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B BLACKWELL'S
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thursday 20th july

lunchtime recital kungsbacka trio malin broman, violin jesper svedberg, cello simon crawford-phillips, piano

1.15pm
oundle parish church

Notturmo for Piano, Violin and Cello, D897
Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

This charming 'night music', dating from 1827, the penultimate year of Schubert's tragically short life, evokes a romantic spirit. Spread chords on the piano announce the principal melody, given by the strings. Subsequent sections of this formal yet emotional movement make further reference to these two contrasted sections as the music proceeds towards its closing bars. This gem of a composition contains all the essential Schubert: innocence, sadness, surprising dramatic gestures, and an unerring gift for perfect melody.

Trio no 8 in E flat major, Hob XV no 30
J Haydn (1732-1809)
Allegro moderato; Andante con moto; Presto

The piano trios are amongst Haydn's lesser-known works. Of the thirty or so that have survived only the G major trio with the Gypsy Rondo finale (Hob XV no 25) could be said to be truly popular. In Haydn's day piano trios were mostly written for private performance. The E flat trio was written in 1796, when Haydn had settled back in Vienna after his trips to London. This may have been music intended for amateurs, but it overflows with Haydn's wit and originality. The Haydn scholar H C Robbins Landon is convinced Schubert knew the work, which he says proved as seminal for his style as Haydn's quartets and symphonies were for Beethoven's.

Piano Trio no 2, Op 7 in E minor
Dmitry Shostakovich (1906-1975)

Shostakovich composed his Piano Trio no 2 in 1944, dedicating it to his friend Ivan Sollertinski who had died suddenly of a heart-attack at the age of 41. The first movement, written in sonata form, opens in elegiac mood but later develops more cheerfully, with a theme also used in Shostakovich's second string quartet (upon which he worked simultaneously).

The second movement is extremely energetic, in the style of a peasant dance. It is followed by a typical Shostakovich passacaglia, exploring the depths of despair. The fourth movement is a dance macabre which builds to an agonised climax before deteriorating as if into nothing.

The Kungsbacka Trio
An invitation from the Northlands Festival in Caithness, Scotland to form part of an ensemble-in-residence led to the formation of the Trio in 1997. As two members of the Trio are Swedish, the Trio appropriately gave its first public concert in



Kungsbacka, Sweden. After great critical acclaim at their debut in the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in August that year, the ensemble is now well established. Last year they won first prize in the Melbourne International Chamber Music Competition in Australia. They were recently chosen for the Tillet Trust's Young Artists' Platform scheme, and selected for representation by Young Concert Artists Trust in June 1999.

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guided tour dryden country

tour guides
alice thomas
(member of oundle historical society)
and david dew
(teacher of english, oundle school)
coach leaves 2.45pm, gascoigne building car park

John Dryden, Poet Laureate 1668-1689, was born on 9 August 1631 in the Old Rectory of Aldwinckle opposite All Saints Church, where his grandfather the Revd Henry Pickering, had been Rector since 1597, and where John was baptised a few weeks later. His mother was the Rector's daughter, Mary, whilst his father Erasmus was the son of Sir Erasmus Dryden of Canons Ashby.

Erasmus and Mary were married in All Saints Church, Pilton in 1630. However, when John was born they lived at Brookside Farm, Polopit, Titchmarsh, where he was brought up, the eldest of fourteen children. There is a memorial to Erasmus and Mary and a bust of John Dryden in St Mary the Virgin, Titchmarsh.

John was educated at Westminster School and Trinity College, Cambridge, and spent most of his life in London. However, he returned to Northamptonshire occasionally, both to Canons Ashby and the Oundle area, particularly to Cotterstock Hall to visit Mrs Steward, the daughter of his cousin Elizabeth Creed. He died on 1 May 1700 and is buried in Westminster Abbey.