



## MENDELSSOHN

### String Quartet in E flat major '1823'

### String Quartet in E flat major, Op. 44 No 3

Physical and digital release date: 24 March 2023

Linn CKD 716 – 1 CD

The Borletti-Buitoni Trust (BBT) is pleased to announce the forthcoming release of Mendelssohn's string quartets, recorded last year by the Consone Quartet with the support of its BBT 2022 Fellowship award. The album is the first volume of a series of Mendelssohn's complete string quartets and marks the beginning of a recording partnership with Linn Records.

This award-winning period quartet plays on gut strings to create a warm, velvety soundworld and has drawn on inspiration from editions of the time to present fresh accounts of the E flat major quartet '1823' and Op. 44 No. 3. Their research includes scrupulously annotated parts that belonged to violinist Ferdinand David of the Gewandhaus Quartet which premiered many of Mendelssohn's quartets. The pairing of these two works, the former an early work, the latter the composer's penultimate achievement in the genre, reveals comparisons between styles at different points in the composer's life.

The Consone players have been playing Mendelssohn's quartets since they first came together and launched their professional career as a quartet in 2015. This experience, together with their intense research into the historical archives, brings even greater commitment to their playing and clearly signals their deep love for Mendelssohn's music.

The Consone Quartet appears in recital at Wigmore Hall on 12 March with a programme that includes Mendelssohn's Quartet Op. 44 No. 3 along with Haydn's string Quartet in E flat Op. 33 No. 2 'The Joke'. <https://wigmore-hall.org.uk/whats-on/consone-quartet-202303121130>

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BBT has also supported the Consone Quartet in commissioning a new string sextet, *The Bridges of Königsberg*, from Gavin Bryars (premiere performance date in 2023 to be announced).

**Further press information: Debra Boraston at Borletti-Buitoni Trust**

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#### NOTES TO EDITORS

Audio, video and

artwork: [https://www.dropbox.com/sh/7n7jecc95dnidvo/AABiBpRd0yFo6wt\\_1cnjXF4ba?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/7n7jecc95dnidvo/AABiBpRd0yFo6wt_1cnjXF4ba?dl=0)

## CONSONE QUARTET

**Agata Daraškaitė** violin

**Magdalena Loth-Hill** violin

**Elitsa Bogdanova** viola

**George Ross** cello



<http://www.consonequartet.com>

- **Formed** at the Royal College of Music in London, the Consone Quartet launched its professional career in 2015
- **Prizes and awards** include 2015 York Early Music International Young Artists Competition, including the EUBO Development Trust Prize and a place on the EEEmerging Scheme in France. 2016 Royal Over-Seas League Ensemble Prize and 2022 Borletti-Buitoni Trust (BBT) Fellowship Award.
- **Venues** where the Quartet performs include London's Wigmore Hall, King's Place, St John's Smith Square and St Martin-in-the-Fields, and at the Edinburgh, Cheltenham, Brighton, and Buxton Festivals. The English Haydn Festival and the Brighton and York Early Music Festivals have been loyal supporters and are also regular hosts. Overseas engagements include Heidelberg String Quartet Festival, Philharmonie de Paris and Auditorium de Lyon, at the Concertgebouw Brugge, AMUZ and de Bijloke in Belgium, Concerts d'été à St Germain in Switzerland and at other venues across Italy, Austria, Bulgaria and Slovenia and south America and, most recently, a north American debut tour in February 2023.
- **Collaboration** partners include Justin Taylor, Steven Devine, Alexander Gadjiev, Anneke Scott, Mary Bevan and Colin Lawson.
- **Music Education** is a deep commitment, having worked with students at the Royal College of Music in London, Chetham's School of Music in Manchester, the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, as Hans Keller fellows for 2020-2022.
- **Projects** in 2023 include the premiere of a new work by Gavin Bryars for string sextet, debuts at the Heidelberg String Quartet Festival and Festspiele Mecklenburg-Vorpommern in Germany and tours to Belgium, Canada and Italy.
- **Recording** debut explored music by Haydn and Mendelssohn on the Ambroton label and was described by The Strad as an album "*that instantly leaps out of the stereo at you as something special.*" Their label debut with Linn Records sees the release of the first volume of what will be the complete string quartets of Felix Mendelssohn and the beginning of their recording partnership.