



## ZRI Brahms and the Gypsy

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at 4 pm and 7.30 pm  
Cavendish Hall, Edensor

Tigeneascau – *Hungarian traditional melody*

Clarinet Quintet - *Allegro*

Kolomeyke – *Carpathian traditional melody*

Clarinet Quintet – *Allegro (continued)*

Hora mit tsibiles (*Hora with onions*) – *Klezmer melody*

Clarinet Quintet – *Allegro (continued)*

Sarba Maracini – *Ukrainian traditional*

Clarinet Quintet - *Adagio*

Der Gasn Nign (*The Street Tune*) – *Klezmer melody*

Clarinet Quintet – *Adagio (continued)*

Clarinet Quintet – *Finale (con moto)*

J. BRAHMS  
(1833-1897)

ZRI take their name from *Zum Roten Igel*, the legendary Viennese venue in the times when Brahms and Schubert were alive; a serious classical concert hall on one side, and a space where composers drank, and caroused on the other. Born out of a passion for the great classics, each ZRI performance feeds off the intensity of the music when it was new and shouting to make itself heard. ZRI has developed captivating programs that re-imagine Schubert's great C major quintet, adventure with Charlie Chaplin, and waltz with Schönberg, drawing the audience into a world where they are free to let go of genre distinctions and simply experience the concert story. ZRI are five world-class musicians drawing together a wealth of collective experience with international orchestras, improvising, and cross-cultural collaborations into a single focus.

ZRI founder **Ben Harlan** (*clarinet*) has never quite fit the mould as straight orchestral player or klezmer purist. At the Guildhall School of Music and Drama he preferred to improvise bass lines during Rite of Spring rehearsals or jam with teenagers with Guildhall's education department. Featuring as on-screen clarinetist in Polanski's *The Pianist*, Ben's vision for ZRI is to present the music of classic composers and unknown folk musicians, side by side, re-creating their narrative through sound.

'Virtuoso of the arts' (*The Times*), **Matthew Sharp** (*cello*) has performed at major venues and festivals worldwide as solo cellist, baritone, actor and director. From solo appearances with the RPO, LPO, RLPO, CBSO, to singing principal roles for Opera North, ROH and Almeida Opera, to acting principal roles at the Young Vic and National Theatre Studio, he has worked with an extraordinary spectrum of major artists from Sir John Tavener to Marta Eggert to Dave McKean to Caryl Churchill.

**Max Baillie** (*violin*) began with the violin aged 5, following the musical family tradition. From early on he was drawn to diverse influences and has since appeared on stages from Carnegie Hall to Glastonbury Festival. Max founded Lodestar Trio with Scandinavian folk musicians Erik Rydvall and Olav Mjelva, re-imagining Baroque music in Scandinavian folk style.

**Jon Banks** (*accordion*) has recorded, broadcast and toured throughout Europe, the Middle East and the Americas as a member of The Burning Bush, The Dufay Collective and The Jocelyn Pook Ensemble. He has also collaborated with the Society of Strange and Ancient Instruments, the Notes Inégales improvisation project, and percussionist Fariborz Kiani in a recent tour of Uzbekistan. He is a regular performer and musical director at the Globe Theatre. Jon has published articles for *Early Music* on a gypsy santouri player in eighteenth-century Rome, and Turkish music preserved on eighteenth-century London clocks;

**Iris Pissaride** (*santouri*) plays the santouri, the Greek island hammer dulcimer. Born in Cyprus where she studied viola under Ewa Bartmann, she has written music for the European Union Schools programme, Comenius. Iris often collaborates with artists in Cyprus and the UK for various concept-concerts which involve Mediterranean traditional musics with contemporary improvisational elements.

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