissions from the London Contemporary Orchestra and, alongside cellist Torun Stavseng, premiered his double cello concerto, *Sin Aliento*, in La Paz commissioned by Bolivia Classica. Alongside composer David Ibbett, Gregor developed a work for cello and live electronics for the 2014 BEAST concert series at Birmingham University. He is a member of the Norwegian composers collective, NMK, and involved in nu:nord for which his cello trio, Tre Voci, is resident ensemble. In January 2014 they launched their debut album at Kings Place *Out Hear Series* with upcoming performances in the UK, Scandinavia and Canada. Gregor read music at Cambridge University and composition at the Royal College of Music.

www.gregoriddell.co.uk

For more information, contact Clare Hammond on:

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SAMPLE PROGRAMMES

ODYSSEUS PIANO TRIO

www.odysseustrio.com

PROGRAMME 1

HAYDN

Trio No. 25 in G major, Hob. XV:25 "Gypsy
Rondo" (15')

BEETHOVEN

Piano Trio No. 5 in D major, Op. 70 'Ghost' (25')

INTERVAL

BRAHMS

Piano Trio No. 1 in B, Op. 8 (33')

PROGRAMME 2

BRIDGE

Piano Trio No. 1 in C minor, "Phantasie" (17')

FAURÉ

Piano Trio No. 1 in D minor, Op. 120 (20')

INTERVAL

RAVEL

Piano Trio in A minor (27')

PROGRAMME 3

MOZART

Piano Trio No. 6 in G major, K. 564 (15')

DAVID MATTHEWS

Piano Trio No. 2 (20')

INTERVAL

MARTINU

Cinq Pièces brèves
(Piano Trio No. 1, H193) (12')

DVORAK

Piano Trio No. 4 in E minor, Op. 90 "Dumky" (32')

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ACCOMPANYING LECTURES

For each concert presented by the Odysseus Trio, Dr. Katy Hamilton will present a pre-concert talk exploring some of the themes and historical circumstances of the repertoire. Topics can be varied to suit audiences, and adjusted depending upon the length of concert and programme given. The Trio have kindly agreed to assist in these talks, with live demonstrations providing new ways to relate to the pieces performed.

For example, a programme of Haydn, Beethoven and Brahms might be prefaced with an introduction to the history and development of the piano trio, and the ways in which different generations of composers have approached the genre. Broader themes and topics could include:

French connections: Gabriel Fauré and his influence on Ravel and Frank Bridge

Dangerous nationalism: Martinů, Dvořák, and Czech music

Musical gypsies: could involve Dvořák, Haydn and Brahms

Analytical exploration: could complement any programme, with players performing excerpts to help clarify musical structures, e.g. for Matthews, Ravel, Brahms

Dr. Katy Hamilton is a freelance researcher and writer on music. She specialises in nineteenth-century music, particularly that of Johannes Brahms and his contemporaries, and is co-editor of the Cambridge University Press volume *Brahms in the Home and the Concert Hall*. She has also been involved in projects covering subjects as diverse as the history of the Edinburgh Festival, the songs of Franz Schubert, the role of émigré musicians in post-1945 British musical life, and variety shows at the Wigmore Hall in the early twentieth century. She has provided concert introductions and programme notes for a wide range of venues, including the Edinburgh International Festival, Victoria & Albert Museum, Royal College of Music, University of Nottingham and St George's, Bristol. She has made several appearances on BBC Radio 3, as a Brahms specialist and as part of the Record Review team. As a lecturer, she has worked at the Royal College of Music, the University of Nottingham, City Lit and Middlesex University. She is also an active chamber accompanist, with a particular interest in nineteenth and early-twentieth century performance practice.

