

brodsky
quartet



Photo: Benjamin Edovego

Wigmore Hall Friday, 3 June 2011 7.00 p.m.

One of the world's top ensembles, the Brodsky Quartet, makes a welcome return to Wigmore Hall, on completion of their exclusive four-year residency at Cadogan Hall. They will perform an exhilarating programme from the early twentieth century, featuring two of its great masterpieces and a little-known Spanish gem.

TURINA

La Oración del Torero
(The Bullfighter's Prayer)

RAVEL

String Quartet
in F major

BARTÓK

String Quartet
No. 1

'... the Brodskys explore the expressive parameters and sonic potentialities of Ravel's glorious String Quartet to an unrivalled degree. Spellbinding and revelatory ...' – *The Strad*

'The Brodskys' achingly beautiful performance reached deep into the heart ...' – *Guardian*

'... elegant restraint, contemporary without forcing the point, and fervent to an extent that all you want to do when the disc ends is play it again' – Norman Lebrecht, 'CD of the Week'

'The Brodsky Quartet's musical explorations know no limits' – *Gramophone*

www.brodskyquartet.co.uk



Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore Street, London W1U 2BP
Director: John Gilhooly. The Wigmore Hall Trust. Registered Charity No. 1024838



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Daniel Rowland **Violin** Ian Belton **Violin** Paul Cassidy **Viola** Jacqueline Thomas **Cello**

TURINA

La Oración del Torero
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Ravel and Bartók were both twenty-eight years old when they completed the quartets featured in this programme, written six years apart in 1903 and 1909 respectively. They have become treasured as two of the twentieth century's master works, bidding farewell to the Romantic era, introducing experimental textures and colours to the palette for the new Impressionist and Modernist movements, whilst still maintaining a firm hold on melody and expression.

Though it was at first rejected by academic institutions, a wave of public support led by Claude Debussy, who urged him to 'change not a note' in response to unjust criticism, Ravel's Quartet in F became the work which catapulted him from obscurity to fame and is to this day a great favourite amongst string quartets and their audiences worldwide. Bartók's First Quartet is another such, heralding as it does one of the most important sets of works for quartet, certainly of the twentieth century, spanning extremes of mood from the classically-inspired first movement lament for unrequited love, through to the more traditionally Bartókian sounds of Magyar dance rhythms which became such a trade mark in his later quartets. Turina's *The Bullfighter's Prayer* pays similar homage to Spanish traditional rhythms and textures and is a gem of a work undeservedly little known in chamber music circles.

This concert celebrates the release of the Brodsky Quartet's new CD, '**Rhythm and Texture**' (Orchid/Brodsky Records), which features Ravel's String Quartet as its main work.

www.brodskyquartet.co.uk



HOW TO BOOK

TICKET PRICES

£12, £16, £22, £26

IN PERSON

7 days a week: 10am – 8.30pm; Days without an evening concert: 10am – 5pm

No advance booking in the half hour prior to a concert.

BY TELEPHONE – 020 7935 2141

7 days a week: 10am – 7pm; Days without an evening concert: 10am – 5pm

There is a £2 administration fee for all telephone bookings, which includes the return of your tickets by post if time permits.

ONLINE BOOKINGS – www.wigmore-hall.org.uk

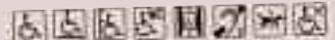
7 days a week; 24 hours a day. There is a £1 administration fee for online bookings, which includes the return of your tickets by post if time permits.

MAILING LIST

To be put on the Brodsky Quartet's mailing list, please contact Hazard Chase (see below).

FACILITIES FOR DISABLED PEOPLE

Please contact House Management on 020 7258 8210
– or email housemanagers@wigmore-hall.org.uk



Management and representation of the Brodsky Quartet by:
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*The information in this leaflet was correct at the time of printing.
The Brodsky Quartet reserves the right to change programme details if necessary.*