

SETTEMBRINI TRIO
SETTEMBRINI TRIO

THE FIRM
SERIES 2002

MONDAY SEP SETTEMBRINI TRIO

John Palegiani

Trio No. 4

Michael Milton violin

Sophie Lenoir

Cameron Waters 'cello

Walden

Leigh Harrold piano

Raymond Chapman Smith

Trumpet No. 4

Quentin ED Grant

Dissonance

Franz Schubert (1828-1898)

Piano Trio in E-flat Major

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 16, 2002

John Polglase

Trio No. 4

Sophie Lacaze

Histoire sans Paroles

Raymond Chapman Smith

Piano Trio No. 4

Quentin SD Grant

Disappearance

Franz Schubert (1797 - 1828)

Piano Trio in E flat, D897

John Polglase

Trio No. 4

Adagio dolente, poco flessibile

My fourth trio is a piano trio in four movements. Tonight's excerpt is a straight-forward 'Adagio' based on the very simplest of ideas; a single repeated note which continues throughout.

This trio was composed for the Seraphim Piano Trio with assistance from Arts SA.

Sophie Lacaze
Histoire sans paroles

Histoire sans paroles ("Story without words") was written in May 2002 in Paris. Sophie's compositions for chamber ensembles often incorporate words that are spoken, shouted or whispered by the musicians. But this time, she wrote a work without words, and so gave it this title. The first part of the piece is a sort of wild dance built on a rhythm played by the piano. The second part is typical of the composer's music: an atmospheric slow movement which make use of the many timbral and technical possibilities of the strings.

Sophie Lacaze is a French composer born in 1963. She studied music at the Conservatoire de Toulouse, and continued at the Ecole Normale de Musique de Paris, where she received the Composition Prize. Afterwards, she studied with Allain Gaussin, Georges Aperghis and Antoine Tisné in France, and with Franco Donatoni and Ennio Morricone in Italy. She also attended Pierre Boulez's courses in College de France. She is now developing partnerships with several chamber music ensembles and solo musicians. She is also involved with introducing children to contemporary music in primary schools. Her music is played in many countries, such as France, Australia, Japan, Romania, Italy, Poland, England, and Russia. She has visited Australia several times as a composer and as musical director of the ensemble *Triton 2*, and especially enjoys "this fantastic country."

Raymond Chapman Smith
Piano Trio No.4

1. Andante, un poco adagio
2. un poco allegretto
3. Adagio sostenuto
4. Allegretto ma non troppo

In part a homage to Franz Schubert, that most Orphic of composers and the Firm's posthumous Composer-in-Residence for 2002, some of my thoughts while making this piece are best contained in the 19th Sonnet from the first part of Rainer Maria Rilke's great Orpheus cycle of February, 1922.

Though the world change as fast
as cloud-shapes manifold,
all things perfected at last
fall back to the very old.

Past flux and vicissitude,
more freely and higher,
still endures your prelude,
god with the lyre.

We do not understand
grief, nor love's phases,
and what death keeps concealed

is not unveiled.
Only song through the land
hallows and praises.

Quentin S.D. Grant

Disappearance

A landscape piece - that started out as a survey of a very particular landscape: that of the village and countryside around the town that is the setting for Schubert's dark and sublime song cycle Winterreise (Winter Journey). And in this landscape there is a ghost, an absence, that inhabits it: that of the narrator of the song cycle's tale. Perhaps all our landscapes are similarly 'inhabited' by the 'disappeared', for do we not see ourselves placed in the landscapes of our lives and, eventually, in the process of aging, begin to see some (and then all) of these landscapes with ourselves missing from them? I had the curious sensation recently of visiting a place that I knew very well, a place I spent years of life amongst friends and colleagues but hadn't visited for several years. The physical landscape had changed little but now it was peopled with a new generation and all that remained of "me" in this place was a ghostly image of myself that flickered in my memory but was strangely at odds with my physical presence. This is partly what the narrator in Winterreise is doing. He is not only visiting scenes and recalling past happiness but also seeing these places, already, as coloured by his absence, by his impending suicide. Schubert wrote the work well aware of his own impending death and was already imagining his own landscapes inhabited only by his ghost.

These are thoughts that have preoccupied me during the writing of this short piece, but of course I do not expect such notions to be carried by it - make of it what you will.

Franz Schubert

Piano Trio in E flat, D897

(Notturmo Op. Posth. 148)

Adagio

Composed in the autumn of 1827, the Notturmo D.897 was most probably conceived as the slow movement to Schubert's familiar Piano Trio in B flat D.898. Like so many of his late, instrumental masterpieces, the Notturmo was long neglected but, since the 1950's, has become established in the repertoire as a freestanding, quintessential example of Schubert's uniquely lyrical late manner.

Settembrini Piano Trio

This is the debut performance of the Settembrini Trio. Its formation adds another essential chamber music medium to Firm programs and a further opportunity for listeners to hear new chamber music played by prominent local performers. Named for famed Italian humanist, Ludovico Settembrini - a champion of live music making - the piano trio is comprised of three of the city's most accomplished and exciting musicians: Leigh Harrold, piano, Michael Milton, violin and Cameron Waters, cello.

THE FIRM

Presented by



Leigh Harrold - Piano

Michael Milton - Violin

Cameron Waters - Cello

AND CHAMBER

Presented by the Asheville Chamber Music Society

Williambrint Piano Trio

The Williambrint Piano Trio is a unique and talented group of musicians who have been performing together for over 20 years. They have a repertoire of over 100 pieces, ranging from classical to contemporary. The trio has been featured on several radio stations and has performed at many venues, including the Adelaide Central Market. They are currently working on a new album and are looking for more opportunities to perform.

THE FIRM

is supported by



With thanks to:

Jeanette Sandford - Morgan

The Pilgrim Church

ABC Classic FM

Vintage Cellars, Adelaide Central Market