

WEISS KAPLAN STUMPF TRIO

Yael Weiss, Piano Mark Kaplan, Violin Peter Stumpf, Cello



“an immensely accomplished ensemble...
This is almost certainly how Brahms wanted and expected his music to be played.”
International Record Review

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www.weiss-kaplan-stumpf-trio.com

Combining the talents of three award-winning soloists, the Weiss-Kaplan-Stumpf Trio brings to each performance its distinctive fusion of authority and experience, energy, and passion. These three musicians comprise an ensemble that embraces the music of the future while offering fresh insights into three centuries of masterworks.

Hailed by *The New York Times* as "Three strong voices, locked in sequence," the Trio was originally founded in 2001, and was joined in 2014 by the distinguished cellist Peter Stumpf. The Trio has presented concerts throughout the US, Europe and the Middle East, with multiple appearances at The Kennedy Center, Wigmore Hall, Baltimore's Shriver Hall, Princeton, UCLA, Indiana and Oxford Universities, Tel-Aviv Museum, and for the Chamber Music Societies of Edinburgh, Santander, Pasadena, Phoenix, Cincinnati, Salt Lake City and Tucson, among others.

The Trio is frequently engaged to appear as soloists in Beethoven's Triple Concerto with orchestras such as the Prague Chamber Orchestra, Santa Fe Symphony Orchestra, Bloomington Camerata, New Bedford Symphony and recently with the Sioux City Symphony for the Beethoven and a new trio concerto premiere. A performance of the Triple Concerto at the Prague Festival was praised for its "rare timbral refinement, nobility and virtuosic brilliance... among the brightest moments of this year's Festival" (*Lidove noviny*, Prague). Other international festival performances have included appearances at the Jeju Island Music Festival in Korea and the Festival of the Sound in Canada.

The Trio is known for its performances of Beethoven's complete cycle of works for Piano Trio, which are an ongoing part of its programming. The group is also committed to new music, the trio has commissioned many works, including Lera Auerbach's "Triptych: The Mirror With Three Faces", Clancy Newman's "Juxt-Opposition", as well as "Variations on a Poem" by Michael Hersch.

The Weiss-Kaplan-Stumpf Trio records for Bridge Records. An upcoming CD project featuring works by Fred Lerdahl is scheduled for imminent release, and a 2014 release entitled *An American Tour* includes world premiere recordings of four new American trios by Lera Auerbach, Chen Yi, Clancy Newman and Paul Schoenfeld. A 2011 release of Brahms and Smetana trios has received great critical acclaim – *Fanfare Magazine* hailed it as "absolutely one fabulous chamber music recording you cannot afford to be without. . . This may just be the best of the best Brahms B Major Trio recordings." Previously Bridge also presented the Trio's recording of Paul Chihara's trio, "Ain't No Sunshine", a work the group commissioned and premiered in 2006 at the Kennedy Center.

The Trio is well known to American radio audiences through nationwide broadcasts on shows such as NPR's Performance Today and WNYC's SoundCheck. An appearance on St. Paul Sunday has been broadcast nationally several times, and was selected for St. Paul Sunday's "Best of the Year" CD.

"Three strong voices, locked in sequence." *The New York Times*

"...a fine team, twining and dovetailing their lines to eloquent effect, not least in Schubert's expansively lyrical writing. Underpinning the strings was pianist Yael Weiss's liquid tone and unfailingly wise phrasing" *Washington Post*

"...performances were splendid and idiomatic." *Washington Post*

"All three performers were able to project a strong musical personality while nurturing a fine ensemble sound." *Classical Sonoma*

"a gem of an ensemble. As individuals, the three are distinguished musicians. Together, they're a team, in the best sense of the word." *Herald-Times*

"A beguiling, energetic new chapter" *New York Sun*

"Dynamic new ensemble" *Chamber Music Magazine*

"Then there was [the trio] itself. When it played Beethoven's overexposed "Archduke" Trio, every moment felt new. How often does that happen?" *Philadelphia Inquirer*

"The dovetailing of give-and-take among the members...was seamless, and their playing swept up the listener...This performance was delightful in every respect... With ethereal pianissimos, lockstep ensemble, and heart-felt phrasing, [the trio] gave one of the most completely convincing interpretations of this sprawling jewel [Schubert Piano Trio No. 2 in E-flat] that I have heard." *Classical Voice North Carolina*



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