

# BEETHOVEN 2020

## *A selection of Beethoven programmes*

In 2020, the world will celebrate Beethoven's 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Please find below a selection of programmes from acclaimed ensembles, each celebrating the great composer's legacy and paying tribute to the 'master' of music.

### **AVAILABLE PROGRAMMES:**

- 'Beethoven in the Dark' – Sacconi Quartet
- Cello Sonatas – Robin Michael & Daniel Tong
- Piano Trios – London Bridge Trio
- String Quartets – Piatti Quartet
- Beethoven Plus – Daniel Tong & Krysia Osostowicz
- Piano Concertos – Janina Fialkowska & Carducci Quartet
- 'Ode to Joy' – Septura brass ensemble
- 'The Legacy of Genius' – VOCES8

### **BEETHOVEN IN THE DARK** *Sacconi Quartet*



The award-winning **Sacconi Quartet** perform one of the most emotionally demanding pieces in the repertoire: Beethoven's iconic String Quartet No. 14 in C sharp minor, Op. 131, played *entirely from memory*, in almost **complete darkness**.

This is a truly unique performance of a profound and deeply moving piece, with the near-darkness of the stage allowing a closer connection with Beethoven's world.



*"This stunner from the Sacconi Quartet was all about letting the music speak. Eyes open or closed, it was all you got."*

CLASSIC FM

### **BEETHOVEN CELLO SONATAS** *Robin Michael, cello & Daniel Tong, piano*

This acclaimed duo present Beethoven's five cello sonatas. The sonatas make a perfect evening: either a long concert with two intervals which shows Beethoven, early, middle and late; or two evening recitals intertwined with talks and extra works.

Michael and Tong will record the Beethoven works for cello and piano in 2019.



### **BEETHOVEN PIANO TRIOS** *London Bridge Trio*

#### **Programme 1:**

Piano Trio in C minor, Op. 1 No. 3  
'Kakadu' Variations, Op. 121a  
Piano Trio in B flat, Op. 97 'Archduke'

#### **Programme 2:**

Piano Trio in E flat, Op. 1 No. 1  
'Kakadu' Variations, Op. 121a  
Piano Trio in D, Op. 70 No. 1 'Ghost'

*"The poetry, flexibility and ardour displayed by these gifted players held me captive from first note to last"* GRAMOPHONE

## BEETHOVEN STRING QUARTETS Piatti Quartet

### Beethoven: Early, Middle and Transitional periods

(or Late period by inserting Op. 130)

Beethoven Op. 18 No. 3

Beethoven Op. 95 'Serioso'

Interval

Beethoven Op. 59 No. 2 or Beethoven Pp. 130 with Grosse Fugue

### Op. 59: Revolution of an art form

Beethoven Op. 59 No. 1

Interval

Beethoven Op. 59 No. 2

### Beethoven's influence on other composers:

Mendelssohn: How Beethoven inspired a legacy

Beethoven Op. 132 in A minor

Interval

Mendelssohn Op. 12 in A minor

Beethoven Op. 95 'Serioso' in F minor

Interval

Mendelssohn Op. 80 in F minor

Brahms: How Beethoven inspired a legacy

Beethoven: Op. 18 No. 4 in C minor

Interval

Brahms: Quartet in C minor Op. 51

## BEETHOVEN PLUS

### A Beethoven cycle with a difference



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Celebrating Beethoven's 250th birthday, what keeps his music relevant in 2020? Beethoven Plus, of course! Short, contemporary compositional responses to the master which create a conversation across time.

**Beethoven Plus** is an acclaimed project from pianist **Daniel Tong** and violinist **Krycia Osostowicz**, which presents ten new companion pieces to Beethoven's ten sonatas for violin and piano.

In 2015, Daniel and Krycia invited ten celebrated composers to each write a short companion piece (about 5 minutes long) inspired by one of Beethoven's sonatas. These new pieces, heard together with the original sonatas, create conversations between living composers and Beethoven, and shed new light on what Beethoven's music means to us today.

The ten composers: Jonathan Dove; Judith Bingham; David Matthews; Matthew Taylor; Jeremy Thurlow; Peter Ash, Philip Ashworth; Elspeth Brooke; Kurt Schwertsik and Huw Watkins.



Daniel and Krycia are recording the entire 'Beethoven Plus' cycle, the first disc of which was released with SOMM Records in May 2018 to critical acclaim.

Also available: workshops/lecture recitals; pre-concert discussions; a competition for young composers to submit their own companion pieces (the winning one to be played by Daniel and Krycia).

"...patient, affectionate, warmly conversational, sensitive to harmonic detail... these are thoroughly engaging performances."

"I think I may have sighed with pleasure."

**GRAMOPHONE MAGAZINE, AUGUST 2018**



@BeethovenPlus

[www.beethovenplus.com](http://www.beethovenplus.com)

## BEETHOVEN PIANO CONCERTOS NOS. 3 & 4

**Janina Fialkowska, piano & Carducci Quartet**

Beloved the world over for her exquisite pianism, Janina Fialkowska has enchanted audiences for over thirty years with her glorious lyrical sound and her profound sense of musical integrity. For Beethoven's anniversary in 2020 Janina collaborates with the Carducci String Quartet on special arrangements of the **third and fourth piano concertos for Piano Quintet by Vinzenz Lachner**.



## ODE TO JOY Septura brass ensemble

Septura brings together London's leading players to redefine brass chamber music through the uniquely expressive sound of the brass septet.

As Britain braces itself for Brexit, **Septura celebrates the rich musical heritage we share with our European neighbours**. The continent's dominant musical power is of course Germany, and our focus is on the two greatest composers from each country: **Purcell** and **Elgar** from Britain; and **Bach** and **Beethoven** from Germany.

Purcell: Suite from Dido & Aeneas

J.S. Bach: St Matthew Passion

*Interval*

Elgar: Serenade for Strings

Beethoven: String Quartet No. 16

*Encore: Beethoven Ode to Joy*



## THE LEGACY OF GENIUS

**VOCES8**

V O C E S 8

In a celebration of Beethoven, VOCES8 performs a programme with pianist to mark the 250th anniversary of his birth in 2020.

Alongside a selection of works by Beethoven and the composers who directly inspired him – including **Bach**, **Mozart** and **Haydn** – there are also those inspired by him, including **Bruckner** and **Schumann**. Demonstrating his lasting legacy, VOCES8 also presents works by composers who share Beethoven's aims and aspirations, either by treating music as **an expression of the power of nature** – an element that runs through not only his compositions but also his Tagebuch – or simply because their work is characterised by extraordinary emotive power. There are also **folksongs** that celebrate his incorporation of folk melodies and rhythms throughout his lifetime, especially in his Scottish folksongs.

