

## 演出者簡介

卡薩爾斯四重奏 Cuarteto Casals

第一小提琴 薇拉·瑪提涅茲 Vera Martinez

第二小提琴 阿貝爾·托瑪斯 Abel Tomas

中提琴 約翰森·布朗 Jonathan Brown

大提琴 阿瑙·托瑪斯 Arnau Tomàs

來自西班牙的卡薩爾斯四重奏於 1997 年成軍，四位成員皆任教於加泰隆尼亞高等音樂院。他們在馬德里的第一場演出之後，《弦樂雜誌》說「這是屬於新千禧年的四重奏團」。為了慶祝卡薩爾斯四重奏成立 20 年，他們開始一項極有野心的計劃：以六場音樂會演出貝多芬全本弦樂四重奏，同時加上六位這個時代的作曲家們為該團譜寫的作品。這一系列分別在倫敦的維格摩廳、維也納的音樂廳、巴塞隆納的禮堂廳、馬德里的國立音樂廳、杜林的威爾第音樂院，以及阿姆斯特丹的弦樂四重奏雙年音樂節等六個不同的場合首演。此外，卡薩爾斯也在柏林愛樂廳、里斯本的古爾班基安基金會、東京的三多利廳、斯德哥爾摩的音樂廳、布魯塞爾的弗拉熱音樂廳、比拉韋爾特蘭的舒伯特廳等地演出貝多芬的弦樂四重奏全集音樂會。而他們在 *harmonia mundi* 的貝多芬弦樂四重奏全集錄音，以三個盒裝分別於三年發行，最後一盒則在 2020 年發行，同時慶祝貝多芬誕辰 250 周年。

卡薩爾斯四重奏分別於 2000 年、2002 年奪下倫敦國際弦樂四重奏大賽，以及漢堡國際布拉姆斯大賽，之後他們就成為全球各大音樂廳的常客，受邀在國際上最重要的室內樂舞台演出，包括維格摩廳、卡內基廳、柏林愛樂廳、維也納音樂廳、科隆愛樂廳、巴黎音樂城、阿姆斯特丹大會堂以及史瓦岑堡的舒伯特廳。卡薩爾斯四重奏也自 2003 年起開始在 *harmonia mundi* 錄音，至今已經超過十張 CD，曲目廣泛，從比較不被人熟悉的西班牙作曲家阿里亞加、托德拉，到維也納作曲家莫札特、海頓、舒伯特與布拉姆斯，再延伸至 20 世紀的偉大作曲家巴爾托克、拉威爾與李格替。他們也在 *Neu* 唱片公司灌錄了一張舒伯特弦樂四重奏的 DVD。

《紐約時報》盛讚卡薩爾斯四重奏獨特的音樂語彙，「擁有完全屬於自己的聲音標誌」。卡薩爾斯四重奏在英國倫敦獲得 *Borletti-Buitoni* 信託大獎，這使他們能獲得更棒的巴洛克琴弓，讓他們演奏自普賽爾至舒伯特的經典作品時，能在不同的音樂風格之間悠遊無礙，且皆呈現頂級水準。此外，卡薩爾斯四重奏深深被當代作曲家的作品所影響，尤其是庫塔克；而許多西班牙當代作曲家也譜寫作品讓他們做世界首演，包括柯爾一首寫給弦樂四重奏與管弦樂團的作品，將由他們與西班牙國立管弦樂團進行首演。

身為第一個享譽全球的西班牙弦樂四重奏，卡薩爾斯四重奏對加泰隆尼亞的文化帶來獨特的貢獻，加泰隆尼亞政府頒予他們「加泰隆尼亞文化大使」等頭銜。卡薩爾斯四重奏經常出現在歐洲與北美的電視與廣播，此外他們在巡迴演出之際，也喜愛開設大師班。他們曾隨西班牙國王參加外交巡訪，也曾在馬德里王宮演奏無價之寶的史特拉底瓦里名琴。

“A quartet for the new millennium if I ever heard one ”...wrote Strad magazine upon hearing Cuarteto Casals for the first time, shortly after its inception in 1997 at the Escuela Reina Sofia in Madrid. To celebrate its 20th anniversary season, Cuarteto Casals has embarked on an especially ambitious project: a six-concert series of the complete Beethoven quartets, accompanied by six commissioned works written by composers of its generation, to be premiered at Wigmore Hall (London), Konzerthaus (Vienna), L'Auditori (Barcelona), Auditorio Nacional (Madrid), Conservatorio Giuseppe Verdi (Turin) and the String Quartet Biennale Amsterdam. Additionally, the quartet will perform complete Beethoven cycles in the Philharmonie (Berlin), Gulbenkian Foundation (Lisbon), Suntory Hall (Tokyo), Konserthus (Stockholm), Flagey (Brussels) and Schubertiade (Vilabertran). The quartet's recordings of the complete Beethoven quartets will be released by harmonia mundi in three CD box-sets over the coming seasons, culminating in 2020, the 250th anniversary of the composers birth.

Since winning First Prizes at London and Brahms-Hamburg competitions, Cuarteto Casals has been regularly invited to perform on the world's most prestigious stages including Wigmore Hall, Carnegie Hall, the Berliner Philharmonie, Wiener Konzerthaus, Kölner Philharmonie, Cité de la Musique Paris, Concertgebouw Amsterdam and the Schubertiade in Schwarzenberg. The quartet has recorded with harmonia mundi since 2003, recording to date 11 CD's of repertoire ranging from lesser known Spanish composers Arriaga and Toldrá to Viennese masters Mozart, Haydn, Schubert and Brahms, through 20th century greats Bartók, Ravel and Ligeti, as well as a live DVD recording of the Schubert quartets on the Neu Records label.

“A sonic signature entirely its own”, raved the New York Times, describing Cuarteto Casals' distinctive range of expression. A prize from the prestigious Burletti-Buitoni Trust in London enabled the quartet to aquire a collection of matching Baroque and Classical period bows which it employs for works from Purcell through Schubert, refining its ability to distinguish between diverse musical styles. In addition, the quartet has been profoundly influenced by its work with living composers, especially György Kurtág, and has given the world premiere of quartets written by leading Spanish

composers, including a new concerto for string quartet and orchestra by Francisco Coll, premiered with the Orquesta Nacional de España.

In recognition of its unique contributions to the cultural life of Catalunya, Cuarteto Casals has been acknowledged as ambassadors of Catalan culture by the Generalitat of Catalunya and the Institut Ramon Llull. Past awards include the Premio Nacional de Música, the Premi Nacional de Cultura de Catalunya and the Premi Ciutat Barcelona. Cuarteto Casals often appears on television and radio throughout Europe and North America, and in addition to giving much sought-after masterclasses, they are quartet in residence at the Escola Superior de Musica de Catalunya in Barcelona, where all four members reside.

第一小提琴 薇拉·瑪提涅茲 Vera Martinez

Was born in Madrid, where she began to study the violin at age five. Upon turning twelve, she entered the Escuela Superior de Música Reina Sofia, where she studied with Professors Serguei Fatkoutine and Zakhar Bron, with whom she finished her studies at the Hochschule für Musik Köln. Concurrently, as a member of Cuarteto Casals, she received a special chamber music degree under the tutelage of the Alban Berg Quartet.

A prizewinner at many competitions, Vera won First Prize and Special Prize for Interpretation of a Classical Work at the Kloster Schöntal competition in 1995 and Second Prize at the Wieniawsky competition in Poland in 1997. As soloist she has appeared with various orchestras including the Symphony Orchestras of Palma de Mallorca, Santo Domingo, and the Chamber Orchestras Andrés Segovia and the Escuela Superior Reina Sofia, under the batons of conductors including Zubin Mehta, Yehudi Menuhin, James Judd, Victor Pablo and Antoni Ros Marbá. In addition, Vera has performed in the Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen and collaborated in chamber music concerts with artists such as Gérard Caussé, Harald Schoneweg, Marta Gulyás and her brother, pianist Claudio Martínez Mehner, with whom she performs duo recitals. She is also a member of the Ensemble Funktion and regularly plays concerts of new music.

Vera is a founding member of the Cuarteto Casals, formed when she was 18 years old, and which has subsequently performed in the most important halls throughout Europe, North America, Latin America and Japan. The quartet records exclusively for the Harmonia Mundi label, where she can be heard playing first and second violin on

renditions of quartets by Arriaga, Debussy, Zemlinsky, Mozart, Ravel, Toldrá, Turina and Brahms, among others. Vera is currently Professor of Chamber Music and Violin at the Escola Superior de Música de Catalunya and has previously taught at the Conservatorio Superior de Música de Aragón and Musikene in San Sebastian. She is periodically invited to teach masterclasses and serve on chamber music juries in Europe and North America.

#### 第二小提琴 阿貝爾·托瑪斯 Abel Tomas

Born in Barcelona in 1980, ABEL TOMÀS began his musical studies with his father and the violin with his uncle. Later he was a student of Zakhar Bron and Serguei Fatkoulina at the Escuela Superior de Música Reina Sofía and of Viktor Tretjakov at the Hochschule für Musik in Cologne.

Abel has been awarded prizes at various national and international competitions in Spain and Argentina. As soloist he has appeared with various orchestras including Orquesta Sinfónica de Barcelona and Orquesta Sinfónica de Tenerife and with distinguished conductors such as James Judd, Junichi Hirokami, Victor Pablo Perez and Zubin Mehta. He has given numerous violin recitals, collaborating with pianists like Juan Carlos Garvayo, Orli Shaham, Eldar Nebolsin, and Hyo-Sun Lim. As a chamber musician, he has also appeared with Gerard Caussé, Marta Gulyas, Seguro Ito and Kennedy Moretti.

At sixteen years of age, he Abel was a founding member of the internationally recognized Cuarteto Casals, a chamber music ensemble which maintains a full calendar of artistic activity, appearing in the most renowned halls in Europe, Latin America, the United States and Japan. Since 2004 the quartet has recorded exclusively for Harmonia Mundi for whom they have recorded numerous works. The quartet has been awarded the Spanish National Music Prize and the Prize of the City of Barcelona.

Together with his brother Arnau Tomàs Realp and pianist Hyo-Sun Lim, Abel is a founding member of the Ludwig Trio, with whom he has recorded music of Beethoven, whose Triple Concerto the trio will soon record with the Orquesta Sinfónica de Galicia. Aside from concertizing, Abel teaches violin and chamber music at the Escuela Superior de Música de Catalunya, and additionally gives masterclasses in both Europe and the United States.

中提琴 約翰森·布朗 Jonathan Brown

Born in Chicago in 1974, JONATHAN BROWN began his musical studies at the age of four, and later began playing the viola in chamber music ensembles. He studied with Heidi Castleman, Martha Strongin Katz and Victoria Chiang, before receiving his Masters Degree from the Juilliard School with Karen Tuttle.

Upon receiving a Beebe Grant for Musicians, Jonathan moved to Salzburg where he studied at The Universität Mozarteum with Thomas Riebl and Veronika Hagen. He participated in masterclasses with Diemut Poppen, Sylvia Rosenberg and Donald Weilerstein and has been profoundly influenced by his lessons with Ferenc Rados and György Kurtág.

In 2002 Jonathan joined the Cuarteto Casals, with whom he has regularly appeared in the most important concert halls and festivals around the world. The quartet records exclusively for Harmonia Mundi, for whom they have recorded extensively covering a wide range of repertoire from Boccherini to Kurtág.

Jonathan has also been a featured guest of other chamber music ensembles, including the Tokyo, Kuss, Miro, Quiroga and Zemlinsky Quartets and the Kandinsky Trio. A dedicated performer of new music, Jonathan is a founding member of Funktion and has often appeared as soloist with BCN216, performing works of Morton Feldman and Luciano Berio. He is currently professor of viola and chamber music at ESMUC in Barcelona and assistant professor of viola at the Escuela Reina Sofía in Madrid, and is frequently invited to give masterclasses throughout Europe and America.

大提琴 阿瑙·托瑪斯 Arnau Tomàs

Born in Barcelona, Arnau Tomàs is nowadays recognized as one of the most versatile cellists of his generation, combining solistic projects with an intense chambermusic activity, being the founder of the Cuarteto Casals and the Ludwig Trio.

Prizewinner in several National and International Competitions, gave numerous cellorecitals and appeared as soloist with the Orchestras Radiotelevisión Española,

Sinfónica de Tenerife, OSV, Sinfónica de Galicia and OBC, among others. In 1992, he participated in a televised masterclass with Yo Yo Ma in the Amsterdam Concertgebouw, focusing on the suites for solo cello by J.S.Bach.

He is regularly invited in the most important festivals and concertcycles and he will take part in the Cellobiennale of Amsterdam in 2018.

Arnau Tomàs has compiled a substantial and extensive discography with repertoire ranging from the Baroque Period until 20th century, with more than 15 cds. Specially remarkable are his recordings of the Bach Suites (2014) and the sonatas and variations by Beethoven (2016), in both cases he used historical bows of the composition's period.

In addition to his concert activities, Arnau has been Guestprofessor at the Hochschule für Musik Köln and has given various masterclasses and courses both in Europe as well as the United States.