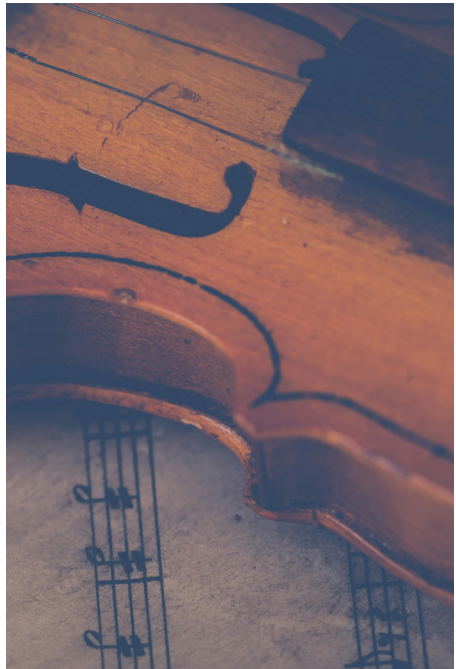


WEALDEN



THE WEALDEN TRIO

27 April 2024
St Andrews Church, Alfriston

THE WEALDEN TRIO

RACHEL FIRMAGER **cello**

Rachel grew up in Sussex and learnt the cello with Ian Gill. Later she studied with Jane Salmon and the Schubert Ensemble, and with Adrian Shepherd.

Projects over the years have included work with the contemporary One Voice, Tacet Ensemble, New Music Brighton, Bergersen Quartet and Hyperion Ensemble and the chamber ensemble for London Festival Opera. Recent collaborations have been with guitarist, Paul Gregory and pianist, William Hancox throughout Sussex, and with harpist, Elizabeth Jane Baldry.

JONATHAN TRUSCOTT **violin**

Born in London, Jonathan studied violin with Itzhak Rashkovsky and Eszter Boda Katona, then in Transylvania with Ferdinand Kozak.

After two years performing with the Targu-Mures State Philharmonic Orchestra of Romania he returned to the UK and is now the leader of Modulus String Quartet, which specialises in the performance and recording of music by contemporary composers.

WILLIAM HANCOX **piano**

After a degree at Cambridge, William studied with Hungarian pianist Joseph Weingarten, a student of Dohnanyi, Bartok and Kodaly. He has performed as a soloist, chamber musician and accompanist throughout the UK and internationally and broadcast for Classic FM and the BBC. William lives nearby and is deeply involved in local music making.

PROGRAMME

Schubert's Trio in B flat major is a large-scale four movement work, completed in the last year of the composer's life. Although he suspected that he was incurably ill, the work is full of energy, grace and exquisite lyricism. Robert Schumann wrote *'One glance at Schubert's Trio and the troubles of our human existence disappear and all the world is fresh and bright again.'*

Ravel's Piano Trio, written at the outset of the First World War, also adheres to the traditional classical four movement format, but in other respects it is highly innovative, taking an orchestral approach to trio writing in which the string parts are often written two octaves apart with the piano between them, and featuring a range of techniques such as arpeggio harmonics and double-stopped trills.

The theme of the first movement reflects Ravel's Basque heritage and the title of the second, Pantoum, refers to a Malaysian verse form. The trumpet calls in the piano towards the end of the last movement are thought to herald the declaration of war in August 1914.

SCHUBERT

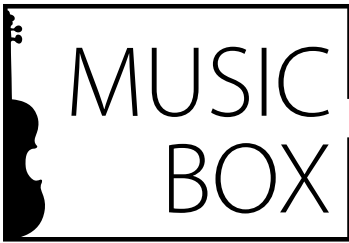
Piano Trio in B flat major D.898
1828

1. Allegro Moderato
2. Andante un poco mosso
3. Scherzo Allegro
4. Rondo Allegro vivace

RAVEL

Piano Trio in A minor
1914

1. Modéré
2. Pantoum (Assez vif)
3. Passacaille (Très large)
4. Final (Animé)



WEALDEN

Music Box Wealden is the brainchild of local pianist William Hancox. After many years performing, recording and teaching throughout the UK and around the world, he became convinced of the importance of developing a model which makes it easier to bring together musicians and concertgoers in their own communities.

Localism and sustainability are central to the Music Box vision. We provide a varied programme of classical music to all kinds of venues across the area, with many performers drawn from the wide pool of talented professional musicians who live locally.

We're looking to make a contribution to the musical health of our community and help to make sure that this vital part of our culture is still alive and well for future generations to enjoy.

musicboxwealden.co.uk
keeping it local, keeping it live



NEXT CONCERTS

18 May 7.00pm
Gagarin Quartets
at Hailsham Pavilion

21 July 3.00pm
Guitar Recital
at St Michael & All Angels, Berwick

27 October 3.00pm
A Recital for Cello and Piano
at St Margaret the Queen, Buxted