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## Leonore Piano Trio

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*“Hard to imagine playing of a greater empathy [...] The Leonores play with truly glorious affection and security”*

**Gramophone Magazine**

**Benjamin Nabarro** – violin  
**Gemma Rosefield** - cello  
**Tim Horton** – piano

Formed in 2012, the **Leonore Trio** brings together three internationally acclaimed artists whose piano trio performances as part of Ensemble 360 were met with such an enthusiastic response that they decided to form a piano trio in its own right.

The Trio has since given concerts throughout the UK, Italy, Norway (Bergen International Festival and Oslo Concert Hall), Denmark and in New Zealand. Whilst in New Zealand they played to and coached a group of young musicians as part of the Sistema Aotearoa programme, and were adjudicators of the Royal Over-Seas League New Zealand Chamber Music Competition. Their concert in Hamilton was broadcast on Radio New Zealand.

The Trio's debut recording for Hyperion of piano trios of Anton Arensky was released in March 2014. The disc received critical acclaim both nationally and internationally with praise for the Trio's "revelatory playing" (*The Observer*) and "impressively wide range of timbres" (*Limelight Magazine*). Their second and third discs for Hyperion – works by Lalo, and Rimsky-Korsakov and Taneyev, respectively – were warmly received, while their disc of David Matthews complete piano trios, released on Toccata Classics, was described by the composer himself as "definitive". Continuing their affinity for unearthing hidden treasures within the piano trio repertoire, they released a disc of Johann Peter Pixis' Piano Trios in late 2017 and a "fresh, intelligent and strikingly stylish" (*Gramophone*) account of complete Parry Trios in 2019.

The Leonore Trio's members are keen exponents of contemporary music: they gave the first performance of *Holkham Beach*, a piece written for and dedicated to the Trio by Simon Rowland-Jones; and they play the piano trios of distinguished composers including David Matthews, Harrison Birtwistle and Huw Watkins.

Recent highlights include a performance of the complete Beethoven Piano Trios at Kings Place, and an even broader long term project, including all the works by Beethoven for piano trio, piano and violin, and piano and cello for Music in the Round in Sheffield.

The 19-20 season's highlights include the Trio's return to Istanbul's Süreyya Opera House and the Sage Gateshead. Their next disc for Hyperion, of works by Henry Charles Litolf, was released in February 2020. They also conclude their Beethoven project in Sheffield for Music in the Round. In the current season, they return to the stage at Wigmore Hall as part of their revised Autumn Series, Oxford Coffee Concerts, and Music in the Round, and continue to record for Hyperion.

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### Benjamin Nabarro, *Violin*

Described by *Musical Opinion* as "an outstanding artist", Benjamin Nabarro has performed throughout Europe, North America, Africa, and the Middle and Far East.

As a soloist or guest concertmaster he has played with the BBC Symphony, BBC Scottish Symphony, English Chamber and Scottish Chamber Orchestras, and with the Philharmonia, where he played Scherezade under the baton of Charles Dutoit. His concerto performances have won praise for their "purity of style, elegance of phrasing and unsurpassed perfection of technique" (*Musical Opinion*).

Benjamin is a regular guest of the Nash Ensemble, where he has appeared in concerts worldwide, and has made numerous recordings for Hyperion and Dutton. His concerto engagements have included performances of works by Glazounov, Mendelssohn, Mozart and Brahms, and he has regularly been invited to the festivals of Schleswig Holstein, Mecklenberg-Vorpommern, Nuremberg, Cheltenham, BBC Proms, Aldeburgh and Bath.

He plays on a violin made by G.B Rogeri of 1695.

### Gemma Rosefield, *Cello*

Winner of the prestigious Pierre Fournier Award at Wigmore Hall in 2007, Gemma made her concerto debut at the age of sixteen, when she won First Prize in the European Music for Youth Competition in Oslo, Norway, playing a televised performance of the Saint-Saëns Concerto with the Norwegian Radio Symphony Orchestra.

Gemma has released a much acclaimed recording for Hyperion of the complete works for cello and orchestra by Sir Charles Villiers Stanford. Described by *The Strad* as a "mesmerising musical treasure", by the *London Evening Standard* as "a phenomenal talent", and featured in *BBC Music Magazine* as "one to watch", Gemma made her solo debut in the Concertgebouw, Amsterdam and in the Diligentia, The Hague, in the New Masters International Recital Series. On BBC Radio 3 she performed Michael Ellison's Concerto for cello, Turkish instruments and orchestra with the BBC Symphony Orchestra.

Gemma plays on an Alessandro Gagliano cello of 1704, formerly belonging to the Prince Regent.

### Tim Horton, *Piano*

Tim Horton replaced Alfred Brendel at short notice in two performances of Schoenberg's Piano Concerto with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra under Sir Simon Rattle at Symphony Hall Birmingham and at the Royal Festival Hall in London. In 2005 he was made Scholar of the Klavier Festival Ruhr, at the instigation of Alfred Brendel.

He is pianist with Ensemble 360, and has collaborated with leading chamber musicians such as Adrian Brendel, Paul Lewis, Peter Cropper, the Elias and Vertavo Quartets, Charles Owen and the Kungsbacka Trio. He plays regularly with violist Robin Ireland, and their two recordings for Nimbus have been highly acclaimed.

As a soloist he has performed in recital and concerto throughout Europe and is currently engaged in a four-year cycle of the Beethoven Sonatas at the Crucible, Sheffield.