



Trio Spectra

Classical Music Ensemble

[youtube.com/@trio-spectra](https://www.youtube.com/@trio-spectra)

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About Us

Trio Spectra is the Leuven-based musical collaboration of Slovak flutist Nina Sivošová, Croatian violist Ema Tufekčić, and American guitarist Daniel Conant. Uncommon in the world of classical music, the colourful combination of flute, viola, and guitar has been likened to an “orchestra in miniature.” The ensemble has a small but rich body of music, and Trio Spectra’s performances are a celebration of music by composers from all over the world – from South to North America, from Central to Western Europe. The Trio also commissions new music and arranges pre-existing works to explore the vibrant blend of their instruments. Above all, Trio Spectra performs music to uplift and move audiences – to inspire feelings of joy, contemplation, and reverie.



Listen to our music: <https://www.youtube.com/@trio-spectra> and learn more about us from a short news segment on [Bruzz TV](#)

*Our Program:
Across the Spectrum*

Buenos Aires Color Pastel (1987)

Máximo Diego Pujol
(b. 1957, Argentina)

- I. Amarillo Caballito
- II. Gris Mataderos
- III. Intermedio
- IV. Violeta Paternal

Trio voor fluit, alt, en gitaar (1935)

Nico Richter
(1915-1945, Netherlands)

- I. Allegro
- II. Non troppo lento
- III. Presto

Sonata for flute, viola, and harp (1918)

Claude Debussy
(1862-1918, France)
(arr. Andrea Förderreuther)

- I. Pastorale
- II. Interlude
- III. Finale

Gymnopedie No. 1 (4')

Erik Satie
(1855-1925, France)
(arr. Daniel Conant)

Dances Con Brio (1994)

Štěpán Rak
(b. 1945, Czechia)

- I. Tango
- II. Vals
- III. Rhumba
- IV. Slow Fox
- V. Rak n' Roll

What a Wonderful World (2')

Louis Armstrong
(1901-1971, United States)
(arr. Daniel Conant)

About the Music

Máximo Diego Pujol is a guitarist-composer from Argentina. Each movement of his shimmering *Buenos Aires Color Pastel* paints a musical picture of a neighbourhood in Argentina's capital city, from Caballito to Mataderos to La Paternal. Pujol effortlessly blends elements of Argentine folk and dance music with Impressionist compositional techniques to create a musical drama sure to delight listeners.

We contrast Pujol's technicolour epic with the shadowy greys, whites, and blacks heard in the 1935 *Trio voor fluit, alt, en gitaar* by Dutch composer **Nico Richter**. Born into a Jewish family, Richter lived and composed in Amsterdam before being imprisoned in successive concentration camps by the Nazi regime. Despite the horrors he lived through, Richter managed to compose right up until his death in 1945 at the age of 29. Like all of his music, this trio is dense, energetic, and overflowing with musical ideas. It shows his admiration for the radically innovative music of composers belonging to the Second Viennese School.

Claude Debussy is the composer most associated with impressionism in music. Completed in 1915, the *Sonata for flute, viola, and harp* is among his final works. It was composed while he was suffering from terminal cancer and while France was engaged in a devastating war with Germany. About the *Sonata*, Debussy wrote to Igor Stravinsky that he was writing "pure music in the old form," and this can be heard not only in his evocation of the sonata form, but also in his uncharacteristic use of familiar sounding tonal progressions. The first movement, "Pastorale," takes its time to unravel and welcome listeners into its strange dreamscape. In the "Interlude," Debussy patches together many types of dance music like a filmmaker crafting a montage. The perpetual motion of the "Finale" conjures up images of an out-of-control horse race which comes grinding to a halt at the sudden reappearance of music from the first movement. Trio Spectra presents the *Sonata* in an arrangement for guitar by Andrea Förderreuther edited by Daniel Conant.

Erik Satie is perhaps best known for his meditative piano solos. We present an arrangement of his most famous one, *Gymnopedie no. 1*, as a relief from the preceding Debussy Sonata.

Czech guitarist-composer **Štěpán Rak** is most known for his unique and virtuosic solo guitar music. This set of five dances is a triumph of musical wit. Rak toys with each familiar dance form by introducing unexpected harmonies and rhythms in ways sure to keep our listeners smiling. His ecstatic approach to composition pushes our instruments to the absolute limit.

Upcoming Events

April 8th, 2023 – Recital at *Dag van het Geluk* at KU Leuven University Hall

May 5th-8th, 2023 – We will give a series of concerts and a chamber music masterclass in Czechia

May 11th, 2023 – Recital at Lemmensinstituut in Leuven

August 19th, 2023 – Recital at *Bijloke Wonderland Festival* in Gent, Belgium

Past Events

February 20th, 2023 – series of mini-concerts at *Klara Festival Box* in Brussels

February 26th, 2023 – Chamber music matinee at *Sint-Pieterskerk* in Erps-Kwerps, BE

February 1st, 2023 – Competition participants in the *Big Little Music Competition*, Gent

December 15th, 2022 – *Kamermuziekavond* at Lemmensinstituut in Leuven



About the musicians



Nina Sivošová is an established artist currently active in Prague/Czech republic and Belgium, performing all over the world as a soloist, as a member of various orchestras-Czech National Symphony Orchestra, Slovak Radio Symphony Orchestra, Bohemian Symphony Orchestra, Rock Meets Classic Orchestra/Germany, Chrysalis Orchestra/US, chamber ensembles and bands. She is oriented to crossover genres, from baroque to rock music, from eastern to western music traditions, combining also different forms of arts. Apart from active performing, she is experienced and passionate about passing the love for music further to her students.



Ema Tufekčić completed her Bachelor's Degree at Musik und Kunst Privatuniversität der Stadt Wien in the class of Gertrud Weinmeister. She is currently earning a Master's degree at Lemmens Institute in Leuven, Belgium in the class of Tine Janssens. She has performed with orchestras all over the world in halls such as Wiener Musikverein, Queen Elisabeth Hall in Antwerp, Sarajevo National Theatre, Shanghai

Symphony Hall, and Zhongshan Music Hall in Beijing. Her passion for chamber music has led her to collaborate with various ensembles in both popular and classical settings. She has made frequent appearances on Croatian television with the Vortex String Quartet. Ema currently teaches viola and violin in Antwerp, Belgium.



Hailed for his “colorful tone” and “intimate approach,” guitarist **Daniel Conant** is an avid performer and teacher of classical music. Originally from New York City, Conant's playing has been heard at venues such as Weil Hall, Symphony Space, and the Morgan Library and Museum. He has given recitals internationally in Canada, Mexico, Italy, and Belgium, where he moved in 2020 after receiving a grant from the Belgian-American Educational Foundation to study with Raphaëlla Smits. Equally at

home with historical and contemporary music, Daniel loves combining five centuries of repertoire for plucked instruments with premieres by living composers.