

# TRIO WANDERER

Trio Wanderer quite deserves their stage-name. Indeed, "Wanderer" pays homage to Schubert, and more widely to German Romanticism which is often imbued with the leitmotiv of the wandering traveler. These three French musicians are avid open-minded wandering travelers, who explore the musical world, spanning the centuries from Mozart and Haydn to nowadays. Acclaimed for its extraordinarily sensitive style, almost telepathic understanding of each other and technical mastery, the Trio Wanderer is one of the world's foremost chamber ensembles.

Winning first prize for chamber music at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Paris, the Trio Wanderer studied from 1987 to 1991 with such masters as Jean-Claude Pennetier, Jean Hubeau, Janos Starker, Menahem Pressler from the Beaux Arts Trio, and the Amadeus Quartet. In 1988, they won the ARD Competition in Munich and, in 1990, the Fischoff Chamber Music Competition in the USA.

Called a "Wandering Star" by the Strad Magazine, the Trio has performed on the most prestigious music stages: Berlin's Philharmonic, Paris' Théâtre des Champs Elysées, London's Wigmore Hall, Milan's Teatro alla Scala, Barcelona's Palau de la Musica, Washington's Library of Congress, Rio de Janeiro's Teatro Municipal, Tokyo's Kioi Hall, Zürich's Tonhalle and Amsterdam's Concertgebouw. They have also performed at major festivals such as Edinburgh, Montreux, Feldkirch, Schleswig Holstein, Rheingau Musiksommmer, Colmar, La Roque d'Anthéron, the Folles Journées de Nantes, Granada, Stresa, and Osaka.

Their debut at the Salzburg Festival in August 2002 was praised as "a triumphant success" by the critics and led to their return for the 2004 and 2006 Festivals.

Trio Wanderer's 2010-2011 engagements include performances at Paris Théâtre des champs-Elysées, London's Wigmore Hall, Jeju Music Festival in Korea, in Leipzig's Gewandhaus and Rheingau Musiksommer in Germany, Schubertiades Gmbh in Austria, as well as concerts in Netherlands, Denmark, Italy, Switzerland, Taïwan and Japan. Next spring, Trio Wanderer is invited to play in Moscow the Beethoven Triple Concerto with the Russian National Orchestra conducted by Ken David Masur.

They have on many occasions collaborated with artists such as Yehudi Menuhin, Christopher Hogwood, James Loughran, Marco Guidarini, François-Xavier Roth, Charles Dutoit and James Conlon, accompanied, in triple or double concertos, by orchestras as Toulouse, Nice, Montpellier, Liège, Santiago de Chile, La Coruna, Teneriffe, by Les Siècles orchestra, Radio-France's Orchestre National and Orchestre Philharmonique, Berlin's Radio Symphonic Orchestra, Sinfonia Varsovia, Graz's Philharmonic Orchester, Köln's Gürzenich Orchester, Stockholm Chamber Orchestra...

Two CDs have been released by Sony Classical (Mendelssohn Trios in 1995 and the Dvorak and Smetana Trios in 1996). In 1999 the Trio Wanderer began a new partnership with Harmonia Mundi, with whom they have recorded trios by Chausson, Ravel, Schubert, Haydn, Shostakovich and Copland, Beethoven's Triple Concerto (with James Conlon), Schubert's Trout Quintet, trios by Saint-Saëns Brahms and Mendelssohn, Messiaen's Quatuor pour la Fin du Temps. In 2005, a new CD dedicated to the Martinu's Triple Concerti was issued by Capriccio. Their recordings have been awarded several prizes including Choc du Monde de la Musique, Fanfare's Want List, Critic's Choice de Gramophone, CD of the Month' by the BBC Music Magazine, Klassik.com Empfehlung, Cds des Monat Fono Forum, Diapason d'Or of the Year, Midem International Classical Music Award.

In 2009, a recording of Beethoven-Haydn-Pleyel folksongs with the austrian baryton Wolfgang Holzmair has been released for Cyprès record. The same year, they have published for Accord-universal a recording of Bartok, Martinu, Debussy and Escaich works with the clarinetist Paul Meyer, the flutist Emmanuel Pahud and thre oboist player François Leleux, followed in 2010 by a CD of Fauré Piano

Quartets with the viola player Antoine Tamestit for Harmonia Mundi. Next January, Trio wanderer's new recording will be released by Harmonia Mundi; it will be dedicated to Smetana piano Trio and Liszt's chamber music.

Besides numerous radio and television recordings (Radio France, BBC, ARD, Mezzo), the French-German television company ARTE made a film on the Trio Wanderer, broadcast in June 2003. They just recorded last July for the French national broadcast France2 three TV programmes dedicated to Mendelssohn, Messiaen and Schubert.

Heralded by the professional music world, the Trio Wanderer has been awarded for the third time in February 2009 (previously in 1997 and 2000) a Victoire de la Musique for Best Instrumental Ensemble of the year.

## PRESS

The best to be had today when it comes to trios. Throughout the years, Wanderer trio have been able to shine thanks to their homogeneous, original sound, "physical" style and free interpretation of their repertoire.

Le Monde (France)

The turbulent Piano Trio No. 1 in D minor has long ranked among Mendelssohn's most popular chamber works; accordingly, there is no shortage of recorded performances, including several by ad hoc supergroups. Few manage as exquisite a balance among instruments as that achieved by the Trio Wanderer on its 2007 CD, which also includes a compelling account of the Piano Trio No. 2 in C minor. Trio Wanderer's playing in the Second's demonic Scherzo will have you on the edge of your seat.

New York Times (USA)

With each piece the "Trio Wanderer" found its own language and its own clear style. Their playing discipline is fascinating. The way the musicians draw different lines, the degree of intensity, the regulation of dynamics, how they emphasize or permit different voices get through whilst consciously taking into account the consequences upon the collective sound, and to top it all how they bestow the music with its individual breath: a sheer miracle.

Salzburger Nachrichten (Salzburg Festival – Austria)

Wandering Stars – It was clear from the outset that the Trio Wanderer's recital at the Wigmore Hall was to be very special. That no other artist that month came close to capturing the essence of music as this young French group did speaks volumes for the quality of its performances. They have a near-telepathic musical sensibility. What so impresses about this group is its command of the emotional panorama of the music. In short, an awe-inspiring evening.

The Strad (UK)

The Wanderers take us on an exhilarating emotional rollercoaster ride, with a wonderful sense of conversational repartee in the fast outer movements and rapt

expressions of wonderment in Schubert's sublime, songful slow movements. All three players are outstanding musicians.

The Times (UK)

Such fusion of spirit and style is hard to find in a trio. All three artists contribute to the trio's perfect homogeneity. Jean-Marc Phillips-Varjabédian's violin is superb, Raphaël Pidoux's cello sings freely and Vincent Coq's piano is faultlessly well-rounded and almost symphonic. The Trio stand out at once for their fullness of sound, power and youthful energy.

Diapason (France)

It has been my lot to hear Haydn's Piano trio No. 17 several times recently, but never with such supreme, sparkling generosity as at the well attended evening concert with the French Trio Wanderer (who are playing again this evening). The piano's combination of soaring lightness and rhythmic intensity was matchless, the strings met in a slender but noble sonority where the cello elevated itself expressively beyond the purely supportive, and the balance was perfect. This jubilant experience was movingly rounded off by Schubert's elegiac 'Notturno', mould as in one piece with miraculously melting transitions.

Politiken (Denmark)

The Trio's qualities became obvious at once: a piano bursting with inspiring energy, a wonderfully intense and lyrical violin, and a cello with deep, full sounds. Their style can further be characterized by its typically French distinctness and airy lightness.

Nürnberg Zeitung (Germany)

Jean-Marc Phillips-Varjabédian is a wonderful violinist, elegant, sober – a born virtuoso. Raphaël Pidoux is a superb cellist with deeply moving and truly lyrical accents. As for Vincent Coq, he at once exhibits total musicality and breathtaking technical skills: three partners whose hearts have been keeping the same beat for eleven years.

Le Figaro (France)

As an admirer not only of Saint-Saens's chamber music but also of the Wanderer Trio's previous releases, especially their Haydn and Shostakovich, I came to this recording with high expectations-all of which, I'm happy to say, have been exceeded. A dance-like elegance continually harassed by rhapsodic explosiveness best sums up these sparkling performances...

Gramophone (UK)

In Graz' Stephanensaal, they exhibited their remarkable technique and exceptional sonorous richness through a series of interpretations which were both intense and spirited. They will be remembered for their perfect stylistic simplicity, ceaselessly renewed inspiration and finely gradated dynamics. A priceless evening!

Neue Zeit (Austria)

## MEMBERS

## VINCENT COQ, piano



Vincent Coq started studying the piano at age 7. Admitted to Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Paris at age 18, he won a piano First Prize in 1985 and then pursued graduate studies under the guidance of Dominique Merlet.

After winning a First Prize in chamber music in 1984 in Geneviève Joy-Dutilleux's class, he joined Jean-

Claude Pennetier's class to perfect his chamber music skills.

Vincent Coq then joined master classes taught by Nikita Malagoff, György Sandor and Leon Fleisher. In 1989, he worked under the direction of György Sebök at the Bloomington School of Music (USA).

As the same time as his career with the Trio Wanderer, Vincent Coq plays with many other musicians as Sophie Koch, Gérard Caussé, Antoine Tamestit, Susan Cairns, Wolfgang Holzmair, Karen Vourc'h, François Leleux, Anne Gastinel... He gives also concerts of melodrama's repertoire with the actor Eric Genovese, Sociétaire de la Comédie Française.

Vincent Coq teaches chamber music at the Lausanne's Haute Ecole de Musique.

Virtuose pianist Vincent Coq performs impeccably weaving a rich tapestry of whose notes whose velvet shimmer sets off the playing of the strings. One seems to be hearing Menahem Pressler when the Beaux-Arts Trio was in its prime.

Le Devoir - Montreal

#### JEAN-MARC PHILLIPS-VARJABEDIAN, violin



Born in Paris, Jean-Marc Phillips-Varjabédian began studying the violin at age 5. He was admitted to Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Paris and received a First Prize in chamber music in 1984 and a violin First Prize in 1985.

After studying under the direction of Gérard Poulet and Jean-Claude Bernède, Jean-Marc Phillips-

Varjabédian moved to Cremona, Italy, to work under the direction of Salvatore Accardo.

Jean-Marc Phillips-Varjabédian then spent one year at the Julliard School in New York to study with Dorothy Delay. He has won several prizes in international violin competitions (Carl Flesch, Zino Francescatti, Lipizer, Palm Beach).

As the same time as his career with the Trio Wanderer, Jean-Marc Phillips-Varjabédian plays as a soloist with many orchestras as Lille, Avignon, Bretagne, Caen, de Poitou-Charentes, Cannes, Les Siècles. He also plays duo repertoire with the pianist Marie-Joseph Jude. He created a septet with the accordeonist Richard Galliano. They gave numerous concerts around the world with the show Piazzola Forever.

Jean-Marc Phillips-Varjabédian teaches violin at the Lyon Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique.

Jean-Marc Phillips-Varjabédian plays on a violin by Petrus GUARNERIUS (Venezia 1748).

Violinist Jean-Marc Phillips is an invaluable asset to the Wanderer Trio. He captivates with his warm and sensuous tone, and his spontaneity, founded on absolute technical mastery, is balanced by a genuine sense of dialogue.

Le Figaro - Paris

## RAPHAËL PIDOUX, cello



Raphaël Pidoux began his musical studies with the piano. He learned the cello with his father and entered Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Paris at age 17.

He obtained a First Prize in 1987 and enrolled in Philippe Muller's class for graduate studies. He then joined Jean-Claude Pennetier's class on chamber

music advanced skills, and Christophe Coin's class on Baroque cello.

He studied under the direction of Janos Starker in Bloomington (USA) in 1989. He is prize-winner of the Bach cello competition in Leipzig.

As the same time as his career with the Trio Wanderer, Raphaël Pidoux frequently plays with Christophe Coin, the Ensemble Orchestral de Limoges and the Mosaïques Quartet as well as with orchestras as Les Siècles Orchestra and the Rouen's orchestra. He gives concerts of Piazzola repertoire with the accordeonist Richard Galliano and in 2009, he plays in the Noureev choregraphy "Bach Suite" with Kader Blarbi at the Opéra de Paris"

Raphaël Pidoux teaches cello at the CRR of Paris.

Raphaël Pidoux plays on a violoncello by Goffredo CAPPA (Saluzzo 1680)

The cellist Raphaël Pidoux is simply magnificent: the precise bow, the rich and stirring sound, and the profound musical sensibility are all generously evident.

La Presse - Montréal

# VIDEOS

Click on the images to watch the videos.



Schubert, Trio op. 100 - Andante con moto



Saint-Saëns, Trio op. 92 - Allegretto



Mendelssohn, Trio op. 49 - Allegro assai appassionato



Beethoven, Trio WoO 39



Chopin, Trio in G minor Op. 8



Smetana – Liszt

## REPERTOIRE

#### Classical

Trio:

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827) Complete Piano Trios

Franz Josef Haydn (1732-1809) Miscellaneous Trios

Wolfgang A. Mozart (1756-1791) Complete Piano Trios

Trio + Viola:

Wolfgang A. Mozart (1756-1791) Quartets KV. 478 & 493

Trio + Voice:

Franz Josef Haydn (1732-1809) Folksongs Trio and Voice

Trio + Orchestra:

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)

Triple Concerto op. 56

#### **Romantic**

Trio:

Anton Arensky (1861-1906) Trio op. 32

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897) Complete Piano Trios

Ernest Chausson (1885-1899) Trio op. 3 Frédéric Chopin (1810-1849) Trio op. 8

Antonin Dvorak (1841-1904) Trios op. 65 and op. 90 "Dumky"

César Franck (1822-1890) Trio op. 1 n°1

Enrique Granados (1867-1916)

Trio op. 50

Edvard Grieg (1843-1907) Andante

Édouard Lalo (1823-1892) Trio n°3 op. 26

Franz Liszt (1811-1886) Tristia

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Trios op. 49 et op. 66

Sergei Rachmaninov (1873-1943) Trios "Elegiac" n°1 et op. 9

Camille Saint-Saëns (1835-1921) Trios op. 18 et op. 92

Franz Schubert (1797-1828) Complete Piano Trios

Robert Schumann (1810-1856) Complete Piano Trios

Bedrich Smetana (1824-1884) Trio op. 15 Piotr I. Tchaïkovsky (1840-1893) Trio op. 50

Trio + Viola:

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897) Quartets op. 25, op. 26 & op. 60

Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924) Quartets op. 15 & op. 45

Robert Schumann (1810-1856) Quartet op. 47

Trio + Violin + Viola :

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897) Quintet op. 34
Antonin Dvorak (1841-1904) Quintet op. 81
Robert Schumann (1810-1856) Quintet op. 44

Trio + Viola + Double Bass :

Johann N. Hummel (1778-1837) Quintet op. 87

Franz Schubert (1797-1828) Quintet "The Trout" op. 114

Trio + Flute + Voice :

Carl Maria von Weber (1786-1826) Schottische National-Gesänge

## **XXth Century**

Trio:

Arno Babadjanian (1921-1983) Trio

Nicolas Bacri (1931- ) Trio n°3 "Les Contrastes"

Frank Michael Beyer (1908-2008)

Ernest Bloch (1880-1959)

Frank Bridge (1879-1941)

Trio n°1

Dimitri Chostakovitch (1906-1975) Trios op. 8 & op. 67

Aaron Copland (1900- 1990) Vitebsk (1929)
Thierry Escaich (1965- ) Trio (2003)

Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924) Trio op. 120

Charles Ives (1874-1954) Trio

Jouni Kaipainen (1956- ) Trio n°3 op. 29 (1987)

Bruno Mantovani (1974- ) 8 Moments Musicaux

Bohuslav Martinu (1890-1959) 5 Pièces Brèves, Trio n°2

Maurice Ravel (1875-1937) Trio (1914)

Ned Rorem (1923- ) Spring Music

Alfred Schnittke (1934-1998) Trio

Joaquin Turina (1882-1949) Circulo op. 91, Trio n°2

Trio + Violin + Viola :

Dmitri Chostakovitch (1906-1975) Quintet op. 57

Trio + Clarinet :

Philippe Hersant (1948-)

Nachtgesang

Paul Hindemith (1895-1963) Quartet

Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992) Quatuor pour la Fin du Temps

Trio + Voice:

Dmitri Chostakovitch (1906 -1975) Ophelia Songs op. 127

for Trio and Soprano

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) On Wenlock Edge

for Piano Quintet and Tenor

Trio + Orchestra :

Alfredo Casella (1883-1947) Triple concerto op. 58

Giorgio F. Ghédini (1892-1965) Triple Concerto Dell'Albatro

Gian F. Malipiéro (1882-1973) Concerto a Tre

Bohuslav Martinu (1890-1959) Concertino & Concert

# DISCOGRAPHY

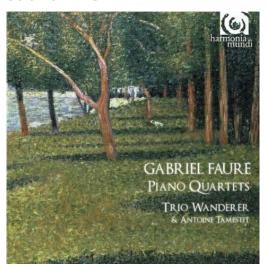
#### Bedrich SMETANA, Franz LISZT



Awards: 'CD of the Month' Classical Music Magazine, Luister 10, CD Tipp HR2, CD Tipp NDR Kultur, CD Tipp Radio Stephansdom, Empfehlung Klassik.com, Empfehlung MDR Figaro, Empfehlung Br Klassik, Le Choix de France Musique, Label Liszt 2011, 5\* Ensemble magazine.

Harmonia Mundi HMC 902060

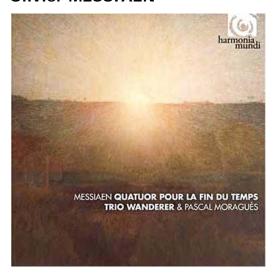
## Gabriel FAURÉ



Awards: Joker de Crescendo, 10 ClassicsToday, CD Tipp Hr2, NDR Kultur, Radio Stephansdom, Empfehlung Klassik.com, Br4, MDR Figaro, The Strad recommends, Scherzo exceptional

Harmonia Mundi HMC 902032

#### **Olivier MESSIAEN**



Awards: Choc du Monde de la Musique, le Choix de France Musiques, Empfehlung NDR Kultur, CD Tipp HR2, Empfehlung BR4.

Harmonia Mundi HMC 901987

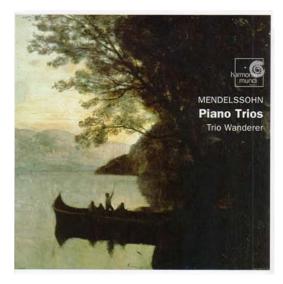
# Ludwig van BEETHOVEN, Ignaz PLEYEL, Joseph HAYDN



Awards: "diamant" d'Opéra Magazine, ORF Pasticcio Preis

Cyprès CYP1653

#### **Felix MENDELSSOHN**



Awards: Maestro de Pianiste, Diapason 5, Chamber CD of the Month BBC Music Magazine, CD of the Week Daily Telegraph, 10/10 ClassicsTodayFr, Coup de Coeur Fnac, Stern des Monats Fono Forum, 10/10 Luister, 10/10 ClassicsToday

Harmonia Mundi HMC 901961

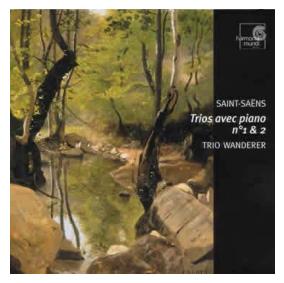
#### Johannes BRAHMS



Awards: Choc du Monde de la Musique, Diapason d'Orde l'Année, Arte, Empfehlung Klassik.com, 10/10 Classics Today, Midem Classical Award.

Harmonia Mundi HMC 901915.16

### Camille SAINT-SAËNS



Awards: 10/10 Klassik Heute, Diapason 5, 10/10 ClassicstodayFrance, Maestro Pianiste, 10/10 ClassicsToday, Empfehlung Bayern 4, 5\* EnsembleMagazine.

Harmonia Mundi HMC 901862

# **Ludwig van BEETHOVEN**



Awards : 'Klara's Kwaliteitslabel', \*\*\*\*\*A Amadeus, 'CD des Tages' - hr2

Le Chant du Monde LDC 2781142

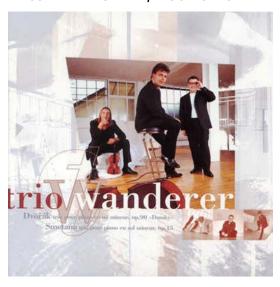
#### **Franz SCHUBERT**



Awards: "Recommandé" Classica, "Recommandé" Revue du Son, "Coup de Cœur" Muzzik, Diapason 5, "Empfehlung" Klassik Heute, CD of the Week The Times, BBC Magazine Chamber Music Choice of the Month, 10/10 Luister, The Strad Selection.

Harmonia Mundi HMC 901825

# Antonin DVORAK, Bedrich SMETANA



Awards : Victoires de la Musique 1997, 'Coup de Coeur' octobre 2002 du Pavé dans la Mare-France Musiques

Sony Classical SK62818