

Academy of St Martin in the Fields Tomo Keller, director & violin James Burke, clarinet

Haydn Violin Concerto, No. 1 in C major

Grace Williams A Calm Sea in Summer from Sea Sketches

Mozart Clarinet Concerto in A major

The concert opens with Haydn's Violin Concerto in C major performed by the Academy's leader, Tomo Keller. This is the best-known of three surviving violin concertos Haydn wrote during the period 1765-70 for virtuoso violinist Luigi Tomasini, a violinist who was employed, like the composer, by the Esterházy family. From 1757 Tomasini had led the court orchestra and it is likely that the two musicians collaborated to a certain extent on the concertos.

Mozart's Clarinet Concerto in A major was also written for a particular musician; Anton Stadler, a virtuoso clarinettist and close friend of Mozart. Mozart achieved an exalted level of perfection unmatched by any other composer, conveying the most profound emotions via the simplest of means. The Clarinet Concerto, performed by the Academy's Principal, James Burke, is unshowy and features an ease of expression that is a hallmark of all Mozart's late works.

The two concertos are interspersed by the final movement from Grace Williams's Sea Sketches, A Calm Sea in Summer, directed from the violin by Tomo Keller. Written in 1944, Sea Sketches for string orchestra is an evocative description of the moods of the sea and is one of Williams's most popular works.

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Tomo Keller Martin Burgess Amanda Smith Gabrielle Painter

Violin II Jennifer Godson Fiona Brett Matthew Ward

Viola

Fiona Bonds Ian Rathbone

Cello

Caroline Dale
Juliet Welchman

Bass

Lynda Houghton

Flute

Harry Winstanley Sarah Newbold

Bassoon

Emily Hultmark Graham Hobbs

Horn

Stephen Stirling Joanna Hensel

Harpsichord

John Constable

Experience live music with us this summer!

We're delighted to welcome you back to our concerts at St Martin-in-the-Fields. Our next live concert is on 22 May. Find out about this and the rest of the series at asmf.org

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