

SoNoRo

INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER
MUSIC FESTIVAL

BUCHAREST / CLUJ / IASI
1 NOVEMBER - 13 NOVEMBER 2009

SOUVENIR DE FLORENCE
PRAYERS AND DREAMS
SERENADE
SANS ORCHESTRE
PIANOMANIA
AND MORE

www.sonoro.ro

ENSEMBLE RARO & SoNoRo FESTIVAL ON TOUR 2009/2010



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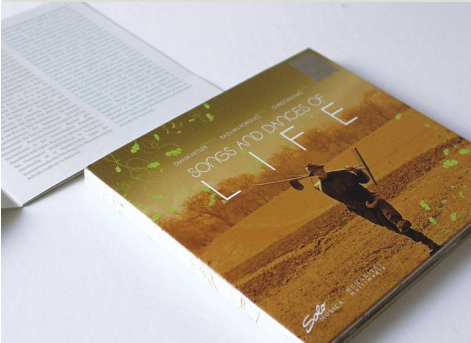


ROMANIAN
CULTURAL
INSTITUTE

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SONGS AND DANCES OF LIFE CANTI DRAMMATICI THE SEASONS



In the last two years the Ensemble Raro released three CDs. The first CD **Songs and Dances of Life** was described by Radio France International as "an exceptional project".



About **Canti Drammatici** featuring piano quartets of Johannes Brahms and Peteris Vasks, the renowned Gramophone Magazine wrote: "Ensemble Raro bring a feisty application, impeccable polish and lively imagination to Brahms's stormy C minor Piano Quartet..."



The Seasons was released in autumn 2008 in cooperation with the SoNoRo Festival and features the seasons by Antonio Vivaldi and Astor Piazzolla.

ENSEMBLE RARO



Ensemble Raro was formed in 2004 by four extraordinary young musicians. Their goal is to create unforgettable musical moments and to combine innovative approach with rich European tradition of intimate and genuine chamber music making.

The inspiration for the ensemble's name comes from Robert Schumann's invented alter ego, Master Raro - a member of the **Davidsbund** and a mediator between Florestan and Eusebius, the two characters that were Schumann's musical doubles, the contrasting voices of his creative psyche. Master Raro was, therefore, something of a balancing force and represented a sound judgement and a need to find unconventional ways of going forward.

In this sense, Ensemble Raro is constantly looking for new contrasting programme forms, in which they establish fresh cultural, musical and literary connections. Since the members of Ensemble Raro are also in great demand as solo artists, it gives them even more possibilities to create different programs, ranging from solo pieces to quartets.

Ensemble Raro is the **ensemble en residence** at the **Chiemgauer Musikfruehling** Festival in Traunstein, **SoNoRo Festival** in Bucharest, Kobe International Music Festival, **Pèlerinages** in München and **Le Faure/Bordeaux**. By creating these festivals the ensemble has full artistic liberty: it improvised with DJ's, created multimedia shows with VJ's from Japan and Romania and developed literary soirées on love, Paul Wittgenstein and Bulgakow's **Master and Margarita** with the actor Karl Markovics and the writer Lea Singer.

Ensemble Raro is actively involved in performing contemporary chamber music repertoire. They gave a British and German premieres of Peteris Vasks's Piano Quartet. Their performances of Walter Braunfels' and George Enescu's works in **Pelerinages** series in Munchen received a high critical acclaim.

Ensemble Raro's partners in various chamber music formations included Daishin Kashimoto, Konstantin Lifschitz, Adrian Brendel, Claudio Bohorquez, Baiba Skride, Carolin Widmann, Alina Pogostkina, Marlis Petersen, Mark Padmore and other celebrated musicians.

The Ensemble recently performed in the Boswil Summer Festival (Switzerland), St.Gallen Festival and Gmunden Festspiele (Austria), Riga Chamber Music Days (Latvia), Schloss Elmau and Schloss Filseck (Germany) and in Music at Plush Festival (UK). Since 2006 the Ensemble Raro has toured annually in Japan.

Besides regular collaboration with the Bavarian Radio, Ensemble Raro's performances have been broadcast on NHK/Japan, SWR/D, TVR, RRC and RRM/RO, DRS2/CH, LVR/LV and RFI/F.

In the last two years the Ensemble Raro released three CDs. The first CD **Songs and Dances of Life** was described by Radio France International as "an exceptional project". About **Canti Drammatici** featuring piano quartets of Brahms and Vasks, the renowned Gramophone Magazine wrote: "**Ensemble Raro bring a feisty application, impeccable polish and lively imagination to Brahms's stormy C minor Piano Quartet...**" ". **The Seasons** was released in autumn 2008 in cooperation with the SoNoRo Festival and features the seasons by Antonio Vivaldi and Astor Piazzolla.

The Ensemble Raro regularly gives master classes in Romania, Italy and Japan and developed **SoNoRo - INTERFERENCES**, an extended educational project dedicated to the most talented young Romanian musicians.

In the season 2009/2010 the Ensemble Raro will give debut recitals in Vienna (Konzerthaus and Musikverein), Tokyo (Musashino Hall), New York (Carnegie/Zankell Hall) and London (Wigmore Hall).



ALEXANDER SITKOVETSKY / VIOLIN

British violinist Alexander Sitkovetsky was born in Moscow in 1983 into a family with an established musical tradition. At the age of eight, Alexander made his debut performance as a soloist with the chamber orchestra in Montpellier, France, and later that same year he was invited to become a pupil at the Yehudi Menuhin School where he studied with Natalia Boyarsky and Professor Hu Kun. He continued his studies with Hu Kun at the Royal Academy of Music. Currently Alexander is studying with Professor Pavel Vernikov. Since their first meeting in Moscow in 1990, Lord Menuhin became a great inspiration for Alexander and supported him through his school years. Together they performed the Bach Double Violin Concerto in France and Belgium, as well as Bartok's Duos at St James's Palace in London. In 1996, Alexander played Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto in Budapest with Lord Menuhin conducting.

Alexander has performed in many international music festivals throughout Europe, including the Radio France Festival (Montpellier), Music Festival in Oldenburg, the Verbier Music Festival and Academy (Switzerland), Tuscan Sun Festival (in Cortona, Italy), the Utrecht Music Festival, the Mecklenburg Vorpommern Festival and Julia Fischer and Friends Festival (Germany).

He has been featured as a soloist at many famous venues throughout Europe, including London's Royal Festival Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall and Wigmore Hall; Salla Verdi (Milan), Palais des Congres (Antibes) as well as in Israel, Hawaii and Moscow. The Strad magazine has featured Alexander as one of the "Stars of the New Century". He was featured as a soloist in the "Tchaikovsky Experience" documentary by BBC Television which was broadcast on BBC Two in February 2007.

He has released two CD recordings for Angel Records (a part of Capitol/EMI Classics group). His second CD recording for EMI/Angel featuring concerto performances by Bach, Mendelssohn, Panufnik and Takemitsu was released in January 2004 and received unanimous critical acclaim. Alexander has recorded the Mendelssohn Double Violin Concerto with Dinorah Varsi and the Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra for Orfeo, and the Bach Double Violin Concerto with Julia Fischer and the Academy of St Martin in the Fields for Decca.

Alexander is also a committed chamber musician and has collaborated with some of the most important artists of today, including, Julia Fischer, Misha Maisky, Bella Davidovich, Dmitry Sitkovetsky, Julian Rachlin, Janine Jansen, Sarah Chang, Natalie Clein, Polina Leschenko, Julian Bliss, Maxim Rysanov, Sebastian Klinger, Michael Sanderling and many others.

In 2008 Alexander made his concerto debut at the Amsterdam Concertgebouw with the Netherlands Philharmonic with Yakov Kreizberg after which he received an immediate re-invitation for the 2010-2011 Season. He has also debuted with the Bangkok, Monterey Symphonies and the National Orchestra of Ecuador as well as perform recitals in the UK, Europe and appear in many festivals all over Europe.

In 2009-2010, Alexander will perform once again with the BBC Concert Orchestra, the National Orchestra in Ecuador, and make his Debuts with the l'Orchestre de Pau Pays de Béarn and the Kammerorchester Heilbronn in Germany.

BERNHARD NAOKI HEDENBORG VIOLONCELLO

Born in 1979 in Salzburg, Bernhard Naoki started playing cello at the age of six. At the age of 13 Heinrich Schiff invited Bernhard to study with him over a period of eight years. In addition, he has worked with David Geringas, Zara Nelsova and Miklos Perenyi. An avid chamber music performer, he has been encouraged by musicians including György Kurtág, Ferenc Rados, György Sebök, the Alban Berg Quartet and Amadeus Quartet.

He is a prizewinner of many national and international competitions, including a Silver Medal at the Tchaikovsky Competition for Young Musicians and the winner of the European Music Prize of Young Musicians in Oslo. His solo debut was Saint-Saens' Cello Concerto with the Mozarteum Orchestra Salzburg at the age of 12. Repertoire has has performed includes cello concertos by Shostakovich, Haydn, Dvorak, Schumann, Tchaikovsky's Roco Variations, Beethoven's Triple concerto and Brahms' Double Concerto with the Cologne Radio Orchestra, Prague Symphony Orchestra, Slovak Philharmonic Orchestra, Mozarteum Orchestra Salzburg, Costa Rica Symphony Orchestra, Tokyo Metropolitan Orchestra, Yomiuri Nippon Symphony Orchestra and the Bombay Chamber Orchestra.

Among his chamber music partners are Julian Rachlin, Piotr Anderszewski, Daishin Kashimoto, Konstantin Lifschitz and Christiane Oelze.

As a member of the Thomas Christian Ensemble, he toured extensively in Europe and has recorded the chamber music transcriptions of works by Mahler, Bruckner and Debussy. He made his debut at the Golden Hall in the Wiener Musikverein as soloist with the Radio Bavaria Chamber Orchestra. In the season 2007/08 he was Soloist in Residence at the Theatre Eisenach where he performed eight concerts with the GMD Tetsuro Ban.

Bernhard Naoki is artistic director of the Kobe Music Festival in Japan. He regularly gives master classes in Japan, India and Europe.

DIANA KETLER / PIANO

Diana Ketler was born in Riga into a well-known family of musicians. She made her debut at the age of 11 under the baton of Vassily Sinaisky. Diana studied at the Latvian Academy of Music, the Mozarteum Academy in Salzburg and the Royal Academy of Music in London.

She has given recitals in many of the world's most prestigious venues including the Bridgewater Hall (Manchester), Glenn Gould Studios (Toronto), Tokyo Opera City Hall, Suntory Hall (Tokyo), Atheneum (Bucharest), Southbank Centre and Cadogan Hall (London) and appeared as soloist with orchestras including the Salzburger Kammerphilharmonie, Munich Chamber Orchestra, Südwestdeutsches Kammerorchester, Sinfonietta Riga and Latvian National Symphony Orchestra. Her engagements have included performances at the Gstaad Musiksommer Festival, St-Gallen Musikfestival, Carinthischer Sommer, Oxford Chamber Music Festival and Zagreb Chamber Music Festival.

In 2008 she was featured as a festival artist in Boswil Sommer Festival in Switzerland.

Diana has recently collaborated with musicians including Wolfram Christ, Konstantin Lifschitz, Daishin Kashimoto, Adrian Brendel, Baiba Skride, Mark Padmore, Inga Kalna and Marlis Petersen and has worked with composers including György Ligeti, Franco Donatoni, Peteris Vasks and Arvo Pärt. Diana's performances have been broadcast on radio and television in Japan, England (BBC, Classic FM), Germany (BR), Romania, Latvia, Switzerland and Austria.

In 2004 she was appointed artistic director of the Chiemgauer Musikfrühling Festival in Germany and in 2008 Diana was awarded the Great Music Prize of the Latvian state.

Diana is Professor of Piano at the Royal Academy of Music in London.

She has given master classes in Spain, Italy, Czech Republic, Romania and Japan.

RAZVAN POPOVICI / VIOLA

Razvan Popovici studied in Salzburg, Paris and Freiburg with Peter Langgartner, Jean Sulem and Wolfram Christ. His other mentors were Tabea Zimmermann, Paul Coletti, Wifried Strehle, Thomas Riebl, the Hagen Quartett and Peteris Vasks.

As a soloist he has appeared in the Théâtre-dés-Champs-Élysées in Paris, the Cologne Philharmony and the Festspielhaus Baden-Baden.

As a chamber musician he has performed with Konstantin Lifschitz, Rainer Kussmaul, Alexander Lonquich, Thomas Brandis, Daishin Kashimoto, Baiba Skride, Carolin Widmann, Alina Pogostkina, Mihaela Ursuleasa, David Cohen, members of the Amadeus Quartet, Casal and Voces Quartets at the Schwetzingen Festspielen, Harrogate Festival, Open Chamber Music in Prussia Cove, Ferrara Musica, Oxford Chamber Music Festival, St.Gallen Musikfestival, Tartini Festival in Slovenia, Boswil Sommer and Kobe Music Festival, as well as in halls like the Wigmore Hall and the South Bank Centre in London, the Atheneum in Bucharest, the Essen Philharmony and the Prinzregententheater in Munich.

Razvan performed with the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra (as an extra player) under Claudio Abbado, Lorin Maazel, Günter Wand, Nikolaus Harnoncourt and Daniel Harding.

He has been guest principal violist with orchestras including the Cologne Chamber Orchestra, Munich Chamber Orchestra, Salzburger Kammerphilharmonie, Essen Philharmonic and the Kobe Chamber Orchestra. He has recorded extensively for radio and television including BR, SWR, MTV, RFI, DRS2, TVR and RRM.

Razvan is founder and director of the Chiemgauer Musikfrühling in Traunstein and chamber music series Pélerinages in Munich, Germany and of SoNoRo Festival in Bucharest, Romania. Razvan has given master classes in the Czech Republic, Japan, Italy and Romania.

SoNoRo

INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL

BUCHAREST / CLUJ / IASI
1 NOVEMBER - 13 NOVEMBER 2009

Founded in 2006 by the violist Razvan Popovici, in only four years the SoNoRo Festival developed into one of the most exciting and innovative music festivals in Eastern Europe.

Bucharest, the capital city of Romania, is the home of the festival. The concerts take place in renowned concert halls as well as in clubs, museums and other unusual locations, underlining the creative and adventurous spirit of this young cultural initiative.

So far the festival released two highly acclaimed CD's - Songs and Dances of Life and The Seasons and the photography album SoNoRo - Imagining Music by Serban Mestecaneanu. This year we also created two sorts of the very special Sonoro wine.

Another very important part of the SoNoRo project is SoNoRo - INTERFERENCES, a programme dedicated to the most talented young Romanian musicians. Every year around twenty scholarships are awarded.

The SoNoRo Festival regularly goes on tour, performing in other major Romanian cities like Cluj-Napoca, Sibiu, Timisoara and Iasi. At the SoNoRo, Ensemble Raro, the ensemble in residence of the Festival, performs next to some of the most appreciated and loved musicians from all over the world, such as Konstantin Lifschitz, Daishin Kashimoto, Mark Padmore, Mihaela Ursuleasa, Gilles Apap, Reto Bieri, Alexander Chaushian, Carolin Widmann, Priya Mitchell, Marcelo Nisinman, Corinne Chapelle and Adrian Brendel.

SoNoRo FESTIVAL / BUCHAREST 1-13 november 2009

I. OPENING NIGHT

1.11.09 // Cotroceni Palace

II. SOUVENIR DE FLORENCE

3.11.09 // National Military Circle

III. PRAYERS AND DREAMS

4.11.09 // Bragadiru Palace

IV. SERENADE

5.11.09 // Sf.Iosif Cathedral

V. SANS ORCHESTRE

6.11.09 // Bragadiru Palace

VI. GERMAN MASTERS

7.11.09 // George Enescu National Museum

VII. MATINÉE

8.11.09 // Czech Cultural Centre

VIII. FINALE

8.11.09 // Romanian Atheneum

IX. SoNoRo-INTERFERENCES 2009

10.11.09 // National Museum of Art

X. SoNoRo FESTIVAL ON TOUR

Iasi

XI. SoNoRo FESTIVAL ON TOUR

Cluj-Napoca

INTERPRETS

Ensemble Raro

Diana Kettler // piano

Alexander Sitkovetsky // violin

Razvan Popovici // viola

Berhard Naoki Hedenborg // violoncello

&

Mihaela Ursuleasa // piano

Gilles Apap // violin

Daishin Kashimoto // violin

Alina Pogostkina // violin

Jürg Dähler // viola

David Cohen // violoncello

Petru Iuga // double base

Chen Chalevi // clarinet

Catalin Opritoiu // flute

Andu Dumitrescu // VJ

Colours of Invention

SoNoRo-INTERFERENCES 2009 scholars

www.sonoro.ro





Photocredits/Copyright: Serban Mestecaneanu

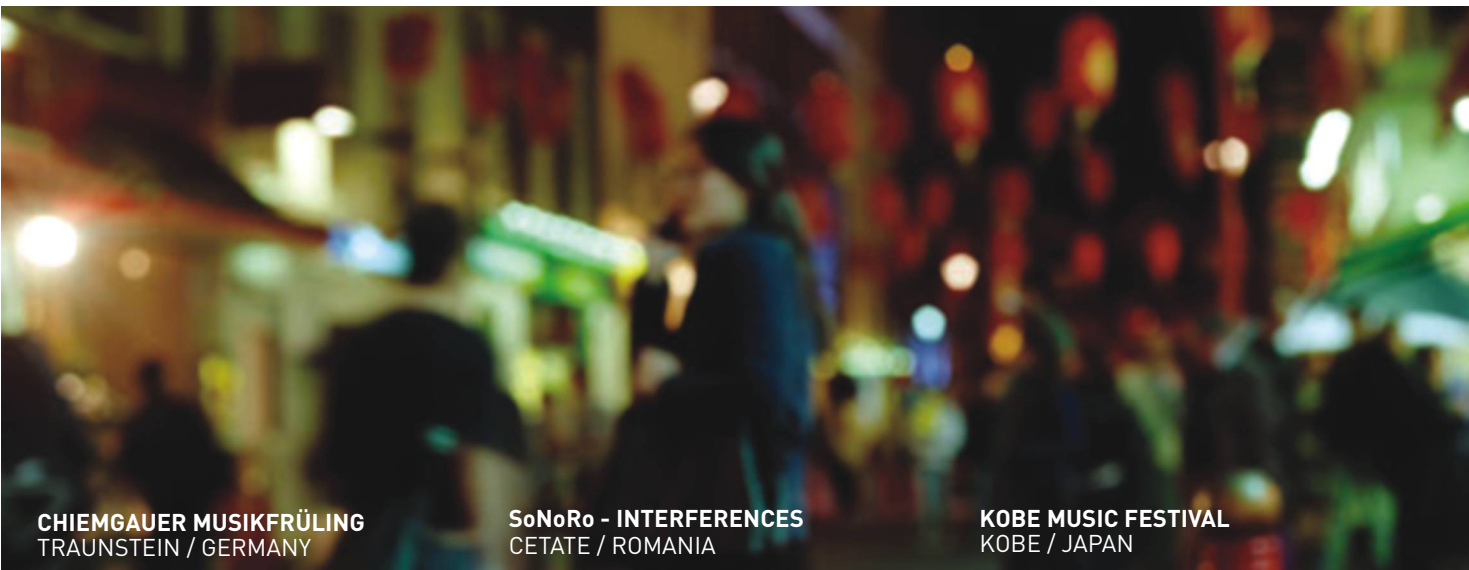
SoNoRo INTERFERENCES

SoNoRo-INTERFERENCES is an educational program for talented young Romanian musicians from the age of 13 to 28.

After auditions in major Romanian cities the selected scholars get an opportunity to play chamber music together with internationally renowned musicians as well as receive tuition.

The philosophy of the project is - „The world needs not only good players, but most of all good musicians”.The workshops therefore include lectures and discussions on literature, architecture, photography, poetry and cultural management. In addition to music professors there are specially invited artists in residence taking part in the program every time.

The creative atmosphere of the project is further supported by the choice of workshop locations. In addition to Cetate Culture Port (Portul Cultural Cetate) SoNoRo-INTERFERENCES took place abroad for the first time- at the Palazzo Ricci in Montepulciano, Italy.



CHIEMGAUER MUSIKFRÜLING
TRAUNSTEIN / GERMANY

SoNoRo - INTERFERENCES
CETATE / ROMANIA

KOBE MUSIC FESTIVAL
KOBE / JAPAN



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ENSEMBLE RARO'S CHILDREN PROJECTS

**TOKYO
MUSASHINO HALL**
TUESDAY, 13 OCTOBER 2009, 8.00 PM

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART (1756-1791)
PIANO QUARTET IN E-FLAT MAJOR, KV 493
JOHANNES BRAHMS (1833-1897)
PIANO QUARTET NR. 3 IN C-MINOR, OP.60

RICHARD STRAUSS (1864- 1949)
PIANO QUARTET IN C-MINOR, OP.13

| **ENSEMBLE RARO**



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KOBE MUSIC FESTIVAL & JAPAN TOUR

30 OCTOBER - 13 NOVEMBER 2009



ENSEMBLE RARO &
TOMOKO KAWADA / VIOLIN
ETSUKO NAKAGIMA / VIOLA
MARI ENDO / VIOLONCELLO
CHEN CHALEVI / CLARINET

SATURDAY, 3 OCTOBER 2009 // **AJISAI HALL**
FRIDAY, 9 OCTOBER 2009 // **GUGGENHEIM HOUSE**
SATURDAY, 10 OCTOBER 2009 // **SUZURAN HALL**
SUNDAY, 11 OCTOBER 2009 // **AJISAI HALL**
MONDAY, 12 OCTOBER 2009 // **KOBE BUNKA**

OTHER CONCERTS

WEDNESDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER // **BIWAKO HALL**
THURSDAY, 1 OCTOBER // **OGAKI CONCERT HALL**
SUNDAY, 4 OCTOBER // **HAZU CONCERT HALL**
TUESDAY, 6 OCTOBER // **NISHIWAKI CONCERT HALL**
SUNDAY, 11 OCTOBER // **AKASHI CONCERT HALL**



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VIENNA KONZERTHAUS SCHUBERT SAAL

WEDNESDAY, 21 OCTOBER 2009, 12:30 PM

JOHANNES BRAHMS (1833-1897)
PIANO QUARTET NR. 3 IN C-MINOR, OP.60
RICHARD STRAUSS (1864- 1949)
PIANO QUARTET IN C-MINOR, OP.13

ENSEMBLE RARO



**NEW YORK
CARNEGIE
ZANKEL HALL
TUESDAY
16 FEBRUARY 2010
7.30 PM**



GEORGE ENESCU (1851-1955)
SEPT CHANSONS DE CLÉMENT MAROT
I. ESTRENE À ANNE
II. LANGUIR ME FAIT
III. AUX DAMOYSELLES PARESSEUSES
D'ESCRIRE À LEURS AMYS
IV. ESTRENE DE LA ROSE
V. PRÉSENT DE COULEUR BLANCHE
VI. CHANGEONS PROPOS, C'EST TROP
CHANTER D'AMOURS
VII. DU CONFLIT EN DOULEUR

ROBERT SCHUMANN (1810-1856)
PIANO QUARTET IN E-FLAT MAJOR, OP. 47

PETERIS VASKS (*1946)
QUARTET FOR PIANO, VIOLIN, VIOLA
AND CELLO

ENSEMBLE RARO
ROXANA CONSTANTINESCU
MEZZO-SOPRANO



**LONDON
WIGMORE HALL
FRIDAY
26 MARCH 2010
7:30 PM**



GEORGE ENESCU (1851-1955)
SEPT CHANSONS DE CLÉMENT MAROT
I. ESTRENE À ANNE
II. LANGUIR ME FAIT
III. AUX DAMOYSELLES PARESSEUSES
D'ESCRIRE À LEURS AMYS
IV. ESTRENE DE LA ROSE
V. PRÉSENT DE COULEUR BLANCHE
VI. CHANGEONS PROPOS, C'EST TROP
CHANTER D'AMOURS
VII. DU CONFLIT EN DOULEUR

RICHARD STRAUSS (1864- 1949)
SELECTED SONGS

ROBERT SCHUMANN (1810-1856)
PIANO QUARTET IN E-FLAT MAJOR, OP. 47

PETERIS VASKS (*1946)
QUARTET FOR PIANO, VIOLIN, VIOLA AND CELLO

**ENSEMBLE RARO &
ROXANA CONSTANTINESCU
MEZZO-SOPRANO**



Foto Studio Arabick © Gesellschaft der Musikfreunde in Wien



VIENNA MUSIKVEREIN GLÄSERNER SAAL SUNDAY 16 MAY 2010

THE MASTER AND MARGARITA
BY MICHAEL BULGAKOV
AN EVENING OF LITERATURE AND MUSIC

KARL MARKOVICS
READER
ENSEMBLE RARO
ALINA POGOSTKINA
VIOLIN
MARCELO NISINMAN
BANDONEON



7. CHIEMGAUER MUSIKFRÜHLING

23 MAY-16 JUNE 2010

TRAUNSTEIN / KLOSTER SEEON / TRAUNREUT / HÖGLWÖRTH

ENSEMBLE RARO &
ALINA POGOSTKINA // VIOLIN
PETER LANGGARTNER // VIOLA
NABIL SHEHATA // DOUBLE BASE
MARCELO NISINMAN // BANDONEON
RETO BIERI // CLARINET

www.chiemgauer-musikfruehling.de

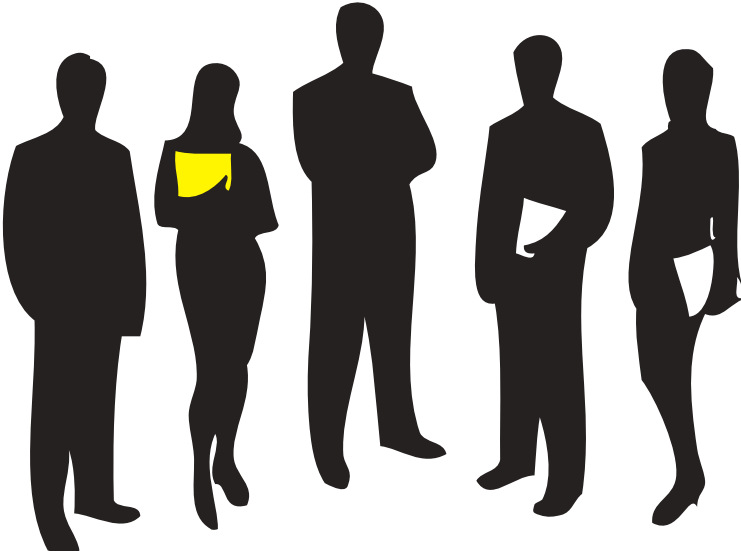


SoNoRo IMAGINING MUSIC

PHOTO ALBUM BY
SERBAN MESTECANEANU

How do you imagine classical music through black and white photography? What do have in common the south of Oltenia and the Danube in Romania with Brahms, Dvořák or Shostakovich? These are the questions which photographer Serban Mestecaneanu tried to answer throughout a journey in 2008 alongside with masters, disciples and organisers of SoNoRo-INTERFERENCES 2008 project. Serban has captured images of the participating artists, of the local villages with their wonderful people and dreamy landscapes of the Danube.





RomCapital
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Our highly trained and professional team
is prepared to meet the most severe requirements of the clients,
by providing premium quality services