



SCOTLAND'S NATIONAL
ORCHESTRA

Schubert 'Cello' Quintet

New Auditorium, Glasgow Royal Concert Hall

Sun 18 May 2025: 2.30pm

Franz Schubert certainly knew how to write a tune, but even by his standards the C Major String Quintet is something special. There's a reason why this piece is a regular choice on *Desert Island Discs*: it traces the composer's journey from blackest despair to radiant happiness, and at its heart is one of the most sublimely beautiful slow movements in all music. Our five RSNO musicians will make this a truly memorable event.

RSNO STRING QUINTET

Maya Iwabuchi Violin

Lena Zeliszewska Violin

Tom Dunn Viola

Pei-Jee Ng Cello

Kennedy Leitch Cello

If viewing these notes at the concert, please do so considerately and not during performances. Please silence all mobile telephones and alerts, and refrain from taking photographs, without flash, until the end of each piece.

Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

String Quintet

in C Major D956

Also called the **‘Cello’ Quintet**

Composed: Summer or early autumn 1828

First performance: Vienna, 17 November 1850

Duration: 53 minutes

1. Allegro ma non troppo

2. Adagio

3. Scherzo: Presto – Trio: Andante sostenuto

4. Allegretto



Maya Iwabuchi Violin

Maya began violin lessons at the age of two, and since her concert debut at age five, she has enjoyed an international career as a solo violinist, chamber musician, orchestral leader and teacher. Her performances have taken her to the major concert halls in London, New York, Paris, Berlin, Vienna, Australia and Japan.

Highlights include appearances with the Los Angeles and New York philharmonics, Philharmonia Orchestra and RSNO, and at festivals such as the BBC Proms and the International Musicians Seminar in Prussia Cove, Cornwall. She has collaborated in chamber music with artists such as Karen Cargill, Brett Dean, Steven Isserlis and Christian Blackshaw, and she is an Artistic Director of the Hellensmusic Festival in Herefordshire. She has led most of the British orchestras and was Leader of the Philharmonia Orchestra from 1994 to 2012, leading for some of the legends of the past and present, such as Kurt Sanderling, Gennady Rozhdestvensky, Riccardo Muti, Esa-Pekka Salonen, Andris Nelsons and Gustavo Dudamel. Maya moved to Scotland in 2010, where she currently serves as Leader of the RSNO and as a faculty member at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. Her violin was made by Fabrizio Senta, c1685.



Lena Zeliszewska Violin

Lena obtained her MA degree from the Poznań Academy of Music in Poland and continued her postgraduate studies at the Royal Academy of Music in London. She was a member of the European Union Youth Orchestra and the Verbier Festival Orchestra. In 2010 she joined the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra as No5 First Violin. She also was a member of the Birmingham

Contemporary Music Group. In 2013 Lena commenced a Doctor of Musical Arts degree at Northwestern University (Evanston, IL). During her time at NU she was a winner of the NU Concerto Competition. She also performed at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC as part of The Conservatory Project 2015. She completed her doctoral degree in 2017 with First Class Honours. Lena has appeared as a Guest Leader with the West Australian Symphony Orchestra and Opera and the Trondheim Symphony Orchestra, as well as Guest Principal Second with the Hallé Orchestra and the Malmö Symphony Orchestra. She joined the RSNO in 2016 as No4 Principal First Violin and was promoted to her current position of Associate Leader in 2019.



Tom Dunn Viola

Tom was born in Yorkshire and studied on the Joint Course at Manchester University and the Royal Northern College of Music. Since then he has held Co-Principal Viola positions with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and the London Mozart Players, and from 2011 to 2014 was Principal Viola in the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment. Tom has also appeared as Guest Principal

Viola with many orchestras, including the Chamber Orchestra of Europe, London Philharmonic Orchestra, English Baroque Soloists, Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, Scottish Chamber Orchestra, BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra and Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique. In 2014 he took up the position of Principal Viola with the RSNO. A keen chamber musician, Tom was a member of the Quince Quartet and the London Bridge Ensemble and has also collaborated with the Gould Piano Trio, Simon Crawford-Phillips, Scottish Ensemble and Ensemble 360. Chamber music recordings include music by Vaughan Williams, Bridge and Mozart for Chandos and Dutton.



Pei-Jee Ng Cello

Australian cellist Pei-Jee joined the RSNO as Principal Cello in 2023. From 2015 to 2022 he was Co-Principal Cello of the London Philharmonic Orchestra. In his debut season with the RSNO he performed Shostakovich's Concerto No1 with Music Director Thomas Søndergård and followed it in the 2024:25 Season with Elena Langer's *The Dong with a Luminous Nose*

conducted by Marzena Diakun. Pei-Jee is cellist of the Fournier Trio, winners of the 2013 Parkhouse Award, and 2nd Prize and Audience Prize at the 2011 Trondheim International Chamber Music Competition. His duo collaboration with pianist Chiao-

Ying Chang won them the Libero Lana Prize in Trieste in 2011. He began cello studies with Barbara Yelland and Janis Laurs in Adelaide before moving to the UK to study extensively with Hannah Roberts and Ralph Kirshbaum in Manchester. He completed his studies at the Royal Academy of Music in London with Jo Cole, Sung-Won Yang and Thomas Brandis, receiving the Queen's Commendation for Excellence upon graduation.



Kennedy Leitch Cello

Kennedy grew up in Ayr, and began learning the cello with his father John Leitch. After continuing his studies at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester, where his teachers included Phillip Norris and Hannah Roberts, Kennedy joined the RSNO in 2005.

Alongside music, Kennedy is also a passionate cook, finishing 8th in BBC TV's *MasterChef* in 2011. When not on stage or in the kitchen, you'll probably find him on the golf course.

Mendelssohn's Octet

featuring Randall Goosby

New Auditorium, Glasgow Royal Concert Hall
Sun 1 Jun 2025: 2.30pm

Price String Quartet No1
Mendelssohn Octet

Randall Goosby Violin
RSNO Chamber Ensemble
Kellen Gray Presenter

When string players want to unwind, they gather up some friends and play Mendelssohn's Octet: half an hour of enchantment, romance and rocketing exuberance from the pen of a 16-year-old genius with his imagination on fire. It's one of those pieces that leaves smiles on the faces of performers and listeners alike. No wonder Artist in Residence Randall Goosby has asked to lead this performance with seven RSNO players. Plus, Associate Artist Kellen Gray introduces a neglected gem by a true American pioneer, Florence Price.

**Book online at rsno.org.uk/whats-on or phone the
Glasgow Royal Concert Hall Box Office on 0141 353 8000**
(booking fees may apply).

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