

# Busch Trio

Omri Epstein – Piano | Mathieu van Bellen – Violin | Ori Epstein – Cello

Busch Trio has established itself as one of the leading international young piano trios, receiving enthusiastic responses from audiences and critics for their “*incredible verve*”. Named after the legendary violinist Adolf Busch, the three best friends are brought together by a shared deep passion for chamber music and are inspired by Mathieu’s possession of the “ex-Adolf Busch” G.B. Guadagnini violin (Turin, 1783). Since its formation in London in 2012 the trio has developed an extensive performing schedule across Europe’s leading concert halls and festivals. Their recent Wigmore Hall appearance was received to critical acclaim, *The Times* commenting: “...*what impressed most was the group’s effortless musicianship and unity of thought and attack. The threesome even seemed to be breathing in synch.*”

Signing a major recording contract with French label Alpha Classics, the trio released their debut CD in 2016 of Dvorak’s trios to critical acclaim, receiving a 5-stars review in the Diapason magazine and remarked upon by the Gramophone as: “...*the youthful Busch Trio can boast one of the most notable features of their namesake: a pooled decision to put the music, and only the music, first*”. This CD is part of a 4-CD project of Dvorak’s complete chamber music for piano and strings, the last of which was released in 2019. They were repeatedly selected as CD of the week by several radio stations across Europe, which helped the trio win the *Kersjesprijs*, the Netherlands’ premier chamber music award.

Omri Epstein “*the group’s marvellously sensitive pianist*”, Mathieu van Bellen, whose “*silvery gleam darted eloquently*”, and Ori Epstein, with whom “*you felt in the grip of a warm hug*”, have all won prizes in international solo competitions. As Busch Trio, they went on to win prizes at international competitions in Germany, UK and Italy, receiving guidance from distinguished artists such as Eberhard Feltz, Andras Schiff and the Artemis Quartet. As part of their development, the trio were based at the Queen Elisabeth Music Chapel in Brussels, where they were the trio in residence. Motivated by their desire to support aspiring young chamber musicians, Mathieu, Omri and Ori, together with Maria Milstein, are the founding members of MuziekHaven. They have acquired a 1695 wooden church on the outskirts of Amsterdam, which they are in the process of turning into a chamber music centre dedicated to rehearsal, masterclasses, recording and performance, and where musicians can reside and work in ideal conditions.

Recent seasons included a tour of China and the US, where their performance at the Phillips Collection was remarked upon by the *Washington Post* as possessing ‘*remarkable maturity*’. The trio often collaborate and most notably performed Beethoven’s Triple Concerto with the Warsaw Symphony Orchestra and Karina Canellakis and in concert with musicians such as Michael Collins, Bruno Giuranna, Gregor Sigl. With violist Miguel da Silva they recorded Dvorak’s piano quartets, a CD hailed by the *Sunday Times* as “*an outstanding disc*”. Next season’s highlights will include a return to Amsterdam’s Concertgebouw, a tour of the US and the release of the complete Box-set of their Dvorak project. They can also look forward to recording their next CD recording: the complete works by Schubert for piano trio.