



Tilford Bach Society



Natalia Lomeiko - violin
Yuri Zhislin - viola

Duos by
JS Bach, Mozart, Bruni & Prokofiev

27 January 2017
www.tilbach.org.uk

Programme

Antonio Bartolomeo Bruni (1757-1821)

Duo in B flat major - Allegro moderato; Menuetto: Moderato
Duo in D major - Allegro maestoso; Allegretto scherzando

Antonio Bartolomeo Bruni was born in Cuneo, Italy in 1757. He studied the violin in Turin and Novara before travelling to Paris at the age of 23. There he began to establish a reputation as a violinist and to publish some of his compositions, including several works for violin. His greatest successes, however, were within the sphere of comic opera, where he collaborated in the premières of almost twenty of them between 1785 and 1800. Despite the upheavals of the French Revolution, Bruni's career continued to flourish. He became a member of the recently formed Commission temporaire des Arts, a committee tasked with making an inventory of and preserving the republic's heritage. He gained notoriety as the author of 'Un Inventaire sous la terreur' which lists musical instruments recovered from noble households condemned in the Revolution. His musical compositions include several collections of string duos, performed in two movements.

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Selection from the Two-part Inventions for violin and viola, BWV 772-786

Many aspiring keyboard players have learned to love and hate these pieces. The two-part inventions comprise fifteen two-part contrapuntal exercises originally written for Bach's students. Each is a miracle of the composer's art, tuneful and not so difficult as to be attempted by the novice yet requiring absolute precision to master. There are transcriptions for several instruments by a number of musicians. The pieces are arranged in order of ascending key, each group covering eight major and seven minor keys. They were composed during Bach's stay in Kothen and were followed by 15 sinfonias or three-part inventions composed later.

Interval

Drinks are free but donations to costs are much appreciated

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

Duo for violin and viola in G major, K. 423 - Allegro - Adagio - Rondeau: Allegro

This is the first of three string duos composed in 1783, which go far beyond the style of the time. They came about by accident to help Michael Haydn (younger brother of Franz Josef) who had fallen ill before completing a set of six for the archbishop. They were presented as Haydn's and the archbishop never noticed the higher quality of Mozart's work.

Mozart sidesteps the problem of not having a traditional bass line by having the lines cross and intertwine effortlessly retaining the listener's interest. The central slow movement has unexpected intensity.

Sergey Prokofiev (1891-1953)

Sonata for two violins in C major

Andante cantabile - Allegro - Comodo (quasi Allegretto) - Allegro con brio

Prokofiev composed his Sonata for Two Violins in 1932 during his vacation near St. Tropez for Triton, a Paris-based society dedicated to presenting new chamber music.

The sonata is structured as a four movement work in two-part counterpoint, in the form of a sonata da chiesa from the Baroque period, in a slow-fast-slow-fast sequence.

It is more lyrical than dissonant, Prokofiev showing both resourcefulness and imaginative compositional skill in his interweaving of the contrasting instrumental textures. The first movement embraces a 'recitative' style. This is followed by a more boisterous and aggressive movement, providing some contrast. In the third movement, gentleness and expressive eloquence hold sway. The work ends with an animated and spiky finale that is angular in parts and scurryingly busy in others.

Notes by Trevor Gray

Natalia Lomeiko

Born into a family of musicians in Novosibirsk, Russia, Natalia has won numerous prizes including the Menuhin and International Violin competitions, and in 2000 she received the Gold Medal and the 1st Prize in the Premio Paganini International Violin Competition (Genoa, Italy) and the 1st prize in the Michael Hill International Violin Competition (Auckland, New Zealand) in 2003.

Natalia studied at the Specialist Music School in Novosibirsk with Prof Gvozdev, at the Yehudi Menuhin School with Lord Menuhin and Prof Boyarskaya, at the Royal College of Music and the Royal Academy of Music.

Since her debut with the Novosibirsk Symphony Orchestra at the age of seven, Natalia has performed as a soloist with many orchestras, such as the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra under the baton of Lord Menuhin, the Philharmonia, the Moscow State Chamber Orchestra, and the Russian State Philharmonic Orchestra.

Natalia has recorded several CDs including Three Grieg Violin Sonatas with pianist Olga Sitkovetsky, French Sonatas with Olga Sitkovetsky (described by the Strad as "... a stunning recital"). Her latest CD of Prokofiev's music received 5 star reviews. Her CD of Bruni and Halvorsen with her husband Yuri Zhislin is what led to this evening's performance.

She is Professor of Violin at the Royal College of Music in London since 2010.

Yuri Zhislin

Born in Moscow in 1974, Yuri Zhislin began playing the violin at the age of six, joining the Moscow Music Gnessin School for gifted children, and from his early years Yuri took part in numerous public concerts in Russia and abroad, recorded for Moscow Radio and appeared on national radio and television.

A major prize-winner in the 1991 Sarasate International Violin Competition in Spain, Yuri entered the Royal College of Music in London, where he studied with his father, Grigory Zhislin winning major College prizes.

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In 1993, Yuri became the BBC Radio 2 Young Musician of the Year. In 1994, he won the Malcolm Sargent Award.

Yuri has been leader of the Russian Chamber Orchestra of London and First Violin of the London Mozart Players.

Yuri co-founded Evaristo Valle International Chamber Music Festival in Gijon (Spain) and is the founder and Artistic Director of the Russian Virtuosi of Europe, an ensemble that brings together some of the finest young Russian musicians based in Western Europe.

Yuri's interests include non-classical music. He has recorded with Vanessa-Mae, appeared on Top of the Pops and the Pepsi Chart Show with Sash!, performed at the Nick Cave's Meltdown Festival and recorded with distinguished jazz musicians.

Spring 2017 Programme

Friday 24 February: 7-30pm

Students from the Royal College of Music

Beethoven, Mozart and Haydn

Farnham Methodist Church, GU9 7RN

Saturday 1 April: 7-30pm

Bartosz Woroeh (violin) Caroline Palmer (piano)

Mozart, Brahms, Schubert

Farnham Methodist Church, GU9 7RN

Saturday 29 April: 7-30pm

Philip Higham

Bach solo cello suites 2, 3 & 5

St Andrew's Church, Farnham, GU9 7PW

Saturday 20 May: 7-30pm

Pegasus Choir

Bach Ascension Oratorio and Motet

St Andrew's Church, Farnham, GU9 7PW

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