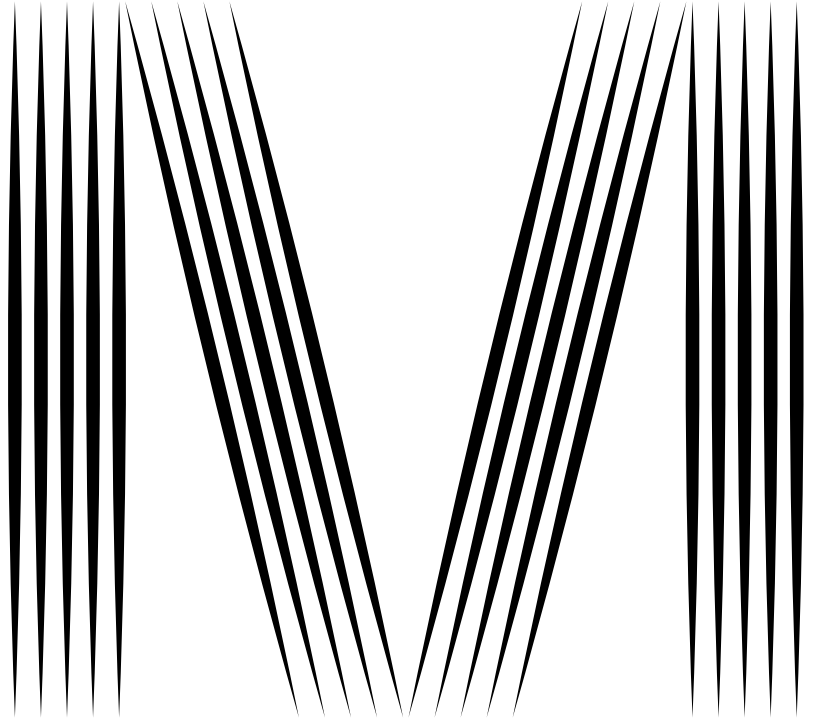




Makropulos 2024–2025





Esteemed ladies and gentlemen, classical music lovers,

It brings me great joy that you have just opened the catalogue of the established Czech classical music agency Makropulos.

Why Makropulos? Because there is very little that is so immortal as music. From today's vantage point, Monteverdi, Bach, and Zelenka are composers of "old music", but the language in which they speak to us is just as comprehensible today as it was of old. Just as the language of Janáček, Korngold, and Kaprálová will be for listeners two hundred years from now.

I have the great joy and honour work with artists who are capable of performing that immortal music in such a way "that shivers run up and down our spines, and we forget to breathe", to paraphrase a quote by Leoš Janáček. Not only are they excellent performers, they are excellent people as well: outside of our professional meetings in concert halls, we are also friends in our personal lives.

"Makropulos" is the name recently given to a planet circling the star Absolutno ("the Absolute") which can be seen with the naked eye. I am confident that our agency – and its stars – will shine in many concerts and will bring joy and harmony to our lives.

Sincerely,

Martina Výrková, founder & managing director

Bella Adamova **contralto**  
Alena Hron **conductor**  
Tomáš Jamník **violoncello**  
Marek Kozák **piano**  
Trio Incendio **piano trio**  
Dvořák Trio **piano trio**  
Škampa Quartet **string quartet**  
Martinů Voices & Lukáš Vasilek  
**chamber vocal ensemble**

### **Emerging talents**

Jakub Sládek **piano**  
Vilém Vlček **violoncello**  
Kukal Quartet **string quartet**



## Bella Adamova

“No feeling in the world compares to those magical moments in live performance where composed music feels like improvisation.”



“A voice that apparently can do anything” – contralto and improviser Bella Adamova moves between different musical periods, genres and cultures with natural ease. A native of Chechnya, she grew up in Prague, studied in London, Cologne and Basel.

In 2022 Bella won the main prize in the oratorio category of the International Vocal Competition in 's-Hertogenbosch, Netherlands. And in the same year she won the 2nd prize at the international competition “Franz Schubert and Modern Music” in Graz (the first prize was not awarded) in the song duo category with pianist Malte Schäfer. Bella is also the winner of the International Robert Schumann Competition (2021).

Bella has chosen the art song as a focal point. Her repertoire ranges from Vincenzo Bellini to Bernhard Lang, encompassing German Lied as well as Russian romances. She sings and improvises in duo with pianists Malte Schäfer and Michael Gees. The new long-awaited album by Bella & Michael titled “there is home” will be released by the Czech prestigious label Supraphon in August 2023. Bella’s voice inspired the Austrian composer Marion von Tilzer in writing a touching song based on Vilma Grundwald’s letter from WWII and is part of the album “INTO ETERNITY”, (Dutch high-end label TRPTK, April 2023).

In the coming months, next to song recitals in Germany, Switzerland and the Czech Republic, including a recital with personal dramaturgy at the IMF Prague Spring, Bella will perform the alto solo in Pergolesi’s Stabat Mater with the Slovak Sinfonietta or in Mahler’s 2nd symphony.

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### Selected repertoire with orchestra

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G. Mahler – Symphony No. 2, No. 3, Rückertlieder,  
Des Knaben Wunderhorn , Songs of a Wayfarer  
M. de Falla – El amor brujo

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### Selected oratorio

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J. S. Bach – St. Matthew Passion BWV 244  
G. B. Pergolesi – Stabat Mater  
F. Mendelssohn-Bartholdy – Elijah  
L. Janáček – Glagolitic Mass

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### Selected opera roles

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J. Haydn – La fedelta premiata (Celia)  
P. I. Tchaikovsky – Eugene Onegin (Olga)  
A. Dvořák – Rusalka (Third Woodsprite)  
B. Britten – A Midsummer Night’s Dream (Hermia)

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### Selected song repertoire

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“**there is home**” (new album by Supraphon, Sept 2023):  
song cycles by P. Haas, G. Mahler, B. Britten, M. Mussorgskij  
& improvisation with pianist Michael Gees

F. Schubert – **Winterreise** (with piano or string quartet)

**Of Cruelty and Tenderness?** (G. Kurtág, G. Mahler, M. Srnka)  
with pianist Malte Schäfer

“**It’s all Eve’s fault!**” – (G. Faure ‘La chanson d’Eve’ and more on  
Eve in paradise and women on Earth) with pianist Malte Schäfer

**Blooming** – free improvisation with pianist Michael Gees (album  
by Challenge records, 2019)



## Alena Hron

“Music is emotions. It can express the indescribable and my goal is to convey at least a slice of this indescribability and extraordinariness to the listeners. I try to make the orchestra sound like one big organism that breathes and feels together, but also to give each individual space for his or her personal musical expression.”



Alena Hron is a leading representative of the best conducting talent of the young generation in the Czech Republic. She stands at the beginning of her career but has already achieved remarkable success and her gift and capacities are being recognized repeatedly everywhere she works. Jakub Hrůša, whom she led a festival orchestra with, considers her a big promise for the future of the performing art of both choral and orchestral conducting.

Alena has gained vast experience conducting many Czech symphonic orchestras, e.g. PKF – Prague Philharmonia, Hradec Králové Philharmonic or Bohuslav Martinů Philharmonic Orchestra. She is a frequent guest to the Janáček Philharmonic Ostrava where she also recorded complete orchestral work by remarkable Czech composer Vítězslava Kaprálová.

In May 2023 we can see Alena at her the debut at the prestigious IMF Prague Spring (S. Prokofiev, J. Novák, O. Respighi) with the Prague Symphony (FOK).

Later this year she will tour the Czech Republic (Ostrava, Brno) and abroad (Berlin, Paris) with the Janáček Philharmonic, will open the season of the South Czech Philharmonic or stage an instrumental-vocal premiere by Jana Vörösová with the Prague Radio Symphony Orchestra.

Her experience in the theater includes operas La Bohème, Carmen, Rigoletto, and musical theatre Funny Girl. She will assist Kaspar Zehnder during a new production of Dvořák's Rusalka at the Metz Opera in May 2023.

Alena is a co-founder and used to be the artistic director of the Punkt Ensemble, an internationally acclaimed choir focused on contemporary music.

Alena Hron graduated in Conducting from the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague with Master's degree in autumn 2022. During her studies she spent one year at the Norges musikkhøgskole, participating in masterclasses with Vasily Petrenko and Christian Ehwald.

In 2022–24 she is enrolled in the Master's programme in conducting at the prestigious Zürcher Hochschule der Künste lead by J. Schlaefli and Ch. M. Mueller where she has the unique opportunity to work with several European orchestras.





## Tomáš Janník

“For me, the role of a performer is like that of an interpreter: with as much feeling and understanding as I can muster, to present listeners with the composer’s thoughts in a way that is enjoyable and thought-provoking at the same time.”



Tomáš Jamník is a Czech cellist, currently residing in Berlin and Prague recognized for his indepth knowledge of each performed piece and strong interest in bringing less-well-known music to a wider audience.

In 2006 he won the Prague Spring International Music Competition and was awarded a number of special prizes, in 2011 he was a finalist at the Pierre Fourniere Award in London. Tomáš has performed extensively with top international orchestras in Europe, the U.S., and Asia, including the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin, Czech Philharmonic or Philharmonia Orchestra London. He is also respected as a chamber musician.

In 2023 Tomáš will appear as a soloist at the prestigious IMF Prague Spring, he will tour with the Slovak Radio Symphony Orchestra and also give recitals and teach at universities in the USA, including the New York University and Juilliard School, thanks to the Fulbright-Masaryk scholarship.

Tomáš began his musical training in Prague and continued at the Hochschule für Musik und Theater in Leipzig and at the Universität der Künste Berlin. He enriched his education at the Karajan Academy of Berliner Philharmoniker and at the Kronberg Academy.

Tomáš is also an enthusiastic educator and promoter of classical music. Since 2015, he has served as the artistic director of the Czech Chamber Music Academy, in 2019 he became the artistic director of the Ševčík Academy.

Tomáš plays a violoncello made by Lorenzo Storioni in 1784.

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### Selected solo repertoire

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J. S. Bach – selected suites for cello solo  
P. Hindemith – Sonata for cello solo  
L. Fišer – Sonata for cello solo  
Z. Kodály – Sonata for cello solo

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### Selected repertoire with orchestra

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J. Haydn – Concerto for cello and orchestra No. 1 in C Major  
J. Mysliveček – Concerto for cello and orchestra in C Major  
A. Dvořák – Concerto for cello and orchestra No. 1 in A Major B 10  
E. Elgar – Concert for cello and orchestra in E Minor, op. 85  
B. Martinů – Concerto for cello and orchestra No. 1 H 196,  
Sonata da camera  
J. Ryant Dřízal – Narcissus (2018)  
J. Novák – Capriccio for cello and chamber orchestra (1958)

**Various programmes with the Czech Chamber Music Academy**  
**J. Mysliveček, W. A. Mozart, B. Martinů**



## Marek Kozák

“For me, music is the most valuable gift – a gift that I have received and that I can give to those who come to my concerts. The year 2024 brings a major anniversary of Bedřich Smetana and we will celebrate the Czech music tradition. I am looking forward to playing great Czech compositions.”



The young piano virtuoso Marek Kozák has achieved a series of impressive results in a wide range of prestigious competitions. His most recent is the laureate title in Concours Géza Anda Zürich 2021. In 2015, he was a semifinalist in The Fryderyk Chopin International Piano Competition in Warsaw. In 2016 he gained 2nd prize at the Prague Spring International Music Competition and special award for his performance of the contemporary composition. In 2018, he won both first prize and the audience prize at the European Piano Competition in Bremen.

Critics praise his flawless technique, sense of proportion and gradation, wide range of expression, deep musicality and faithfulness to musical notation.

In the 2022–23 season, next to giving numerous recitals in the Czech Republic, Switzerland and Germany, he will have his solo recital at Rudolfinum concert hall in Prague and also return to the Smetana's Litomyšl festival with Bach's Well Tempered Piano. Strauss' Burlesque, Liszt's 2nd, Dvořák's g minor or Prokofiev's 3rd piano concertos are on his play list in 2023–24.

Next to this well-established repertoire Marek enjoys discovering and performing lesser-known Czech piano literature. He has played and recorded concertos by Vítězslava Kaprálová, Karel Kovařovic and Pavel Bořkovec.

Marek graduated at the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague. He attended numerous masterclasses led by world-famous virtuosos, such as E. Indjic, M. Parahia and G. Ohlsson.

In 2018, he released his first signature CD with the works of J. Haydn, F. Chopin, C. Franck, S. Rachmaninoff and A. Skoumal.

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### Major piano sonatas by Haydn, Beethoven and Liszt

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J. Haydn – Sonata No. 62 in E-flat Major Hob XVI:52  
L. van Beethoven – Sonata No. 31 in A-flat Major Op. 110  
F. Liszt – Sonata in B minor S. 178

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### The three friends Dvořák, Brahms and Tchaikovsky

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A. Dvořák – Six Piano Pieces Op. 52  
J. Brahms – Three Intermezzos Op. 117  
P. I. Tchaikovsky – Six Piano Pieces Op. 19

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### With Smetana from 1824 to today

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B. Smetana – Polka in G Minor, Concert Etude in G sharp Minor, Op. 17 “On the seashore”, Sketches Op. 5, Macbeth and the Witches  
L. Janáček – In the Mists  
V. Kaprálová – April Preludes Op. 13  
A. Skoumal – The Jongleur (2016)

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### Selected repertoire with orchestra

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A. Dvořák – Piano Concerto in g Minor op. 33  
J. Massenet – Piano Concerto in E-flat Major  
K. Kovařovic – Piano Concerto in F Minor Op. 6  
S. Prokofiev – Piano Concerto No. 3 in C Major Op. 26  
V. Kaprálová – Concerto for Piano and Orchestra  
P. Bořkovec – Piano Concerto No. 2



## Trio Incendio

“For us, chamber music is the most intimate form of human communication: a path to deep friendships and musical experiences that sweep you off your feet.”



Trio Incendio was founded in 2016 by three highly talented Czech musicians – Karolína Františová (piano), Filip Zaykov (violin) and Vilém Petras (violoncello). Their concerts are appreciated for their passion, stylistic clarity and the beauty of the sound.

The trio has been awarded at the International Joseph Joachim Chamber Music Competition (2022) including special award for a work from the category “early classic”, and at the International Joseph Haydn Chamber Music Competition in Vienna (2023) including prize for the best interpretation of the commissioned work. They won the Gianni Bergamo Classic Music Award in Lugano, Coop Music Awards in Cremona, Concorso Musicale “Marcello Pontillo” in Firenze, Kiejstut Bacewicz Competition in Lodz, Concorso “Massimiliano Antonelli” in Latina and Bohuslav Martinů Competition in Prague.

Trio Incendio performs both in the Czech Republic and abroad. The young ensemble has already given concerts in some of the most important European venues such as Philharmonie Berlin, Wigmore Hall or Rudolfinum in Prague and festivals like Ticino Musica, Davos and Ohrid.

The trio is a member ensemble of the European Chamber Music Academy. In 2019 the trio was also invited to join the Le Dimore Del Quartetto organization and they participate regularly in the International Summer Academy in Reichenau. In 2023 they were selected among very high number of applicants to participate at the prestigious Verbier Festival Academy.

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### Musical friendship & majestic melodies

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V. Novák – Trio in D Minor “Quasi una balatta”  
A. Dvořák – Trio No. 1 in B Major  
J. Brahms – Trio No. 3 in C Minor

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### French finesse

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M. Ravel – Trio in A Minor  
C. Saint-Saens – Trio No. 2 in E Minor

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### Intimate explorations

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M. Weinberg – Piano trio in A minor, Op. 24  
F. Schubert – Trio No. 2 in E-flat Major

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### The best of Czech...

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B. Martinů – Piano Trio in C Major, No. 3 H 332  
A. Dvořák – Piano Trio No. 4 “Dumky”, Op. 90, B166  
J. Suk – Elegie for Piano, Violin, and Cello, Op. 23

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### Meeting with Andreas Willwohl, viola

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R. Schumann – Piano Quartet in E flat Major, Op. 47



## Dvořák Trio

“For us, each concert is a unique event. We want to go deep into the experience, sharing the innermost emotions.”





The Dvořák Trio brings together three musicians who are among the best performers on their respective instruments: violinist Jan Fišer, cellist Tomáš Jamník and pianist Ivo Kahánek. The ensemble was established in 2004 at the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague, under the sponsorship of cellist Josef Chuchro and pianist Ivan Klánský.

The Dvořák Trio's core repertoire consists of music by Czech composers. The trio's debut album, released by Suprafon in 2013, features works by Antonín Dvořák (Dumky, Slavonic Dances) and Bedřich Smetana (Trio in G minor). The ensemble also focuses on underplayed compositions such as the piano trios of Antonín Rejcha and works by the Czech contemporary composers Luboš Sluka, Aleš Březina, and Jiří Gemrot. In 2018, the trio appeared in the Leoš Janáček Musical Marathon with an all-Janáček recital, including a reconstruction of the lost "Kreutzer Sonata" piano trio.

The Dvořák Trio appears frequently on stages in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, and Luxembourg – at festivals such as the Dresdner Musikfestspiele and the Mainzer Musiksommer, as well as in the Berlin Philharmonic's popular afternoon concert series. They performed repeatedly at the Styriarte Graz festival under the artistic patronage of Nikolaus Harnoncourt. The Dvořák Trio achieved great recognition in 2018 when it was invited, together with the Pavel Haas Quartet, the Bennewitz Quartet, and the Belfiato Wind Quintet, to perform in a full-length evening concert in the hall of Elbphilharmonie Hamburg, Germany.

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### The complete works of Antonín Dvořák for piano trio

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- A. Dvořák – Trio No. 1 in B Major
- A. Dvořák – Trio No. 2 in G Minor
- A. Dvořák – Trio No. 3 in F Minor
- A. Dvořák – Trio No. 4 in E Minor "Dumky"

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### Classical and romantic masterpieces

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- A. Rejcha – Trio in D Major
- L.van Beethoven – Piano Trio No. 4 in B-flat major, Op. 11, "Gassenhauer"
- F. Schubert – Piano Trio No. 2 in E-flat Major, Op. 100
- S. Rachmanninoff – Trio élégiaque No. 1 in G Minor
- B. Smetana – Piano Trio in G minor, Op. 15

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### 20th century dramaturgy

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- L. Janáček – Kreutzer Sonata (arr. Burghauser)
- B. Martinů – Trio N. 2 in D Minor, H 327
- L. Fišer – Trio for Violin, Cello and Piano





## Škampa Quartet

“Love of music knows no borders... We are honored to share with our listeners not only world-famous works, but also Czech string quartet jewels such as the lesser-known works of Pavel Haas or Hans Krása.”



The Škampa Quartet is among the very finest of current Czech string quartets that has represented their country in major concert halls around the world for twenty five years.

Through their mentors, the legendary Smetana Quartet, they trace their roots to the earliest quartets in a land that remains, to this day, the very cradle of European Chamber Music. To this innate musicality they have added their own particular research to inform their understanding of the folk-song and poetry, rhythms and dance from which their native music grew – to the extent that their recordings of the quartets by Janacek and Smetana particularly are quoted as the bench-marks against which other performances are judged.

Prizes at international competitions, awards from the Royal Philharmonic Society and others – and appointment as the first-ever Resident Artists at Wigmore Hall – marked the solidity of their early years and led to invitations to perform at major festivals world-wide including Prague Spring, Schwetzingen, Edinburgh, Schleswig-Holstein and Melbourne.

They have established a close relationship with BBC Radio 3 resulting in regular broadcasts from Wigmore Hall, St John's Smith Square, LSO St Luke's and the Chamber Music Proms.

The Škampa quartet have been award-winning recording artist for Supraphon, they are also among the elite artists whose performances have been selected for release on the Wigmore Hall Live label.

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### Viennese schools

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J. Haydn – String Quartet No. 5 Op. 76  
L. van Beethoven – String Quartet No. 11 in F Minor Op. 95  
A. Schönberg – String Quartet No. 2 Op. 10 or Verklärte Nacht Op. 4

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### Cultural influences from France and Russia

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S. Rachmaninoff – String Quartet No. 1  
M. Ravel – String Quartet in F Major  
S. Prokofiev – String Quartet No. 1 in B Minor Op. 50

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### Brilliance or madness?

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R. Schumann – String Quartet No. 3 Op. 41  
B. Smetana – String Quartet No. 2 in D Minor  
L. van Beethoven – String Quartet No. 13 in B-flat Major Op. 130

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### Ruthless faiths (Jewish composers)

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H. Krása – Dance  
P. Haas – String Quartet No. 2 Op. 7 “From the Monkey Mountains”  
S. Reich – Different Trains (1988)



## Martinů Voices

“I love when the choir and myself connect in a way that allows us to play the music according to our taste and inspiration of the moment. It is just a magical moment, we all enjoy it and the audience can feel it!”



Founded in 2010 by the choirmaster Lukáš Vasilek, the main artistic focus of the Martinů Voices vocal ensemble has been on top-quality interpretation of chamber choral works encompassing the time span from the 19th to 21st centuries.

Apart from its own concert programmes the choir has been involved in a number of joint projects with Czech orchestras and conductors. In 2014 the choir joined the Czech Philharmonic and its principal conductor, the late Jiří Bělohlávek, in a production of B.

Martinů's opera "What Men Live by". This collaboration earned a nomination for the prestigious International Opera Award (2015). Another major achievement was concert appearance alongside the prominent British ensemble, the Tallis Scholars. In 2017 he choir joined forces with the Bang on a Can All Stars ensemble in the Czech premiere of the cantata Anthracite Fields by American composer J. Wolfe.

The ensemble released several CDs including recordings of choral works by J. Novák and B. Martinů (Supraphon 2014, 2018). The choir's album with Martinů's chamber choral cycles figured in the Editor's Choice in the March 2018 issue of the British magazine Gramophone.

By the end of 2023 a new recording of B. Britten's chamber vocal pieces will be issued.

Lukáš Vasilek has been the principal conductor of the Prague Philharmonic Choir (PPC) since 2007. PPC is internationally renowned for their excellent performances of larger-scale cantata, oratorio and opera projects, working with leading international conductors and orchestras (including the Berliner Philharmoniker, Czech Philharmonic or Israel Philharmonic). Their numerous recordings received rewards from the prestigious Gramophone Magazine, BBC Music Magazine and Diapason among others. The newest recording presents Mahler's 2nd symphony performed by the Czech Philharmonic & Prague Philharmonic Choir and Semyon Bychkov (Pentatone, April 2023).

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### The best of chamber choral work by Antonín Dvořák

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- A. Dvořák – Four Choirs Op. 29 B. 59
- A. Dvořák – Moravian Duets Op. 38 B. 69
- A. Dvořák – Choral Songs for Male Voices B. 66
- A. Dvořák – Moravian Duets B. 107
- A. Dvořák – From the Bouquet of Slavonic Folk Songs Op. 43 B. 76
- A. Dvořák – In Nature's Realm Op. 63 B. 126

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### Crucial American choral music pieces of 20th and 21st century

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- M. Feldman – Rothko Chapel (soprano and alto solo, mixed choir, viola, celesta and percussion)
- D. Lang – The Little Match Girl Passion (mixed choir, percussion)

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### Modern version of Passion by Arvo Pärt

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- A. Pärt – Passio (for solos, mixed choir, instrumental quartet and organ)

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### American spirituals

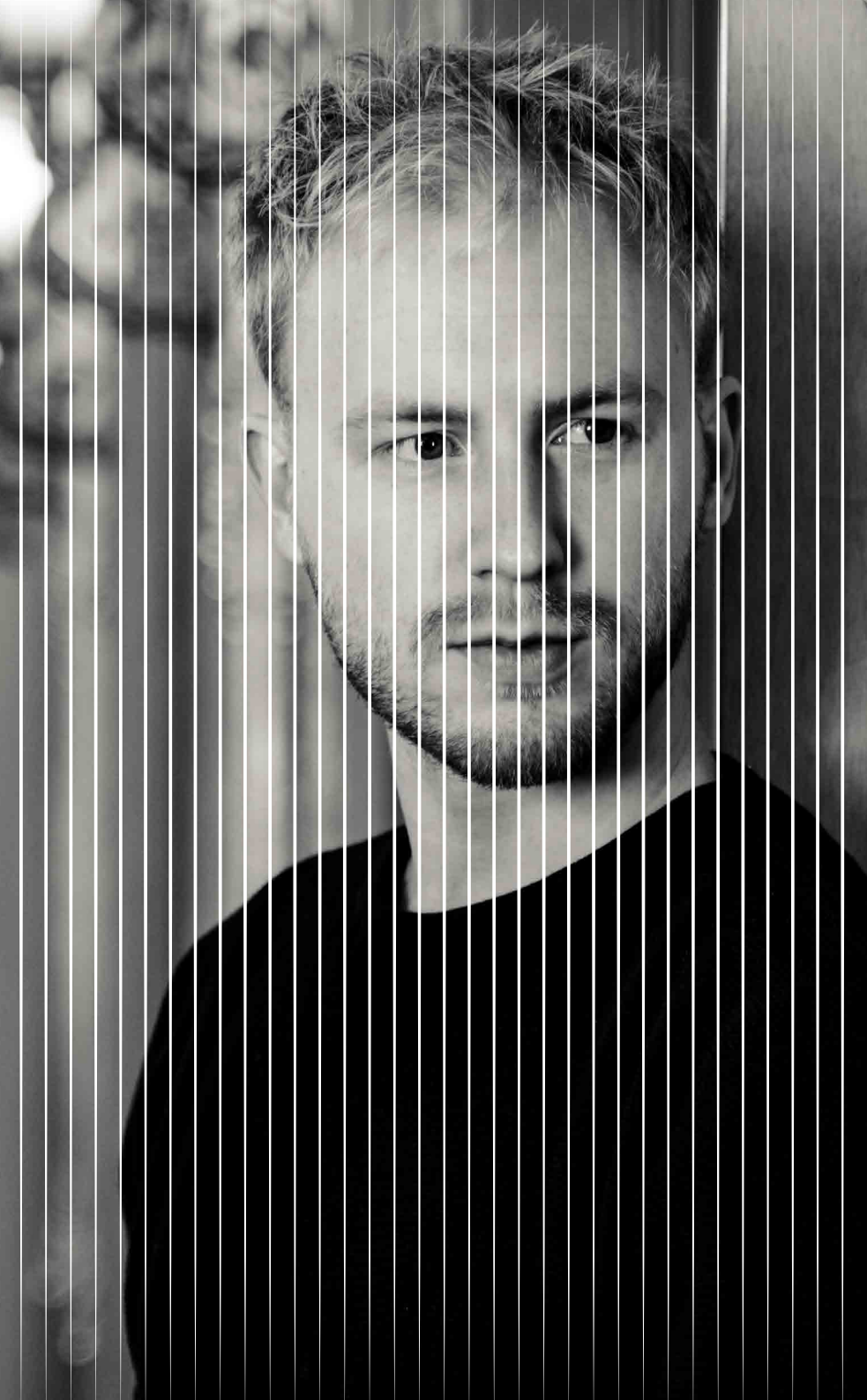
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Motherless Child / Deep River / Ev'ry Time I Feel de Spirit / Steal Away / Deep River / Nobody Knows de Trouble / Down by the Riverside / Freedom Song... and many more

# Emerging talents

To get their careers off the ground, musicians need life-long devotion, years of daily practice but they also need to be lucky and to strive ambitiously toward fulfillment of strong ideals.

Makropulos Talents is always on the lookout for musicians whose conscientiousness is reflected in their performances. Today's young generation is exceptional for its interest in discovering composers' original ideas: every detail of the score is important and deserving of attention. Later, on stage, these young musicians win the hearts of their listeners through the natural ease with which they communicate these ideas. We firmly believe in supporting exceptionally talented young musicians as exemplified by our lineup of performers.



## Jakub Sládek

“I feel incredibly lucky to experience the magic of music on stage. Connecting with the audience through composer’s feelings and thoughts brings me immense joy. The shared exchange of energy that happens in those indescribable moments is a truly fulfilling and profound experience.”





Young pianist Jakub Sládek caught attention of his extraordinary talent already as a child. He became laureate of a number of competitions such as international “A Step Towards Mastery” competition in St. Petersburg, International Piano Competition in Ettlingen, Germany, International Leoš Janáček Competition, the International Piano Competition in Marbella, Spain or Campillos competition. In 2020 he won the Yamaha Foundation Prize.

He is enthusiastic about discovering and presenting the piano works of the unjustly forgotten late 20th century Czech emigré composer Jan Novák. Jakub Sládek is working with the Toccata Classics music label in London on a multi-CD recording of Novák’s complete solo piano works.

After graduating from the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague he continues studying in the prestigious postgraduate Artist Diploma programme at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London. Jakub has attended several masterclasses, for example with I. Cooper, Ch. Blackshaw, C. Ortiz and A. Bonatta. He has also studied with professors A. Kouyoumdjian, K. Gerstein, N. Grubert, M. Baudet, G. Gruzman, Y. Shadrin and L. Vondráček.

He is one of the artists of the London Talent Unlimited Trust.

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### Selected repertoire with orchestra

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- S. Rachmaninoff – Piano Concerto No. 2 in C Minor Op. 18
- S. Prokofiev – Piano Concerto No. 3 in C Major Op. 26
- G. Gershwin – Rhapsody in Blue, Piano Concerto in F Major
- B. Martinů – Concerto da Camera
- L. Janáček – Capriccio for piano left hand and chamber ensemble

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### Selected recital programmes

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#### **The Slavic insights**

- B. Martinů – Piano sonata H 350
- J. Novák – Elegantiae tripudiorum
- N. Metner – Fairy Tales Op. 51
- S. Rachmaninoff – Piano sonata No. 2 B-flat Minor Op. 36 (version 1931)

#### **In impressionist mood**

- J. Novák – Prima Sonata
- G. Enescu – Suite No. 2, Op. 10
- C. Debussy – Images (book I)
- I. Albéniz- El Albaicín
- S. Prokofiev – Piano Sonata No. 2, Op. 14

## Vilém Vlček

“For me it’s not about playing music. It’s about “being” music that can transform the performer just as well as the audience. And that’s what I strive for.”





The interpretation by Vilém Viček, the winner of the Jiří Bělohlávek Prize 2023, is characterised by an extraordinary sensitive artistic expression in addition to technical ease.

He is the winner of prestigious international competitions – the latest being the International Instrumental Competition in Markneukirchen (2023) and the Rahn Musikpreis (2022).

Vilém has performed with a number of symphonic orchestras, e.g. Czech Philharmonic, Kammerorchester Basel, Kaunas Symphony Orchestra, Prague Symphony Orchestra, Württembergische Philharmonie Reutlingen and others.

On these occasions he has made music with leading conductors such as Jiří Bělohlávek, Petr Altrichter, Jiří Rožeň, Jonathan Bloxham, Nicolas Ellis, Wolfgang Emmanuel Schmidt. As a soloist and recitalist he has appeared in more than 30 countries (Grand hall of the Hamburg Elbphilharmonie, Victoria Hall in Geneva, Tonhalle Zürich, Kammermusiksaal of the Berlin Philharmonic, Dvořák Hall of the Rudolfinum).

His vast chamber music experience encompasses among others being ex-member of the rising Kukal Quartet, forming duo with pianist Denis Linnik and performing with many renowned artists – Leonidas Kavakos, Steven Isserlis, Sergio Azzolini, Rainer Schmidt, Claudio Martinez Mehner, Tomáš Jarník and Alfred Brendel.

Highlights of the 2023/2024 season include debuts with the Sinfonieorchester Basel, the Prague Chamber Soloists, the Chursächsische Philharmonie, a recital debut at the Prague Spring International Music Festival and a solo with the Czech Philharmonic.

Since graduating from high school in 2018, Vilém has been studying at the Musik-Akademie in Basel in the class of Professor Danjulo Ishizaka. In addition to his studies, he regularly participates in masterclasses (Frans Helmerson, Steven Isserlis, Marek Jerie, Michal Kaňka, Alisa Weilerstein). Since 2023 he has been assistant to Danjulo Ishizaka at the Universität der Künste in Berlin.

Vilém Viček plays a cello made by Lorenzo Ventapane in Naples between 1830 and 1850.

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### Selected recital programs “So near, so far”

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- V. Kaprálová – Deux Ritournelles, Op. 25
- B. Martinů – Sonata for Cello and Piano No. 2
- C. Schumann – 3 Romances for Violin (Cello) and Piano
- J. Brahms – Sonata for Piano and Cello No. 2

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### “Fairytale and reality”

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- L. Janáček – Fairytale
- A. Schnittke – Sonata for cello and piano No. 1
- L. van Beethoven – 7 Variations on  
“Bei Männern welche Liebe fühlen”
- G. Ligeti – Sonata for cello solo
- R. Schumann – Märchenbilder Op. 113

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### “On the big stage”

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- I. Stravinskij – Italian Suite
- A. Kchachaturyan – Adagio from the ballet Spartacus
- S. Rachmaninoff – Sonata for cello and piano in G minor Op. 19

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### Selected repertoire with orchestra

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- K. Penderecki – Concerto Grosso for three cellos
- K. Penderecki – Concerto for viola (cello)
- S. Prokofiev – Sinfonia concertante in E minor, Op. 125
- D. Shostakovich – Cello concerto No. 1 in E-flat major, Op. 107
- D. Shostakovich – Cello concerto No. 2 in G major op. 126
- M. Weinberg – Concerto for Cello and Orchestra in C minor, Op. 43
- D. Kabalevsky – Cello Concerto No. 2 in C-minor, Op. 77
- E. Lalo – Cello concerto in D minor

Selected repertoire is valid for the 2024–25 season. For more information about complete repertoire, please, contact our agency.



## Kukal Quartet

“We see music as an opportunity to touch the human being in their deeper essence, with which certain art has the ability to resonate. Quartet play allows us to fully immerse ourselves in this mission and it becomes a shared philosophy that translates into a lively discussion between the four players.”



The Kukul Quartet was founded in autumn of 2020 by four exceptionally talented young musicians, who, notwithstanding their youth, have great respect for the legacy of the Czech quartet school. The quartet impressed the jury of the Prague Spring International Music Competition (2021, 3rd prize) primarily with the liveliness and authenticity of their musical expression, the unique ensemble dynamics and the strong individuality of its members.

The four members combine the traditional and the modern musical approaches which they acquired during their studies at prestigious universities in Vienna, Salzburg, and Prague. The quartet has been inspired and mentored by leading personalities of the Czech music scene such as Peter Jarůšek (Pavel Haas Quartet), Jakub Fišer and Štěpán Ježek (Bennewitz Quartet) and Tomáš Jamník. During 2021–22 the quartet had the opportunity to participate in masterclasses with Yo-Yo Ma, Noah Bendix Balgley, Allan Nilles, Josef Špaček, Jan Fišer and Lukáš Vondráček.

The quartet bears the name of the important Czech contemporary composer, Ondřej Kukul.

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Selection of major quartet works, incl. masterpieces  
of Czech composers

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J. Haydn – String Quartet in B-flat Major No. 4 Op. 76  
A. Dvořák – String Quartet in A-flat Major No. 14 Op. 105

F. Schubert – String Quartet in G Major No. 15 Op. 161  
J. Suk – String Quartet in B-flat Major Op. 11

F. Mendelssohn-Bartoldy – String Quartet in A Minor No. 2 Op. 13  
B. Martinů – String Quartet in B Major No. 2 H 150

E. Schulhoff – Five Pieces for String Quartet  
A. Dvořák – String Quartet in F Major No. 12 Op. 96 B179  
“American” / String Quartet in G Major No. 13 Op. 106 B192

# Combined programmes of Makropulos artists

When top performers who get on well both artistically and socially join forces, there are no limits to what they can accomplish. We have prepared for you a special offering of programmes featuring combinations of Makropulos artists and musical partners.

The programs are not limited to what is written here, however: if you have any ideas for – even unconventional ones – we would love to hear from you and help you to make them come true.



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Josef Špaček & Tomáš Jamník  
Paths – the best of the Czech duets for violin and violoncello

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L. Janáček – Kreutzer's sonata (arr. Jiří Kabát)  
G. Klein – Duo for violin and violoncello  
E. Schulhoff – Duo for violin and violoncello  
B. Martinů – Duo for violin and violoncello No. 1 H. 157  
B. Martinů – Duo for violin and violoncello No. 2 H. 371

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Josef Špaček & Tomáš Jamník & Jakub Fišer & Lukáš Vondráček

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A. Dvořák: Piano Quartet No. 1 in D Major, Op. 23, B. 53  
A. Dvořák: Piano Quartet No. 2 in E flat Major, Op. 87, B. 162

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Bella Adamova & Škampa Quartet (or pianist Malte Schäfer)

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F. Schubert – Winterreise

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Nocturno by Simona Šaturová, soprano & Marek Kozák, piano

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Songs with the theme of night by W.A. Mozart, R. Schumann,  
F. Chopin, F. Schubert, A. Dvořák, B. Martinů, R. Strauss and  
K. Szymanowsky

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Sonatas for violoncello and piano by Marek Kozák,  
piano & Václav Petr, violoncello

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L. van Beethoven – Sonata No. 5 in D Major Op. 102 no. 2  
A. Schnittke – Sonata for Cello and Piano  
S. Rachmaninoff – Sonata for Cello and Piano in G Minor Op. 19

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Vivat Rachmaninoff! recital  
Bella Adamova, contralto & Marek Kozák, piano  
& Václav Petr, violoncello

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Rachmaninoff's songs & piano works (Etude-Tableaux etc.)  
& Sonata for cello and piano in G Minor Op.19

**Makropulos classical music agency**  
Prague, Czech Republic  
Martina Vyrková, founder & managing director  
+420 739 372 309  
martina@makropulosmusic.cz  
www.makropulosmusic.cz

“We do not believe  
a composition is beautiful  
and true until shivers run  
up and down our spine,  
until we forget to breathe,  
until our face turns to  
stone...”

Leoš Janáček,  
On intellectual work (1916)