

Concerts at The University

Tuesday 8 November 2011

1.10pm

Reid Concert Hall

Quatuor Diotima

Yun-Peng Zhao · violin 1 & 2

Vanessa Szigeti · violin 1 & 2

Franck Chevalier · viola

Pierre Morlet · cello

Programme of works by SCHUBERT and DEBUSSY.



String Quartet No.9 in G minor D173 (1815)

Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

- (i) Allegro con brio
- (ii) Andantino
- (iii) Minuetto - Allegro vivace
- (iv) Allegro

String Quartet in G minor Op.10 (1893)

Claude Debussy (1862-1918)

- (i) Animé et très décidé
- (ii) Assez vif et bien rythmé
- (iii) Andantino, doucement expressif
- (iv) Très modéré – En animant peu à peu- Très mouvementé et avec passion

This quartet comes from the period when Debussy was developing his personal style, out of the influences of César Franck and Richard Wagner. There is a Romantic feel to the music, though it lacks the structural drama and weight of expression of late Romantic music. The tonality is inconclusive, and the thematic elements repeat and reappear in different harmonies in a mosaic of constantly shifting patterns. Debussy seems to have taken the String Quartet of Edvard Grieg as a model for the formal outline, and the folk-like tone of the second movement recalls Grieg's Nordic accents. Although overall the colours of the music are muted, there is a depth and richness of sound that creates a new *Impressionism* in string quartet writing:

"Music should be registered by the listener's ear without his having to discover abstract ideas in the maze of a complicated development." (Léon Vallas, *The ideas of Claude Debussy, French musician*. Paris, 1927)

Quatuor Diotima, founded by graduates of the Paris and Lyon Conservatoires, was awarded first prize at the FNAPEC Competition, Paris in 1999, and the Contemporary Music Prize at the London String Quartet Competition in 2000, in which year, at the invitation of ProQuartet, they began a two-year residency at the Centre Européen de Musique de Chambre, Fontainebleau.

From the outset Diotima have been performing internationally and have appeared at many of the major concert venues and music festivals across Europe including Cité de la Musique, Centre Georges Pompidou, Festival d'Aix-en-Provence, Berlin Philharmonie, Konzerthaus Berlin, Mozarteum Salzburg, Bregenz Festival, Aldeburgh and Cheltenham Festivals, Queen's Hall Edinburgh, Helsinki Festival, Konserthuset Stockholm, Villa Medici Rome, Casa da Musica Porto, Auditori de Barcelona and the Athens Festival. Concert tours have taken them further afield, to Japan, USA, Mexico, Central and South America, China and Korea.

Quatuor Diotima's repertoire ranges from Haydn to the composers of our time, with particular focus on the Classical period, French Romanticism, the early Twentieth Century, and a selection of major works from the last 50 years. An equally significant part of their activity is the performance and dissemination of newly commissioned works.

Diotima's first CD of works by Lachenmann and Nono received the Young Talents prize at the award ceremony 'Diapason d'or de l'année'. Their subsequent CD of Janacek comprises the two quartets played from new critical editions and the première recording of the composer's viola d'amore version of Intimate Letters. Their discography also includes quartets by Lucien Durosoir, Schoenberg's virtuosic concerto for quartet and orchestra, a cycle of works by Alberto Posadas (Diapason d'or, November 09), and quartets by George Onslow (Diapason 'CD of the month', January 2010). A recording of music by Toshio Hosokawa is due for release on NEOS, and a disc of Schoenberg, Berg and Webern is in preparation for the Naïve label.

Highlights of 2010 and beyond include appearances at the Cité de la Musique Paris, Sydney Festival, Gulbenkian Auditorium Lisbon, Laeiszhalle Hamburg, Tel Aviv Museum of Art, Amphithéâtre Bastille Paris, Auditorio Nacional Madrid, Centre Acanthes Metz, Musikfest Bremen, Takefu Festival Japan, Donaueschinger Musiktage, Bouffes du Nord Paris, The Frick Collection New York, Muziekgebouw Amsterdam, Salzburg Biennale, Printemps des Arts Monte Carlo, Auditorium du Louvre and Wigmore Hall London.

FORTHCOMING CONCERTS:

Friday 11 November

1.10pm

St Cecilia's Hall

Christopher Field · violin

Tom Wilkinson · harpsichord

J.S. BACH Sonata in C minor BWV 1017 for violin and obligato harpsichord

VIVALDI Sonata in G minor RV 757 for violin and continuo

J.S. BACH Sonata in G major BWV 1019 for violin and obligato harpsichord

ADMISSION FREE

Friday 11 to Sunday 13 November, Reid Concert Hall, Bristo Square

SOUNDINGS... 11/12

ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF SONIC ART

Friday 11 November

8.00pm

Reid Concert Hall, Bristo Square

Jonty Harrison and Adrian Moore: multi-channel works

Saturday 12 November

6.00pm

New electroacoustic work from Scotland, including new work by Andy Connor and Louise Rossiter.

Saturday 12 November

8.00pm

Gilles Gobeil: works for Ondes Martenot and fixed medium

Suzanne Binet Audet Ondes Martenot

Sunday 13 November

6.00pm

Martin Parker: Works for trombone and computer with John Kenny trombone

Tickets: £5.00 / £3.00 concessions

available on the door

Weekend pass (all 4 concerts): £16.00 / £10.00 concessions

Concessions: students, school children, Musicians Union members, unemployed, senior citizens.

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