

## Sitkovetsky Trio

"Like three good friends enjoying a glass of wine and a natter." BBC Music Magazine



"For us, the special thing about the piano trio is that it is the perfect combination of ensemble playing, while at the same time allowing us the individual freedom to express ourselves musically," says Qian Wu, the ensemble's pianist. The multi-award-winning trio is the **Resident Ensemble of Beethovenfest Bonn 2024** where they are causing quite the stir with three varied concerts and two world premieres.

In addition, the eagerly awaited new album **Volume 3 of the Beethoven Piano Trios** – the final crowning glory of the cycle – will also be released by the BIS label **in August 2024.** 

"I believe that Beethoven is an omnipresent figure who cannot be avoided, no matter what kind of music," says Isang Enders, the Sitkovetsky Trio's cellist. "As part of a piano trio, we've been lucky enough to be able to play a lot of Beethoven!"

The Sitkovetsky Trio has been named **Ensemble in Residence at the Beethovenfest Bonn 2024**. The musicians will show the enormous range of their work and skills in three concerts. "It's very exciting for us, because you don't often get this freedom with the repertoire," says Alexander Sitkovetsky, violinist and the ensemble's namesake. The concert at the Beethoven-Haus Bonn on **21 September 2024** promises to be a chamber music delight. Along with the Piano Trio op. 70/2 and the famous "Archduke Trio" — Beethoven's final groundbreaking contribution to the genre — the musicians will delight the Bonn audience with a world premiere: the Sitkovetsky Trio commissioned the **young emerging Ukrainian composer Lena Sierova** to write a new piano trio for them. About her piece, "Bucha", the composer says: "Bucha" is a kind of psychological reaction of mine to the human tragedy that occurred in March 2022 in the small town near Kyiv."

The Sitkovetsky Trio will perform another world premiere at the Bonn Opera on **28 September 2024.** The ensemble will premiere the concerto "Trinity" for piano trio and orchestra by **Ferran Cruixent** together with the hr Symphony Orchestra. The Catalan composer took Beethoven's Triple Concerto as a starting point for his work, and incorporated digital technologies. At the Bundeskunsthalle on **3 October 2024**, the Sitkovetsky Trio will present Symphony No. 15 by Shostakovich, arranged for piano trio and percussion – an exciting take on Shostakovich's last symphony, with percussionist Vivi Vassileva, among others.

On **9 August 2024**, the third and final album of Beethoven's cycle of piano trios will be released with BIS records. It includes Beethoven's op. 1 No. 1, the early masterpiece that he started composing in Bonn, alongside the famous "Ghost Trio", which refers to the "goosebump effect" of the slow movement and, according to Beethoven's pupil Carl Cerny, is said to go back to his preoccupation with the ghost in Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. Another highlight is Beethoven's interpretation of the Ukrainian Cossack melody *Schöne Minka* in an arrangement for piano trio by Isang Enders.

For Volume 1 of the Beethoven cycle, the Sitkovetsky Trio received the Diapason d'Or ARTE, after the album had already been awarded the BBC Music Magazine Award for its approach to Ravel and Saint-Saëns.

Further concert highlights of the current season will take the Sitkovetsky Trio to the Buxton International Festival in England (18/19 July) and to the Wigmore Hall in London (24 July), to Sendesaal des Hessischen Rundfunks in Frankfurt (26/27 September), to Madrid (9 October) and to the Opéra de Lille (15 November).

Alexander Sitkovetsky spielt eine "Parera" Stradivari-Violine (1679); Isang Enders spielt ein Violoncello von Carlo Tononi aus Venedig (1720). Beide Instrumente sind eine großzügige Leihgabe von der J. & A. Beare Violin Society.

Alexander Sitkovetsky plays a "Parera" Stradivari violin (1679); Isang Enders plays a violoncello by Carlo Tononi from Venice (1720). Both instruments are on generous loan from the J. & A. Beare Violin Society.

Newest CD recording: Beethoven Trios Vol. 3 Album (<u>BIS-2699</u> SACD), to be released 9 August 2024 as well as Beethoven Vol. 1 + Vol. 2 (<u>BIS-2539</u> SACD)



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