


**EDINBURGH
INTERNATIONAL
FESTIVAL**

MAXIM EMELYANYCHEV & PRINCIPALS OF THE SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

—

**Principals of the
Scottish Chamber Orchestra**

Maxim Emelyanychev Piano

13 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm

OLD COLLEGE QUAD

The performance lasts approx. 1hr with no interval.

Please ensure all mobile phones and electronic devices are turned off or put on silent.

MAXIM EMELYANYCHEV & PRINCIPALS OF THE SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Maxim Emelyanychev Piano

André Cebrián Garea Flute

Robin Williams Oboe

Maximiliano Martín Clarinet

Cerys Ambrose-Evans Bassoon

Roger Montgomery Horn

Mozart **Quintet for Piano & Winds K 452**

1 Largo — Allegro moderato

2 Larghetto

3 Rondo: Allegretto

Thuille **Sextet for Piano & Winds**

1 Allegro moderato

2 Larghetto

3 Gavotte: Andante, quasi allegretto

4 Finale: Vivace

PROGRAMME NOTES

Hardly a composer reluctant to sing his own praises, Mozart went as far as calling his 1784 Quintet for piano and winds ‘the best thing I have written in my life’ in a letter home to his father, Leopold. It was premiered on 30 April that year in a mammoth, all-Mozart concert at Vienna’s Burgtheater, intended to introduce Viennese listeners to the composer’s newest music. He was particularly proud, perhaps, of his new attitude towards wind instruments: he’d sometimes considered them not much more than optional extras in his orchestral works — indicating that they could be dispensed with entirely in some of his piano concertos, for example — but here they clearly take centre stage. Mozart is careful, too, to balance and blend his ensemble of piano, oboe, clarinet, horn and bassoon. A slow introduction to his opening movement allows them all to showcase their talents, while in his main faster section he allocates individual themes to each of the wind players. Following a mellow slow movement, he creates a specially written-out cadenza involving all five instruments to crown the perky finale.

Ludwig Thuille is a far lesser-known figure, though well regarded in the late 19th century for two successful operas and a wealth of chamber music. He was a contemporary and lifelong friend of Richard Strauss, whose music had a formative influence on his own. His 1888 Sextet — championed by Strauss — is almost certainly his best-known work. Noble horn melodies kick off both its expansive opening movement and its rather sombre slow movement, and it's rounded off with a tripping Gavotte and high-spirited finale.

David Kettle

David Kettle is a music and arts writer based in Edinburgh, who contributes regularly to the *Scotsman* and the *Daily Telegraph*. He has also written for publications including *BBC Music Magazine*, *The Times*, *The Strad* and *Classical Music*, and for organisations including the BBC Proms, Glyndebourne and Scottish Opera.

MAXIM EMELYANYCHEV

Russian-born conductor, pianist and harpsichordist Maxim Emelyanychev is Principal Conductor of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, and Chief Conductor of Il Pomo d'Oro. He studied conducting and piano in his home city of Nizhny Novgorod, and in Gennady Rozhdestvensky's conducting class at the Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatory. He made his conducting debut at the age of 12, and has since conducted ensembles including the St Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra, London Philharmonic Orchestra, Orchestre de Paris, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, Seattle Symphony, Konzerhausorchester Berlin, Iceland Symphony Orchestra, Latvian National Symphony Orchestra, Netherlands Philharmonic Orchestra and Tokyo Symphony Orchestra.

In the opera house, he has conducted Handel's *Rinaldo* at Glyndebourne and Handel's *Agrippina* at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, as well as Mozart's *Don Giovanni* at the Teatro de la Maestranza in Seville, and Mozart's *Die Entführung aus dem Serail* at the Opernhaus Zürich.

Among his recordings are several CDs with Il Pomo d'Oro, including Haydn symphonies and concertos, and *In War & Peace: Harmony Through Music* with Joyce DiDonato, which won a 2017 *Gramophone* award. He has also recorded a solo disc of Mozart sonatas on fortepiano, which won a Choc de Classica 2018 and a 2019 International Classical Music Award. With the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, he released an acclaimed recording of Schubert's Symphony No 9, the work with which he made his debut with the orchestra, in November 2019.

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

The internationally celebrated Scottish Chamber Orchestra is made up of a unique collection of talented musicians who inspire and connect with people of all ages. From reimagining the Classical and Romantic greats to sharing contemporary commissions, the world-class musicians of the SCO are passionate about playing: and with inspirational young conductor Maxim Emelyanychev at the helm, the Orchestra's live performances are anything but predictable.

The SCO aims to provide as many opportunities as possible for people to hear live orchestral music by touring the length and breadth of Scotland and around the world as ambassadors for Scottish cultural excellence. In recent years, the Orchestra has travelled throughout Europe, Asia and the USA.

The SCO makes a significant contribution to Scottish life both on the concert platform and beyond, working in schools, universities, hospitals, care homes and community centres through its award-winning Creative Learning programme.

The Scottish Chamber Orchestra Chorus, directed by Gregory Batsleer since 2009, has built a reputation as one of Scotland's most vibrant and versatile choirs. The Chorus appears regularly with the Orchestra in Scotland's major cities, and hosts an annual Young Singers' Programme to nurture and develop aspiring young singers.

AUDIENCE SURVEY

We are delighted to welcome audiences back to live performances. The past year has been one of the most challenging in the International Festival's history, so your feedback is more important to us than ever. Anyone who completes the survey will be entered into a prize draw for a chance to win £200 in vouchers of your choice.

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