

TRIO MARTINŮ

Trio Martinů was formed at the Prague Conservatory in 1990. Its current line-up Petr Jiříkovský – piano, Jaroslav Matějka – cello, Pavel Šafařík – violin, have remained unchanged since 1993.

Under Professor Antonín Kohout (a member of the Smetana Quartet) at the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague, the ensemble developed and embarked on a trajectory paved with success and awards. These have included being semi-finalists in the international competition at Trapani, Italy; third prize in the International contest of chamber ensembles at Heerlen, the Netherlands, in 1992, which was followed by **winning this competition three years later**, in 1995.

Trio Martinů has taken part in several series of master classes: at Villecroze, France, conducted by Prague Trio (1992 and 1994), and at the Orlando Festival in Kerkade, the Netherlands, under Sandor Devich and Menahem Pressler, a member of the Beaux Arts Trio (1995 and 1997). From 1996, the ensemble studied for two years at the Vienna Hochschule für Musik under Professor Michael Schnitzler, a member of the Haydn Trio.

In 1995 the ensemble received the annual Award of the Czech Chamber Music Society (CCMS) attached to the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra (Best Ensemble of the Year).

Trio Martinů has appeared at major international festivals and venues, such as Mitte Europa, Schleswig-Holstein, Sion-Valais, and Ohrid Summer, the Prague Spring Festival (1999, 2014), the Prague Proms (2013), the International Festival of Chamber Music in Piešťany, Slovakia (June 2014), the International Music Festival in Český Krumlov (August 2014), Janacek May Festival (2016), or Antonin Dvorak's Festival in Olomouc (2016). They celebrated their 25th anniversary by a recital in the Prague's Rudolfinum, and on tours abroad: Visegrad Music Festival in Korea (Sept. 2015 – 2 weeks) with concerts in the main halls in Seoul, Bussan, Daegu; Leamington Spa Chamber Music Festival in England (May 2016), or a prestigious recital at the **Amsterdam's Concertgebouw** (July 2016).

Their discography encompasses 6 CDs recorded under the labels of the Czech, German and Belgian recording companies. The last CD was released in June 2014 with **Beethoven's Triple Concerto** which was performed with the Prague Symphony Orchestra under the Chinese conductor Muhai Tang.

For the 2017/2018 season TRIO MARTINU concentrates on rehearsing several new programmes for their planned tours to the **Netherlands and Great Britain**, and on studio recording of a new CD with all 4 Bohuslav Martinu piano trios for German Musicaphon.

All the three members are outstanding soloists and record regularly for the Czech Radio. Pavel Šafařík and Jaroslav Matějka have been engaged in the **Prague Symphony Orchestra** as assistant leaders for many years, and Petr Jiříkovský, except his solo performances, teaches piano at the Prague Conservatory.