MERZ TRIO
Winner, 2019 Concert Artists Guild Competition

PROGRAM OFFERINGS 22-23

Merz Trio believes in programming that is unexpected, fresh, and engaging, while working closely with presenters to ensure programming that will speak to their audiences.

Below are program offerings for our 22-23 season. For dates when a specific program is unavailable, the Trio is happy to work closely with the presenter to create a suitable program to the best of their satisfaction.
Merz Trio embarks on a night journey inspired by Schubert’s sublime E-flat Major Trio and the dark winter of its *Andante con moto* second movement. The first half of the program explores night as a time of both darkness and light: a time of the imagination that harbors both our deepest fears and our most radiant dreams. In Schubert’s Trio, the darkness of its second movement returns to haunt its twinkling finale, creating an unexpected juxtaposition of light and dark. Our night journey similarly pairs the mystery of the unknown with the unexpected intimacy of the emotions we might encounter therein.

**Sieben Frühe Lieder**
(Seven early songs)
1. *Nacht*  
   - Alban Berg (1885 - 1935)
   - arr. Merz Trio

**Episodi e canto perpetuo (1985)**
2. *Misterioso*  
   - Péteris Vasks (b. 1946)

**Round Midnight (1944)**
3. *Episodi e canto perpetuo*  
   - Thelonius Monk (1917 - 1982)
   - arr. Merz Trio

**Augellin**
4. *Episodi e canto perpetuo*  
   - Stefano Landi (1587 - 1639)
   - arr. Merz Trio

**"Erlkönig", Op. 1, D. 328**
5. *Unisoni*  
   - Franz Schubert (1797 - 1828)
   - arr. Merz Trio

**Gypsy Songs, Op. 55 (1880)**
6. *Songs my Mother Taught Me*  
   - Antonín Dvořák (1841 - 1904)
   - arr. Merz Trio

**Night (1946)**
   - Florence Price (1887 - 1953)
   - arr. Merz Trio

**Adagio in E-flat major, Op. 148 'Notturno' (D. 897)**
8. *Intermission*  
   - Franz Schubert (1797 - 1828)
Piano Trio No. 2 in E-flat Major, D. 899  
1. Allegro  
2. Andante con moto  
3. Scherzo: Allegro moderato  
4. Allegro moderato  

*As with all program offerings, Merz Trio is happy to customize the program for presenters who may be looking for a more traditional program or alternative pieces, please consult our full repertoire list.
Sample Program 2

"Humoreske"
Korngold, Fauré, Shostakovich, Brahms, and Ravel
season 22-23
(80 minute program)

Merz Trio leads us through a strange and wondrous pageantry of play: music that plays around, music that play acts, that kicks up its heels, provokes, charms and delights, and as often as not laughs through tears. From the joyous to the melancholy, the sardonic to the deeply felt, we explore a series of unique emotional companionships: the blend of joy and dark interiority we feel in Brahms’s C Major Trio; the mix of nostalgia and delight in Ravel’s La Valse; the sweet-bitter melancholy of Fauré’s late Trio, and those moments in Shostakovich when the sardonic is the deeply felt. In navigating these ups and downs, these pieces share a rare-spirited good humor and irrepressible optimism. They remind us that no matter our present reality, our surroundings can always change in an instant, if only we can bring ourselves to dance.

Impressions d’enfance, Op. 28 (1940)
1. Le ménétier
George Enescu (1881 - 1955)

Piano Trio in D Major, Op. 1
1. Allegro non troppo, con espressione
Erich Wolfgang Korngold (1897 - 1957)

Sarcasms, Op. 17
1. Tempestuoso
Sergei Prokofiev (1891 - 1953)

Piano Trio in D Minor, Op. 120 (1923)
2. Andantino
Gabriel Fauré (1845 - 1924)

Cabaret Songs, Volume I
2. Fur (1985)
William Bolcom (b. 1938)
arr. Merz Trio

Suite No. 1 for Solo Cello, Op. 72 (1964)
1. Canto primo: Sostenuto e largamente
Benjamin Britten (1913 - 1976)

Piano Trio No. 1 in C Minor, Op. 8
Dmitri Shostakovich (1906 - 1975)

Intermission

Piano Trio No. 2 in C Major, Op. 87
1. Allegro moderato
2. Andante con moto
3. Scherzo: Presto
4. Finale: Allegro giocoso
Johannes Brahms (1833 - 1897)
La valse, poème chorégraphique pour orchestre
arr. Merz Trio
Maurice Ravel (1875 - 1937)