MERZ TRIO
Winner, 2019 Concert Artists Guild Competition

PROGRAM OFFERINGS 22-23

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

Below are program offerings for our 22-23 season, and for dates when a specific sample program is unavailable, the Trio is happy to work closely with the presenter to create a suitable program to the best of their satisfaction.
Sample Program 1*

"Transfigured Night"
Vasks, Schubert E-flat Trio, and more!
season 22-23
(75 minute program)

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 leads up to the Schubert with an exploration of night as a time of both external and internal darkness: a time of the imagination that harbors our deepest fears but also our most radiant dreams. In Schubert's Trio, the psychological darkness of the second movement returns to haunt its twinkling finale, creating an unexpected juxtaposition of light and dark. Our journey into night similarly juxtaposes the mystery of the unknown with the unexpected intimacy and emotions we encounter therein.

**Sieben Frühe Lieder**
(Seven early songs)

1. Nacht

**Episodi e canto perpetuo (1985)**

2. Misterioso

**Round Midnight (1944)**

3. Unisoni

"Erlkönig", Op. 1, D. 328

4. Songs my Mother Taught Me

Night (1946)

Alban Berg (1885 - 1935)  
arr. Merz Trio

Pēteris Vasks (b. 1946)  
arr. Merz Trio

Thelonius Monk (1917 - 1982)  
arr. Merz Trio

Stefano Landi (1587 - 1639)  
arr. Merz Trio

Franz Schubert (1797 - 1828)  
arr. Merz Trio

Antonín Dvořák (1841 - 1904)  
arr. Merz Trio

Florence Price (1887 - 1953)  
arr. Merz Trio
Adagio in E-flat major, Op. 148 'Notturno' (D. 897)  
Franz Schubert (1797 - 1828)

Intermission

Piano Trio No. 2 in E-flat Major, D. 899  
Franz Schubert (1797 - 1828)

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.
Merz Trio leads us through a whirlwind of pieces about play: music that knows how to play, that charms and delights, but that also smiles through tears. From the joyous to the melancholy, from the sardonic to the deeply felt, we explore these juxtapositions of opposites: the blend of joy and dark nostalgia we feel in Brahms's C Major Trio and Ravel's La Valse; the sweetbitter melancholy of Fauré's late Trio, and those moments in Shostakovich and Enescu when the sardonic is the deeply felt. Yet in navigating these ups and downs, we are lifted by a spirit of play and humor, by a reminder that our surroundings can change in an instant, if only we can bring ourselves to dance.

Preludio e fantasia  
Nicola Matteis (1650 - 1715)  
arr. Merz Trio

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

Impressions d'enfance, Op. 28 (1940)  
George Enescu (1881 - 1955)

1. Le ménétrier

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

2. Andantino

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

2. Fur (1985)

Suite No. 1 for Solo Cello, Op. 72 (1964)  
Benjamin Britten (1913 - 1976)

1. Canto primo: Sostenuto e largamente

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

La valse, poème chorégraphique pour orchestre

Maurice Ravel (1875 - 1937)
arr. Merz Trio