

Tuesday 18th July

## QUATUOR OSMOSE (Saxophones)

Cedric Carceles  
Thomas Gobert  
Franz Gandubert  
Masanori Oishi

8pm St Peter's Parish Church, Oundle

### *Concerto Italien BWV 971* J S Bach (1685-1750)

Written in 1739 for harpsichord with two manuals, Bach's famous Italian Concerto has the stature, strength and cheerfulness of a piece by Vivaldi. This concerto has such perfection and density that it marks the zenith of a long evolution, whose last stages saw such works as the Vivaldi transcriptions Bach made in his youthful Weimar years - and indeed his Brandenburg concertos.

### *Quartet in F minor, Op.20 no 5* Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

Opus 20 contains all the main characteristics of its composer: the influence of baroque music and the four-movement form typical of the classical string quartet. Haydn's genius reveals itself here both in the finale and the fugue, whose subject was also used by J S Bach in his 'Well-Tempered Clavier', Handel in 'The Messiah' and Mozart in his 'Requiem'.

### *Extracts from 'Lyric Pieces'* Edvard Grieg (1843-1907)

*In my Native Country; Home Ward; Elégie; Puck; Once upon a time* Norwegian composer Edvard Grieg began his first book of 'Lyric Pieces' for piano in Denmark at the age of 24 - seventy little pictures with trolls, elves, fjords and snow-covered forests. Here are 5 pieces from this cycle in a transcription for saxophone quartet.

### *Night Club* Astor Piazzolla (1921-1992)

Originally written for flute and guitar, 'Night Club' is an extract from 'The Tango's History', one of the most famous works of this Argentinian composer, mixing languorous melodies and furious tango rhythms.

**At tomorrow's lunchtime Quatuor Osmose performs a programme of contemporary works in the Cloisters of Laxton School.**

**Sponsor Robert Weighton Architects**

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Wednesday 19th July

## Lunchtime Concert

## QUATUOR OSMOSE (Saxophones)

Cedric Carceles  
Thomas Gobert  
Franz Gandubert  
Masanori Oishi

1.10pm Laxton School Cloisters

### *Nébuleuses* Lionel Bord (b.1976)

Young French composer Lionel Bord doesn't just play to the normal tessitura of the saxophone quartet, with the soprano voice of the ensemble taking the limelight. No! Amongst the four instruments he relentlessly explores just one idea - an oscillating quarter-tone motif - done to perfection, done to death!

### *Quatuor pour Saxophone* Florent Schmitt (1870-1958)

Dedicated to Marcel Mule's saxophone quartet, this work quickly became one of the most famous pieces of the saxophone quartet repertoire. Inspired by the writing for string quartet, this piece in four movements demonstrates to the full the techniques and expressive wealth of the instrument.

### *Durch, In memoriam Gérard Grisey* Fabien Levy (b.1968)

Fabien Levy composed this piece for the Habanera saxophone quartet and dedicated it to Gerard Grisey, his teacher. Influenced by pygmy polyphonies, it explores all the possibilities of the instrument and proposes a trip from sound to silence.

### *Introduction et Variations sur une Ronde Populaire* Gabriel Pierné (1863-1937)

Gabriel Pierné, conductor and organist, and successor to César Franck at Sainte Clotilde, was a prolific composer. However, even the light-hearted pieces in which he excelled have fallen into undeserved neglect. The posthumous 'Introduction et Variations sur une Ronde Populaire', also dedicated to the Marcel Mule Quartet, is a prime example of his facility. The work is skilfully constructed and glides from waves of virtuosity to open good humour.

The different shades of the tonal palette meld cleverly into each other, and the work leaves an overall impression of brilliant entertainment.

### *Jigsaw* Matthew Lima

This is a sketch dedicated to Quatuor Osmose. 'Jigsaw' is a virtuoso piece which exploits all the facets and contemporary techniques peculiar to the instrument, and is entirely characteristic of the energy and vivacity of this young American composer.

### *Tango Virtuoso* Thierry Escaich (b.1965)

Organist, improviser and composer, Escaich is a first-rate French musician comfortable in many musical genres, demonstrated brilliantly by this 'Tango Virtuoso'.



**Quatuor Osmose**  
Since its formation in 2002, Quatuor Osmose has been commissioning and promoting contemporary music in close collaboration with composers including Bernat

Vivancos and Matthew Lima. Their work also harnesses a desire to raise appreciation of such exciting new repertoire amongst young people. The Quartet has already played many concerts in France and overseas, including China and the Netherlands. Keen to meet new people and to diversify their repertoire, Osmose regularly play with other musicians (piano, percussion, voice), and are developing works embracing new technologies - electro-acoustic devices and internet downloads/podcasts.

As prizewinners at the Concours International de l'UFAM in 2005, and recipients of the diploma 'Formation Supérieure', the members of the quartet are in 'Cycle de perfectionnement' at the Paris Conservatoire.