KUHMO CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT



BRUSSELS, 6 JANUARY 2019

PROGRAMME

Joseph Haydn (1732–1809):

Piano Trio No. 39 in G, Hob. XV:25 (1795)

Andante Poco adagio Finale; Rondo all'Ongarese, Presto

Priya Mitchell, violin Joona Pulkkinen, cello Diana Ketler, piano

Jean Sibelius (1865–1957):

Valse triste Op. 44/1 (1904; composer's arrangement)

Diana Ketler, piano

Béla Bartók (1881-1945):

Romanian Folk Dances Sz. 56 (arr. Z. Szekely)

Joc cu bâtă (Allegro moderato)
Brâul (Allegro)
Pe Loc (Andante)
Buciomeana (Moderato)
Poargă Românească (Allegro)
Mărunțel (L'istesso Tempo)
Mărunțel (Allegro vivace)

Priya Mitchell, violin Diana Ketler, piano

Manuel de Falla (1876-1946):

Seven Spanish Folk Songs (1914; transcription for cello and piano by M. Maréchal)

El Paño Moruno Asturiana Canción Jota Nana Polo

Joona Pulkkinen, cello Diana Ketler, piano

INTERMISSION

Johannes Brahms (1833–1897):

Piano Quartet No. 1 in G minor, Op. 25 (1856–61)

Allegro Intermezzo. Allegro, ma non troppo Andante con moto Rondo alla Zingarese. Presto

Priya Mitchell, violin Vladimir Mendelssohn, viola Joona Pulkkinen, cello Diana Ketler, piano



ARTISTS

DIANA KETLER, PIANO

Pianist Diana Ketler has performed as a soloist and chamber musician in Wigmore Hall in London, the Musikverein and Concert Hall in Vienna, Carnegie Hall in New York City, Suntory Hall in Tokyo, Prince Regent Theatre in Munich and La Fenice Opera House in Venice as well as at a number of festivals, such as the Lucerne Festival, the Vienna Festival, Rhine Music Festival and in Gstaad and Spoleto. Ketler is the Artistic Director of the SoNoRo Festival in Romania and Italy and the Chiemgauer Musikrühling Festival in Bavaria. She is a founding member of Ensemble Raro, one of the most interesting chamber ensembles in Europe, which has recorded several acclaimed albums. Diana Ketler has been a Professor of Piano at the London Royal Academy of Music since 2003.

VLADIMIR MENDELSSOHN, VIOLA

Vladimir Mendelssohn was born into a family of musicians in Romania and studied the viola and composition in Bucharest. He is a highly sought-after chamber musician and plays regularly with world-class musicians at countless music festivals. He has also performed as a soloist and recorded for several labels. Vladimir Mendelssohn is a prolific composer. His works include compositions for several solo instruments, mixed choir and symphony and chamber orchestras. He has also composed ballet, stage and film music. He was a Professor of Chamber Music at the Paris Conservatory until the autumn of 2015 and continues to teach master classes around the world. He has been with the Kuhmo Chamber Music as an artist since the early 1980s, and he

was appointed the Artistic Director of the festival in the autumn of 2005.

PRIYA MITCHELL, VIOLIN

Priya Mitchell, a pupil of David Takeno and Zachar Bron, was picked as a Rising Star by the European Concert Hall Organisation in 1994. This took her onstage to perform with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, the BBC Symphony Orchestra, and London Philharmonic Orchestra. In addition to British orchestras, she has played as the guest soloist with the Belgian National Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Sinfonia Varsovia, the Australian Chamber Orchestra, the Moscow Philharmonic Orchestra and many other. Mitchell is a popular chamber music star at international festivals, including such festivals as the Schleswig-Holstein, Lockenhaus, Risør, Heimbach, Stavanger and Lugano. She also leads the chamber music festival that she established in her hometown of Oxford in 2000.

JOONA PULKKINEN, CELLO

After claiming third prize in the national Cello Competition in Turku, Finland, in 2010, cellist Joona Pulkkinen has performed as a soloist with a number of orchestras, including the Aurora Symphony Orchestra, the Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Royal Chamber Orchestra of Wallonia, the Orchestra of the Belgian National Opera, the Tampere Philharmonic Orchestra, the Sibelius Academy Symphony Orchestra and the Turku Philharmonic Orchestra. He has played at important music festivals in Finland and given concerts in many concert halls in Europe. For the 2015-2016 season, Pulkkinen was picked as

an artist in the Classe d'excellence de Violonce under the guidance of Gautier Capuçon in Paris. Some of Pulkkinen's other teachers include Gary Hoffman, Marko Ylönen and Pauli Heikkinen. He has been the principal cellist of the Tampere Philharmonic Orchestra since the autumn of 2014. He was also the principal cellist of the Finnish Tampere Philharmonic Orchestra on its tour in Austria in January, 2016. Pulkkinen plays a Charles Adolphe Gand cello from 1855.

KUHMO CHAMBER MUSIC

when is a small town on the Russian border, 600 kilometres north of the Finnish capital Helsinki, surrounded by forests and lakes. Two weeks in mid-July are devoted to chamber music. This is when thousands of music lovers head out to Kuhmo. The town of 9,000 inhabitants is bustling with music in an amazing backdrop with the waves of Lake Lammasjärvi rippling almost against the walls of the concert halls and the unbelievable, white light of the North.

The concert venues include the acoustically superb Lentua hall in the Kuhmo Arts Centre, Kuhmo's beautiful wooden church, and the hall in the new, wooden Tuupala School. There will be concerts from morning until late at night, and you can here music everywhere.

All concert venues are within walking distance of each other, and bicycles are also a popular means of transport, used both by artists and audience members. In the evenings, artists and concert guests gather around the campfire outside the festival restaurant.

Internationally, Kuhmo has become one of the most renowned music festivals in the world. The American magazine Connoisseur suggested that Kuhmo was possibly the best anywhere already back in 1989. In 2014, the Financial Times called

the Kuhmo Chamber Music an event "where unfettered creative idealism reigns". The most recent recognition was the Italian Cremona Musica Award that the festival received in the summer of 2018. The reasons for the recognition stated that "it is the format that makes the festival unique. The concerts at the two-week festival combine music that is very rare and very familiar, famous musicians and rising stars in an informal style, shying away from the star cult". According to the judges, the Kuhmo festival is "an innovative example of something that also works in terms of production and finances, thanks to the enthusiasm of the musicians." "Kuhmo is the Stradivari of festivals."

2019 marks the 50th anniversary of the Kuhmo Chamber Music Festival. The festival will take place from 14th to 27 July, 2019 and its theme will be Nostalgia.

Nostalgia means that we will see old, familiar artists, but the sights are set on the future by introducing new, young talent. In addition to music, the summer programme includes meetings with artists, art exhibitions, introduction to the programme and instruments.

More information: www.kuhmofestival.fi



