

ABOUT THE TRIO

Youthful vigor, passion on stage and compelling playfulness, all based on a profound knowledge of sound perception and chamber music structures. This is how you would describe the musical trinity, which has been known since 2008 as the TRIO ALBA*.

They have matured and developed through worldwide performances in small and large concert halls, through award-winning CD-productions as well as intensive chamber music studies at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Graz. There, the three met and found to a joint music-making: the German violinist Livia Sellin, the Austro-Italian cellist Philipp Comploi and the Chinese-Austrian pianist Chengcheng Zhao.

With the founding of the ensemble, they began a joint master's degree program with Prof. Chia Chou, pianist of the Trio Parnassus. First concerts took them to Shanghai and to the National Centre for the Performing Arts in Peking. This was followed by invitations to festivals and chamber music series in Italy, Austria, Germany, and South America, including the Schleswig Holstein Music Festival and Gidon Kremer's Chamber Music Festival in Lockenhaus/Austria. During a two-week concert tour of Argentina, the trio debuted before an audience of 2000 in the Teatro Gran Rex in Buenos Aires.



The ensemble achieved success at the international competition „Schubert and Modern Music“ in February 2012. Their performance in the final round gained much acclaim from experts and audience, causing public interest to grow sharply thereafter. As a result, the trio was immediately engaged for debut appearances at distinguished venues, including the Musikverein of Graz and the Vienna Konzerthaus.

Their first CD was released by the renowned classical music label Dabringhaus and Grimm (MDG). Their recording of the Piano Trios of Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy was awarded shortly after release the Pasticcio Prize of the Austrian National Broadcasting (OE1).

In the summer of 2014, the Trio was invited to chamber music Festivals in New York and Canada, where they performed the world premiere of the third Piano Trio by Kelly-Marie Murphy, a work dedicated to the TRIO ALBA.

In the fall of 2014 their second CD under the MDG label was released with the Trio-Phantasie and Ballade for piano quartet from Joseph Marx. Wen Xiao Zheng, principal violist of the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra, joins them for the Ballade. This CD was also awarded the Pasticcio Prize of the Austrian National Broadcasting (OE1) in June 2015.

In 2015 the trio was elected in the programme „The New Austrian Sound of Music (NASOM)“ what means that they will receive special support by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in the 2016/17 biennium. Highlights of the coming season will include their debuts at the Vienna Musikverein and at the Concertgebouw Amsterdam.

* TRIO ALBA - an allusion to alba (ital. sunrise, dawn) and the Swedish song “se solen sjunker”, that inspired Franz Schubert to the second movement of his Piano Trio in E-flat major.